

# BEHAVIORAL AND COGNITIVE CARE, GERONTOLOGY (TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE)

Award: Technical Certificate  
 Program of Study: Gerontology  
 Specialization: Behavioral and Cognitive Care  
 Program Code: 1165

## About This Program . . .

The program is for individuals who wish to develop careers in the field of aging, those already employed or active in gerontology or related fields who wish to enhance their career paths, and those seeking challenging and meaningful career changes in response to new opportunities created by an aging society.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit WCCC's Programs of Study (<https://www.coloradomesa.edu/wccc/programs>) page.

All CMU/WCCC technical certificate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in communication fluency, quantitative fluency, specialized knowledge/applied learning, and critical thinking. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Define the changing developments across life spans. (Communication Fluency)
2. Apply math and applied physics concepts for industry to meet job requirements. (Quantitative Fluency)
3. Interpret the psychology of aging of the person and the caretaker. (Critical Thinking)
4. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical law in aging. (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning)
5. Define the impact that the elderly have on culture and society. (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning)
6. Demonstrate ability to act ethically, compassionately and responsibly toward the elderly in the health care industry. (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning)

## Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional requirements apply to all CMU or WCCC Technical Certificates. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- Consists of 5-59 semester hours.
- Consists of 100-200 level courses.
- At least fifty percent of the credit hours must be taken at CMU/WCCC.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU/WCCC coursework.
- A grade lower than "C" will not be counted toward meeting the requirements.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.

- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed twenty-five percent of the semester credit hours required for a technical certificate.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Certificate Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and certificate requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

## Program Specific Degree Requirements

(24 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
GRNT 110	Introduction to Gerontology	3
GRNT 175	The Aging Mind	2
GRNT 176	Cognitive Activity Design	2
GRNT 177	Arts and Cognitive Activity Design	1
GRNT 181	Exploring the Field of Aging	2
GRNT 235	Introduction to Dementia Care	3
GRNT 236	Dementia Care Practices	1
GRNT 240	Care and Service Coordination	3
GRNT 247	Applied Legal and Policy Issues in Aging	3
GRNT 294	Gerontology Professional Seminar	1
GRNT 299	Internship	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		24

Course	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
GRNT 110	Introduction to Gerontology	3
GRNT 175	The Aging Mind	2
GRNT 176	Cognitive Activity Design	2
GRNT 177	Arts and Cognitive Activity Design	1
GRNT 181	Exploring the Field of Aging	2
Semester Credit Hours		10
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
GRNT 235	Introduction to Dementia Care	3
GRNT 236	Dementia Care Practices	1
GRNT 240	Care and Service Coordination	3
GRNT 247	Applied Legal and Policy Issues in Aging	3
GRNT 294	Gerontology Professional Seminar	1
GRNT 299	Internship	3
Semester Credit Hours		14
Total Semester Credit Hours		24

## Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a certificate. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and discussing the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended certificate.

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a certificate and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

## Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their certificate requirements (for one-semester certificates, complete in the first week of class):

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be her/his responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.