UNCW’s Gerontology programs prepare graduates to work with and for older adults, as advocates, direct service providers, educators/trainers, administrators, marketers and product developers, program planners, evaluators, researchers and more. Our mission is to enhance the health and well-being of older adults through innovation and excellence in workforce development, research, professional service and community engagement. Our core and affiliated faculty are highly qualified and committed to student success.

**Program options include:**
- Undergraduate minor (18 hrs.)
- 4+1 combination programs: B.S. in Exercise Science, Public Health or Recreation Therapy and M.S. in Applied Gerontology (up to 12 hrs.)
- M.S. in Applied Gerontology (36 hrs.)
- Post-baccalaureate Gerontology Certificate (15 hrs.)

**Degree Outcomes**
Graduates with gerontology expertise can work with a variety of public and private organizations or create new job opportunities in this fast-growing field. Employment opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- Government agencies
- Non-profit agencies
- Colleges/universities
- Financial planning offices
- Businesses/product development
- Housing communities
- Health care settings
- Recreation/fitness centers
- Government agencies
- Non-profit agencies
- Colleges/universities
- Financial planning offices
- Businesses/product development

**The Student Experience**
UNCW’s Gerontology programs take a bio-psycho-social approach, drawing on empirical research and an examination of current issues. Students participate in service-learning, community engagement, group interaction and distance education opportunities.

**Employment Opportunities**
With the rapid aging of the population, the “Longevity Economy” already provides 100 million jobs in the U.S.\(^1\) and is a fast-growing field. Over 16% of the population of North Carolina is 65 or older.\(^2\) The global population is aging, and the need for employees with gerontology knowledge is critical in a wide range of areas.