

Social Sciences in Gerontology

OVERVIEW



People are living longer these days, and the challenge for our seniors is to stay healthy, engaged and active. This also means that employers need staff with in-depth understanding of ageing to support the demands and aspirations of this sector.

You can play a crucial role in helping seniors achieve active aging by coming up with exciting programmes, initiatives and services to assist their physical, cognitive and socio-emotional well-being.

You can be the change-agents for our seniors. Your work can positively influence agencies and organisations that serve older people, as well as the law and policies that affect the way society perceives and treats our seniors.

Your Journey

Year 1

You will start by building your foundational knowledge in Gerontology, Psychology and Sociology. You will then go on to pick up useful skills in Communication, Applied Social Research and Geragogy. You also begin building a profile of an Older Adult.

Year 2

This is a year of exciting practicums and maybe even an overseas trip! You will level up with subjects like Silver Leisure and Lifestyle, Public Health and Programme Planning. Also enjoy exciting activities with the GEM Student Interest Group.

Year 3

You will hone your culminated knowledge and skills in a Research Project and develop professional skills during your Student Internship. These experiences will prepare you to take on many exciting education and career opportunities upon graduation!

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Entry Requirements

To be eligible for consideration for admission, applicants must obtain 26 points or better for the net ELR2B2 aggregate score (i.e. English Language, 2 relevant subjects and best 2 other subjects, including CCA Bonus Points) and meet the minimum entry requirements of this course. CCA cannot be used to meet the minimum entry requirements.

English Language (EL1)*	Grades 1-6
Mathematics (E or A)	Grades 1-7
Any three other subjects, excluding CCA	Grades 1-6

To be eligible for selection, applicants must have sat for at least one of the following subjects: Art/ Art & Design, Business Studies, Combined Humanities, Commerce, Commercial Studies, Economics, Geography, Higher Art, Higher Music, History, Introduction to Enterprise Development, Literature in English, Literature in Chinese, Literature in Malay, Literature in Tamil, Media Studies (English)/ Media Studies (Chinese), Music.

Applicants must have also sat for one of these subjects: Additional Mathematics, Art/ Art & Design, Business Studies, Chinese, Combined Humanities, Commerce, Commercial Studies, Creative 3D Animation, Design & Technology, Economics, Elementary Mathematics, Food & Nutrition, Geography, Higher Art, Higher Chinese, Higher Malay, Higher Music, Higher Tamil, History, Introduction to Enterprise Development, Literature in English, Literature in Chinese, Literature in Malay, Literature in Tamil, Malay, Media Studies (English), Media Studies (Chinese), Music, Principles of Accounts, Tamil.

* Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM)/ Unified Examination Chinese (UEC) holders must have a minimum of grade 6 for the relevant English Language subject (e.g. Bahasa Inggeris).

See also the minimum entry requirements for:

- ITE Certificate Holders
 - International Students
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Social Sciences in Gerontology

COURSE STRUCTURE

TP Fundamentals

Subject code	Subject	Level	Credit Units
GCS1006	<p>Communication & Information Literacy</p> <p>In this subject, you will learn how to conduct research for relevant information and validate information sources. You will also learn to recognise and avoid plagiarism, and follow standard citation and referencing guidelines when presenting information. In the course of learning, you will be required to plan, prepare and present information appropriately in written and oral form. You will also be taught to consider the Message, Audience, Purpose and Strategy (MAPS) when writing and delivering oral presentations.</p>	1	2
GCS1007	<p>Workplace Communication</p> <p>In this subject, you will be taught how to conduct effective meetings while applying team communication strategies and the skills for documenting meeting notes. You will be required to write clear emails, using the appropriate format, language, tone and style for an audience. You will also be taught to communicate appropriately in and for an organisation when using various platforms. In all aspects, the principles of applying Message, Audience, Purpose and Strategy (MAPS) will be covered.</p>	1	2
GCS1008	<p>Persuasive Communication</p> <p>In this subject, you will be taught how to use persuasive language in written documents. You will be required to use information to your advantage to verbally communicate and convince an audience about your idea, product or service. Skills such as persuasive vocabulary, language features, graphical illustrations, tone and style would also be covered. The Message, Audience, Purpose and Strategy (MAPS) will also be applied when engaging in verbal and written communication.</p>	1	2
GCC1001	<p>Current Issues & Critical Thinking</p> <p>This subject presents you with a panoramic view of current local and global issues, which may have long term implications for Singapore. You will learn to apply critical thinking tools to examine current issues, support your views with relevant research and up-to-date data, articulate an informed opinion and mature as civic-minded individuals.</p>	1	2

