

**PROGRAM APPROVAL APPLICATION**  
**NEW or SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE or LOCALLY APPROVED**  
**(This application may not exceed 3 pages)**

**Fill In Form**

Multidisciplinary Gerontology Certificate  
 Proposed Program Title

Spring 2017 -Fall 2018  
 Projected Program Start Date

Saddleback College  
 College

South Orange County Community College District  
 District

**Contact Information**

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 Voting Member

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 Title

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**Goal(s) of Program (Check all that apply):**

- Career Technical Education (CTE)       Transfer       Other

**Type of Program (Check all that apply):**

- Certificate of Achievement 12-17 (or 17-27 quarter) units       Certificate of Achievement 18+ semester (or 27+ quarter) units  
 Associate of Science Degree       Associate of Arts Degree

**Reason for Approval Request (Check One):**

- New Program       Substantial Change       Locally Approved

**Program Information**

1309.00      Recommended [Taxonomy of Program \(TOP\) Code](#)  
 \_\_\_\_\_      Units for Major-Degree  
 \_\_\_\_\_      Total Units for Degree  
 12      Required Units-Certificate

**Written Form**

**1. Insert the description of the program as it will appear in the catalog. (See PCAH pp. 142 and 170)**

The multidisciplinary gerontology certificate studies aging, the aging process, and working with older adults in a variety of capacities. Biological, sociological, and psychological aspects of aging are explored. This certificate aims to educate individuals about the field of aging, while also allowing them to complete coursework in other associated areas. The goal of the low unit certificate is to primarily serve students who are working toward completing other related certificates, degrees, or programs, have completed degrees, and/or work in the aging field and desire additional gerontology knowledge. The multidisciplinary certificate allows students to choose elective courses that match pathways that fit within their current area of study. Employment opportunities may include: business, marketing, environmental design, nutrition, nursing, medical assisting, health, wellness, recreation, fitness, food services/preparation, human services, senior communities, home health care, caregiving, horticulture, and travel/tourism. Additional certification, degrees, and/or training may be required for the fields listed depending on the employer and occupation.

**2. Provide a brief rationale for the program.**

When revising the current gerontology certificate over the last two years ago, it was advised by the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Health Sciences Dean, as well as the Director of the Economic and Workforce Development that an additional low unit certificate would cater to students in higher unit/demanding certificates or other programs on campus. Students in other programs have agreed that a low unit certificate would be advantageous and not too time consuming to complete. Now that the gerontology certificate revision (21-22 units) has been approved, we are working to create this certificate that would allow students additional knowledge that would benefit them in a variety of settings that work with older adults and their families. The aging tsunami is here; with the common knowledge that roughly 20% of the U.S. population will be 65 years of age and older by 2030 and 1 in 4 Orange County residents will be 65 years of age and older by 2050, myriad of professions are needed to assist older adults and their families. Students are studying to pursue many careers that will directly or indirectly serve this aging population. This certificate will allow students to gain additional knowledge about our aging society in order to complement their educational and career plans in other areas.

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**3. Summarize the Labor Market Information (LMI) and employment outlook (including citation for the source of the data) for students exiting the program. (See PCAH pp. 85-88, 136, 147, 148, 165, 168, and 176)**

According to [Emsi Q2 Data Sets](#) (May 2017) generated by the Saddleback College Director of Economic and Workforce Development, the employment outlook for a variety of allied aging fields is favorable, with more job openings than completers. It is challenging to narrow down the field of gerontology to a few specific occupations that students will go in to due to the diversity of careers in the aging field. The Emsi data that was generated supports a variety of occupations that work directly or indirectly with aging adults, families, and society. Our proposed certificate utilizes pathways from the following type programs.

- 1) Gerontology, Human Services, Allied Health, Mental and Social Health Services, Health Aide, Home Health Aide/Assistant, Nursing Assistant Program data reports 1,727 regional program completions and 8,068 annual openings.
  - 2) Foods, Nutrition, and Wellness Studies and Food Preparation/Professional Cooking/Kitchen Assistant Program data reports 26 regional program completions and 5,278 annual openings.
  - 3) Environmental Design Program data reports 0 regional program completions and 220 annual openings.
  - 4) Cooks, Food Servers (nonrestaurant), and Food Preparation Workers Program data reports 175 completions and 808 openings.
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**4. List similar programs at other colleges in the Los Angeles and Orange County Region which may be adversely impacted. (There is space for 10 listings, if you need more, please contact [laocrc@rscdd.edu](mailto:laocrc@rscdd.edu))**

The gerontology certificate program is housed under the Sociology Department. We have a larger unit gerontology certificate (21-22 units) and this proposed certificate will be a lower unit one that has 7 pathways with restricted electives offered mainly outside of the department/division. This certificate is unique because of the cross-collaboration with other departments and its focus on serving students who are already completing degrees, certificates, or programs in an allied field. Coastline Community College, Pasadena City College, Mira Costa College, and Chaffey College all offer Gerontology certificates, but they are each distinct. This proposed multidisciplinary low unit certificate should not adversely impact the other colleges as it caters to a different student population.

**5. List all courses required for program completion, including core requirements, restricted electives and prerequisites. (There is space for 20 listings, if you need more, please contact [laocrc@rscdd.edu](mailto:laocrc@rscdd.edu)). (See PCAH pp. 143 and 171)**

Courses	Course Number	Course Title	Units
SOC	180	Introduction to Gerontology	3
SOC	125	Sociology of Aging	3
SOC	126	Death and Dying	3
PSYC	125	Psychology of Aging	3
<b>Foods/Nutrition Pathway:</b>			
FN	50	Fundamentals of Nutrition	3
FN	110	Food Preparation Essentials	3
FN	169	Lifecycle Nutrition	3
FN	210	ServSafe in Food Production	1
FN	232	Techniques of Healthy Cooking	2
FN	246	Pantry	3
<b>Human Services Pathway:</b>			
HS	100	Introduction to Human Services	3
HS	120	Human Development in the Social Environment	3
HS	131	Multicultural and Diverse Populations in the U.S.	3
HS	140	Group Leadership and Group Process	3
HS	174	Case Administration, Crisis Intervention, and Referral	3
HS	220	Benefits and Entitlement	3
<b>Environmental Design Pathway:</b>			
ARCH	124A	Architectural Design I	4
ARCH	219	Residential and Commercial Space Planning	4
ARCH	163	International Building Code	4
ID OR	214	Bath Design	3
ID	215	Kitchen Design	3
<b>Health Sciences Pathway:</b>			
HIT	203	Alternative Healthcare Delivery System	3
HSC	233	Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Information	3
HSC	244	Disease Processes for the Health Sciences	3
HSC	291	Management of Aggressive Behavior in Healthcare Settings	0.5
MA	206	Introduction to Medical Assisting	3
N	204	Introduction to Nursing	3

**6. Include any other information you would like to share.**

Thank you for reviewing our application.