ABOUT GREAT PLAINS IDEA
The Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (Great Plains IDEA) is a consortium of distinguished, accredited universities offering fully online graduate programs. Each university brings a unique strength in faculty and curriculum to the multi-institution program. Students choose a home university where they apply, are admitted, register for courses, and receive their degree. Online courses are taught by the best faculty in each discipline from several universities. Students pay one common price per credit hour regardless of which university is their degree-granting institution.

PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES
University of Arkansas
www.distance.iastate.edu/gpidea/gpideahomepage.php
Iowa State University
www.distance.iastate.edu/gpidea/gpideahomepage.php
Kansas State University
www.k-state.edu/ksgpidea
University of Missouri
http://online.missouri.edu/degreeprograms/human-development/gerontology.aspx
North Dakota State University
http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/cda/degrees/great_plains_idea_program_tuition_fees
Oklahoma State University
humansciences.okstate.edu/gpidea
Texas Tech University
www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/gpidea

GET STARTED
Contact the Campus Coordinator at one of these Great Plains IDEA participating institutions.

University of Arkansas
Diana Bisbee | dbisbee@uark.edu | 479-575-2025

Iowa State University
Karen Smidt | ksmidt@iastate.edu | 515-294-5397

Kansas State University
Amanda Gnadt | gpideacc@ksu.edu | 785-532-3965

University of Missouri
Nita Smarr | smarrj@missouri.edu | 573-884-1555

North Dakota State University
Karen Murie | karen.murie@ndsu.edu | 701-231-8638

Oklahoma State University
Anne Mahoney | anne.mahoney@okstate.edu | 405-744-9386

Texas Tech University
Leslie McClure | leslie.mcclure@ttu.edu | 806-742-3031

785-532-6848
ALLIANCE@KSU.EDU

www.gpidea.org
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

We live in an aging society, one in which the older population is growing both in absolute numbers and in proportion to all other age groups. Businesses, government agencies, service organizations, educational institutions and self-employed professionals from every economic sector are recognizing the need for specialized knowledge and skills to meet the needs of this changing demography.

AN ADVANCED DEGREE IN GERONTOLOGY CAN BENEFIT THE PROFESSIONAL IN

- Social Work
- Nursing
- Counseling
- Recreation
- Public Policy
- Long-term Care
- Medicine
- Architecture
- Interior Design
- Adult Education
- Rehabilitation Therapy
- Human/Family Services

Some Gerontologists work directly with older persons in a wide variety of programs and services in the community. Others work on behalf of older persons in areas such as advocacy and teaching about aging.

Note: Credits completed in a certificate may be considered as partial fulfillment for a graduate degree. Applicability determined by the degree-granting institution.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Master’s Degree

24 CREDIT HOURS CORE COURSES

12 CREDIT HOURS THESIS OR ADDITIONAL ELECTIVE COURSEWORK

Depending on the requirements of the degree-granting institution.

COURSES OFFERED

- Perspectives in Gerontology
- Adult Development & Aging
- Physical Health & Nutrition in Aging
- Program Evaluation & Research Methods
- Professional Seminar in Gerontology
- Policy & Aging
- Environment & Aging
- Aging in the Family

Graduate Certificate

15 CREDIT HOURS CORE COURSES

6 CREDIT HOURS ELECTIVE COURSES

CORE COURSES

- Perspectives in Gerontology
- Adult Development & Aging
- Physical Health & Nutrition in Aging
- Program Evaluation & Research Methods
- Professional Seminar in Gerontology

ELECTIVE COURSES

- Biological Aspects of Aging
- Gender & Aging
- Physical Activity & Aging
- Seminar in Long-term Care
- Mental Health & Aging
- Sexuality & Aging
- Gerontechnology
- Cognitive Health
- Spirituality & Aging
- Creativity & Aging
- Sociology & Aging

Degree titles and requirements vary. Consult your degree-granting institution for more information.

METHOD OF DELIVERY

The courses in this program are taught by the same instructors who teach on campus at the participating universities. Curriculum is specially adapted for the online environment to ensure students receive the same quality education as they would experience on campus.

Course schedules are determined by the teaching institution, but do not have set class times, allowing students to access course content when it is convenient for them. Students meet deadlines as outlined by the instructor, and interact with instructors and other students through e-mail, chats, discussion boards, and other interactive methods. Students must have access to a computer, e-mail, and the Internet.

BENEFITS OF ONLINE LEARNING

- Advance your career
- Increase your earning potential
- Maintain work and family commitments
- Interact with instructors and classmates from across the nation