GIN1001	<p>Innovation & Entrepreneurship</p> <p>The Innovation & Entrepreneurship subject is designed for learners from all disciplines to embrace innovation in either their specialised fields or beyond. You will first learn the Design Thinking framework, where you will develop problem statements and ideate solutions. Next, you will discover the tools for prototyping and innovation, such as 3D printing and laser cutting, at TP's Makerspace+ facility. Finally, you will acquire commercial awareness through the LEAN Startup framework of idea crystallisation, prototype building, customer testing and validation, refinement of business model canvas, and crowdfunding or crowdsourcing avenues.</p>	1	2
LEA1011	<p>Leadership: Essential Attributes & Practice 1</p> <p>LEAP 1, 2 and 3 are three fundamental subjects that seek to cultivate in you, the attitude, skills and knowledge for the development of your leadership competencies. This character-based leadership programme enables you to develop your life-skills through establishing personal core values, which will become the foundation for your leadership credibility and influence.</p>	1	1
LEA1012	<p>Leadership: Essential Attributes & Practice 2</p> <p>LEAP 1, 2 and 3 are three fundamental subjects that seek to cultivate in you, the attitude, skills and knowledge for the development of your leadership competencies. This character-based leadership programme enables you to develop your life-skills through establishing personal core values, which will become the foundation for your leadership credibility and influence.</p>	1	1
LEA1013	<p>Leadership: Essential Attributes & Practice 3</p> <p>LEAP 1, 2 and 3 are three fundamental subjects that seek to cultivate in you, the attitude, skills and knowledge for the development of your leadership competencies. This character-based leadership programme enables you to develop your life-skills through establishing personal core values, which will become the foundation for your leadership credibility and influence.</p>	1	1
LSW1002	<p>Sports & Wellness</p> <p>This subject will help you develop both the physical and technical skills in your chosen sports or fitness activities. Through a structured curriculum that facilitates group participation, practice sessions and mini competitions, you will learn to build lifelong skills such as resilience, leadership, communication and teamwork. Physical activity sessions will be supplemented by health-related topics to provide you with a holistic approach to healthy living.</p>	1	2
MCR1001	<p>Career Readiness 1</p> <p>This Career Readiness programme comprises three core subjects – Personal Management, Career Preparation and Career Management. It seeks to help you understand your career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It also equips you with the necessary skills for seeking and securing jobs, and to develop professional work ethics.</p>	1	1

MCR1002	<p>Career Readiness 2</p> <p>This Career Readiness programme comprises three core subjects – Personal Management, Career Preparation and Career Management. It seeks to help you understand your career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It also equips you with the necessary skills for seeking and securing jobs, and to develop professional work ethics.</p>	1	1
MCR1003	<p>Career Readiness 3</p> <p>This Career Readiness programme comprises three core subjects – Personal Management, Career Preparation and Career Management. It seeks to help you understand your career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It also equips you with the necessary skills for seeking and securing jobs, and to develop professional work ethics.</p>	1	1
GGG1002	<p>Global Studies</p> <p>This subject provides essential skills and knowledge to prepare you for an overseas experience. You will examine the elements of culture and learn the key principles of cross-cultural communication. In addition, you will gain an appreciation and awareness of the political, economic, technological and social landscape to function effectively in a global environment.</p>	1	3
GGG1003	<p>Managing Diversity at Work*</p> <p>This subject explores the concepts of identity, diversity and inclusion at the workplace. It examines the relationship between identity and diversity, the benefits and challenges of diversity and the strategies that promote inclusion and inspire collaboration in a diverse workplace. Examples of the elements of diversity covered in this subject include nationality, generation, ethnicity and gender.</p>	1	3
GGG1004	<p>Global Citizenship & Community Development*</p> <p>Students will examine the meaning and responsibilities of being a Global Citizen, in order to contribute towards a more equitable and sustainable world. In addition, students will learn how sustainable solutions can support community development, and, execute and critique a community action plan that addresses the needs of a specific community/cause.</p>	1	3
GGG1005	<p>Expressions of Culture*</p> <p>This subject provides a platform for an understanding of culture and heritage through modes of expression. Students will be introduced to global and local cultures via everyday objects, places and human behaviour seen through time and space. Students will explore issues and challenges in culture and heritage sustainability in community, national and global contexts.</p>	1	3
TGL1001	<p>Guided Learning</p> <p>The subject introduces students to the concepts and process of self-directed learning in a chosen area of inquiry. The process focusses on four stages: planning, performing, monitoring and reflecting. Students get to plan their individual learning project, refine and execute the learning plan, as well as monitor and reflect on their learning progress and project. The learning will be captured and showcased through a curated portfolio. The self-directed learning project will broaden and/or deepen a student's knowledge and skills.</p>	1	3

