

Gerontology: Advanced Behavioral & Cognitive Care Certificate (ABCC) See: www.pcc.edu/ger

This certificate is designed to enhance the knowledge and develop the skills of direct care providers to work with older adults experiencing cognitive decline, dementia, and other challenging behavioral and cognitive conditions, in long term care, adult daycare, home, and community settings. The certificate is also appropriate for any professionals working in aging services, to enhance their ability to work effectively with this population. The courses in this Certificate of Completion are wholly contained within the State Board approved Gerontology AAS Degree. The Gerontology AAS Degree articulates with Portland State University, Eastern Oregon University and other baccalaureate programs.

Successful completion of the Certificate prepares students for the National Certification Board for Alzheimer Care (NCBAC) certification examination for designation as a Certified Alzheimer Caregiver.

Certificate Outcomes

- Work effectively as an advanced care provider with diverse individuals or groups of older adults with cognitive decline, dementia, and other challenging behavioral and cognitive conditions, in long term care, adult daycare, home and community settings
- Apply best practices for dealing with challenging cognitive and behavioral issues, following care plans, providing appropriate documentation and working collaboratively with all stakeholders, including multidisciplinary teams, medical and healthcare professionals, family and community members
- Conduct gerontological research relevant to advanced care issues, and apply the research to practice
- Adhere to professional and ethical care standards
- Continue to develop professional care knowledge and skills through continuing education and training

Certificate Courses¹

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
GRN181	Exploring the Field of Aging	2
GRN235	Advanced Care Issues	2
GRN236	Advanced Care Practice	2
GRN240	Care and Service Coordination	3
SOC223	Sociology of Aging	4
SOC231	Health and Aging	4
SOC232	Death and Dying	4
AD105	Aging and Addiction	3
GRN280B	Internship Seminar	1
GRN280A	Internship	4 ²
GRN282	Gerontology Professional Seminar	1
Total Credits		30 credits

¹All courses in the Certificate are offered 2-4 terms per academic year.

²Up to 3 hours can be waived with documentation of 70 hours of related employment per credit. Students applying for the Certificate should present evidence of prior experience and training to the Gerontology Program Advisor on application for the Certificate to determine eligibility for the waiver.