

Graduate Certificate Programs

Graduate certificate programs provide advanced study beyond the baccalaureate degree and are intended as both professional development and as an intermediate step towards a desired graduate degree. Middle Tennessee State University offers seven graduate certificates: Art Education, Critical Care Nursing, Dyslexic Studies, Geoscience, Gerontology, Health Care Management, and Nursing Informatics. The Gerontology, Health Care Management, and Dyslexic Studies certificates are interdisciplinary programs involving courses and faculty in multiple MTSU departments.

Requirements

Prospective students should apply to the Graduate School. Once a student is admitted to the graduate school, his or her application is transmitted to the director of the individual certificate program for admission consideration. For admission to the interdisciplinary graduate certificate programs in Gerontology and Health Care Management, students must possess a bachelor's degree with an undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 (4.0 scale) and are required to submit a letter demonstrating their interest, detailing prior field experience, and outlining career goals and aspirations.

Students enrolled in the certificate program must comply with existing policies applicable to all graduate programs at MTSU. The time limit for use of credit toward the certificate is six years from the date of enrollment in the earliest course applied toward the certificate, including transferred courses. Students must maintain a cumulative graduate grade point average of 3.00 in courses leading to the certificate. Students may transfer up to six (6) credit hours of approved coursework into the certificate program.

Art Education

The graduate certificate in Art Education provides advanced study for professionals in public and private education, museums, and other visual art arenas who wish to gain a contemporary understanding of the field of art education while earning credits for career advancement. Specific requirements for the certificate in Art Education are found on page 64.

Critical Care Nursing

The goal of the graduate certificate program in Critical Care Nursing is to provide advanced knowledge and critical thinking skills to prepare the professional nurse to manage patients with complex health problems in the critical care environment. Students are required to complete 18 hours of graduate nursing courses. Specific course and program requirements are found on page 151.

Geoscience

The Department of Geosciences offers a graduate certificate in Geoscience that consists of 12-16 hours taken from a variety of geography and geology courses. The certificate in Geoscience should be of particular interest to those in the private sector, K-12 and community college education, and government agencies. The department also offers a minor at the graduate level and hours taken in the certificate program normally can be applied toward the minor requirements. Specific requirements for the certificate in Geoscience are found on page 115.

Nursing Informatics

A graduate certificate in Nursing Informatics is offered to prepare baccalaureate nurses functioning in informatics-related roles with the additional skills and knowledge related to the practice of nursing informatics and to prepare advanced practice nurses with the skills and knowledge for leadership in emerging informatics roles within health care organizations. Specific requirements for the certificate in Nursing Informatics are found on page 151.

Interdisciplinary Certificate Programs

Dyslexic Studies

The graduate certificate program in Dyslexic Studies is rooted in the research base that defines dyslexia and guides identification. It examines content and strategies for intervention. Prerequisites for admission are a certificate in some field integral to P-12 education, documentation of three or more years of successful experience in the career field, and permission of the program advisor. Candidates must be admitted to the College of Graduate Studies; present a letter of recommendation from a principal or supervisor; and submit a letter detailing professional experience, positions held, and motivation for studying dyslexia. See course descriptions on page 103.

Total required minimum hours: 18

Requirements

DYST	6000	Introduction to Dyslexia
PSY	6530	Psychology of Reading and Reading Development
BIOL	6740	Brain Development and Learning Disabilities
CDIS	5000	Language Development, Speech, and Literacy
DYST	6010	Identifying Students with Dyslexia
DYST	6011	Interventions for Dyslexia
DYST	6012	Multisensory Teaching Strategies
DYST	6013	Practicum in Multisensory Teaching
DYST	6020	Adolescents with Dyslexia and Other Literary Difficulties

For more information, contact Diane J. Sawyer, director of the Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia, at (615) 898-5642 or dsawyer@mtsu.edu.

Gerontology

The certificate program in Gerontology provides supplementary education in gerontology for students preparing for careers in a broad range of positions. This program is also designed to give those already working in the field an opportu-

nity to enrich existing skills and knowledge and to provide further opportunities for career advancement.

Total required minimum hours: 18

Core Requirements: 6 hours

SOC	6550	Seminar on Aging
SOC	6900	Practicum: Applied Analysis*

*NOTE: All students are required to complete this capstone experience during their last semester of coursework.

Remaining hours are to be selected from the following courses in conjunction with career goals and aspirations.

CDFS	5390	Families in Later Life
CDIS	5800	Speech, Language, and Auditory Problems of the Aged
REC	5380	Introduction to Recreation for Persons with Disability
REC	5470	Leisure and Aging
N FS	5210	Nutrition in Aging
PSY	5610	Adult Psychology and Aging
PSY	5630	Death and Dying
SOC	5020	Sociology of Aging
SOC	5030	Topics in Gerontology
SOC	5040	Health Care Delivery Issues
SOC	6660	Program Management and Evaluation
SOC	6670	Mental Health and Aging
SOC	6680	Counseling Elders

For more information, contact Ron Aday in the Aging Studies Program at (615) 898-2693.

Health Care Management

The curriculum is designed to

1. offer support for individuals interested in the health care field who may or may not want to pursue a graduate degree to obtain recognition for a coherent body of graduate level study in the field of health care management.
2. provide for interdisciplinary collaboration in teaching, learning, and practice.
3. encourage qualified students to pursue graduate degrees related to their specific field of interest or practice.

Total required minimum hours: 18

Core Requirements: 9 hours

MGMT	6000	Management and Operations Concepts
MGMT	6780	Health Care Management
SOC	5040	Health Care Delivery Issues

Remaining hours are to be selected from the following courses in conjunction with career goals and aspirations.

BLAW	6430	Legal Environment of Management
ECON	6400	Economics of Health Care
HLTH	6510	The Nation's Health
HLTH	6850	Methods in Epidemiology
HLTH	6860	Program Planning for Health Promotion
MGMT	6750	Business Ethics
MKT	6900	Health Care Marketing
NURS	5035	Special Topics
NURS	5055	Informatics for the Health Care Professional
SOC	5020	Sociology of Aging
SOC	5030	Topics in Gerontology
SOC	5040	Health Care Delivery Issues

For more information, contact the Center for Health and Human Services at (615) 898-5950.