GIP3003	<p>Student Internship Programme</p> <p>This subject is a 16 week work attachment programme that provides opportunities to explore and understand the working environment. Relevant organisations are sourced to offer placements to interns in the practical work environment.</p>	3	12
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* Students must choose to take either one of these three subjects or TGL1001 Guided Learning.

Diploma Subjects - Core Subjects

Subject code	Subject	Level	Credit Units
GEM1008	<p>Introduction to Gerontology</p> <p>This subject introduces students to the theoretical perspectives and approaches to the study of ageing from various disciplines. It will examine the causes and consequences of ageing at the micro (individual) and macro (population) levels. This involves investigating the social, physical and mental changes humans undergo as they age, as well as the impact of the elderly population on social, economic and political institutions.</p>	1	4
GEM1009	<p>Introduction to Sociology</p> <p>This subject introduces students to the key theoretical perspectives in Sociology. Through these theories, students will examine current and emerging social phenomena. From the systematic study of different social structures e.g. family, work, social control, gender and ethnicity, students will be able to apply sociological concepts to help them explain social life in societies.</p>	1	4
GEM1011	<p>Applied Social Research</p> <p>This subject provides a general understanding of the theory and practice of social science research and presents science as a powerful method of human thinking. The focus is to provide students with the necessary information to understand the importance of research in the field of social science and its applications to various settings. Students will learn a systematic way of thinking and knowledge discovery known as scientific inquiry.</p>	1	4
GEM1012	<p>Programme Planning</p> <p>This subject provides students with a foundation in programme conceptualisation, organisation, execution and management. Transcending the various principles of project, event and activity development and management, students will examine current and emerging practices. This will include the examination of selected institutions e.g. nursing homes, community centres, tourism agencies, and existing programmes as case studies. Students will plan the design, budgeting, management strategies and evaluation of a programme.</p>	1	4
GEM1190	<p>Geragogy</p> <p>This subject covers the theories, concepts, influences and methods for facilitating teaching and learning for older adults. It also considers the perspectives of older adults on the learning experience. The subject has a focus on person-centred approaches and considers readiness, motivation, orientation, context and setting. Lifelong learning and its relationship to quality of life and life satisfaction is also considered.</p>	1	3

GEM1191	<p>Stakeholder and Community Relations</p> <p>This subject covers the importance of and key strategies for engaging with stakeholders and the public, in particular for the health, social service, and community sectors, along with social purpose entities. The various trends, drivers and technologies in understanding, informing and influencing key constituencies to maximize social impact are explored.</p>	1	3
GEM1192	<p>Managing Adult Life Transitions</p> <p>This subject addresses issues relating to mid to later adult life stage transitions, notably from full time work to part-time work or full retirement. The concepts of the quality of life and transitions theory are also examined to understand how individuals respond to change. The implications of employment and financial planning for longevity are fully discussed. Social constructs, individual choice, and psychological preparedness are considered in view of various life events such as career/work change, downsizing, reconciliation to physical ageing, loss, and retirement.</p>	1	3
GPS1190	<p>General Psychology</p> <p>This subject explores core areas of psychology and aims to provide students with a fundamental understanding of psychology as the scientific study of human behaviour and mental processes. Basic concepts and theories in psychology will be explored to enhance students' understanding of major psychological issues and the impact on everyday life.</p>	1	3
GEM2000	<p>Sociology of Ageing</p> <p>This subject provides a sociological perspective on the process and experience of human ageing in modern society, while adopting a context-based approach that employs case studies. Topics include the demographic and political impact of ageing societies, historical and cultural perspectives on ageing, and the major theoretical approaches to the study of ageing. Various social policies and institutions that affect ageing will also be examined. These include social policies on health care, housing, retirement, death, living environments and social support for the aged.</p>	2	4
GEM2004	<p>Ageing & Illness</p> <p>This subject focuses on the biopsychosocial aspects of ageing and illness. Content will also include selected theoretical perspectives on health, illness and ageing, some of the main disorders and related treatment modalities. Optimal ageing as a concept and emerging technologies for longevity will also be addressed. Related ethical issues will be discussed.</p>	2	4
GEM2013	<p>Psychology of Ageing</p> <p>This subject provides insights into geropsychological concepts and theories relating to the adult's adaption to the third and fourth age. Issues relating to the ageing population, improved longevity, and the changing psychological needs and capabilities of older people are examined.</p>	2	4
GEM2017	<p>Marketing to Older Adults</p> <p>This subject considers the changing age composition of a 'mature' market and the related marketing approaches and techniques in response to the ageing population. The content examines the older consumer (with emphasis on the baby boomer), general trends and issues, and features of the main segments within the market.</p>	2	4

GEM2018	<p>Community Development with Older Adults</p> <p>The subject will provide an understanding of the principles and approaches to community development and how these can be applied to work with older adults to address some of their major challenges. Students will be introduced to the methodologies of community development that will enable them to design intervention programs that also harnesses the potential of older adults.</p>	2	4
GEM2019	<p>Physical Activities and Wellness for Older Adults</p> <p>The subject will examine the structural, physiological, psychological, and functional changes occurring during adulthood and the implications of these for the planning and implementation and evaluation of exercise programmes for older adults.</p>	2	4
GEM2022	<p>Gender Issues in Later Life</p> <p>This subject provides an overview of various perspectives on issues and trends relating to gender and ageing. Special attention will be directed to the gender gap in longevity, health and illness, work and retirement, and quality of life. The influence of social policies in these areas will also be examined.</p>	2	4
GEM2190	<p>Silver Leisure and Lifestyle</p> <p>This subject examines the varying lifestyles of and leisure activities undertaken by the silver population. It focuses on how their evolving profile, characteristics and demographic interacts with current and emerging trends and drives demand for various leisure activities and impacts on supporting industries. Content also includes associations between participation patterns in leisure activities, key types of activities undertaken, social relationships, psychological wellbeing and activities that best contribute to the determinants of active ageing.</p>	2	4
GEM2191	<p>Coaching and Case Management</p> <p>This subject introduces the principles of coaching and case management to assess needs and evaluate options, services and programmes required to meet individual specific needs. Multidisciplinary approaches are introduced and the subject examines social, cultural and psychological perspectives and appropriate strategies to achieve goals and empower the older adult.</p>	2	4
GEM2192	<p>Public Health and Ageing</p> <p>The subject will introduce the key areas of study under public health, with a focus on current and emerging global health challenges impacting older populations across developed and developing countries. Topics will examine patterns, causes and effects of health and diseases in older populations, analyse the efficiency of healthcare services and delivery, and understand the interconnectedness of health of the developed and developing world.</p>	2	4
GEM3011	<p>Contemporary Issues in Ageing Societies</p> <p>This subject will examine current issues that are evident in ageing societies around the world. Students will gain an understanding of the transformations and challenges faced by ageing individuals and the state. The subject will also examine the ongoing debates on individual and societal responses to ageing issues. Students will also learn about the ageing trends in both developed and developing countries.</p>	3	4

GEM3190	<p>Health Promotion and Active Ageing</p> <p>This subject examines current health promotion practices which enable individuals, carers and the community to manage their health. Theoretical underpinnings of the approaches to health promotion are explored along with the development of programmes incorporating practical examples. Special attention is given to how such practices and approaches support active ageing.</p>	3	3
GEM3191	<p>Administration for Purpose Driven Organisations</p> <p>This subject teaches the fundamental skills required in junior executive roles in purpose driven entities, especially those in the ageing sector. This also involves examining demonstrated strategies to achieve sustainability in various organizational types such as non-profits, social enterprises and profit-with-a-purpose companies. Topics cover volunteer management and retention, cross sector collaboration, measuring social impact, client centric values, fundraising, resource mobilisation, risk management, and social innovation.</p>	3	4
GEM3192	<p>Research Project</p> <p>This subject allows students to explore an area of interest and to integrate learning acquired from a range of subjects across the diploma. The project will focus on an identified problem and/or issue and the proposed solutions. Students complete the project from the proposal development phase, to the literature review and synthesis of the literature to the final presentation</p>	3	4

Graduation Requirements

TPFun Subjects	36 credit units
Diploma Subjects - Core Subjects	84 credit units
Total Credit Units Completed	min 120 credit units