Mission of the Department of Social Work

The mission of the UNC Greensboro B.S.W. Program is to prepare culturally competent, ethical social workers who embody the core social work values as described in the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics. These core values include: service, social justice, the dignity and worth of the person, the importance of human relationship, integrity, competence, human rights, and scientific inquiry. Human rights and social justice are key components of what social workers do, and an important part of our mission is for students to apply these values and ethics in their social work practice. We prepare students to engage with others at the intersection of culture, race, gender, and class, to promote healthy functioning for individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Our goal is the transformation of personal history into professional identity through mentoring, teaching, research, and our signature pedagogy – field education. Faculty promote social, economic, and environmental justice through research, engaged scholarship, and collaboration with social services agencies. Learning takes place within an intentional, collaborative community that respects and embraces diversity and promotes inclusion.

Department Goals

1. Prepare graduate and undergraduate students to become competent, engaged social workers who demonstrate the knowledge, ethics, values, and skills of the profession.
2. Prepare graduates to work effectively with diverse and marginalized people.
3. Prepare students to facilitate inclusion at all systems levels—individual, family, group, organization, community, and policy.
4. Create a learning community that respects diversity and encourages the exploration of difference.
5. Increase engagement with social service agencies and other community institutions to promote social change.
6. Conduct change-oriented research to promote social and economic justice.

Mission of the Bachelor of Social Work Program

Our mission is to prepare competent, ethical social workers who will become the backbone of the social services delivery system in the Piedmont Triad and beyond. We prepare students to engage with others at the intersection of person and environment, race, gender, and class, in order to promote healthy functioning for individuals, families, groups, and communities. Our goal is the transformation of personal history into professional identity through mentoring, teaching, our signature pedagogy—field education, research, and engaged scholarship. Learning takes place within an intentional, collaborative community that respects and embraces diversity and promotes inclusion.

The Joint Master of Social Work

The Joint Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) program represents the efforts of faculty at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NCA&TSU) and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNC Greensboro). This is a single academic program with participation in instruction by faculty from each department. Instruction is conducted on the campuses of both universities. The program is accredited by The Council on Social Work Education and the curriculum has been designed by the joint faculty to provide students with a multicultural clinical social work education. The model for the curriculum is based on CSWE social work competencies and contemporary, state-of-the-art theory and practice methods. The curriculum is organized by generalist year, specialization year, and field instruction. The primary purpose of the M.S.W. program is to prepare students for multicultural clinical social work practice.

Each M.S.W. student completes 1008 hours of internships in community agencies. A 42-credit hour Advanced Standing option is available for highly qualified students who have graduated from a CSWE-accredited B.S.W. Program; these students complete a 672-hour advanced internship.

Gerontology

The mission of the UNC Greensboro Gerontology Program is to teach, apply, and create gerontological knowledge through collaborative relationships with academic disciplines, community organizations, and businesses to enrich the lives of older adults and their families. Graduates are prepared to be leaders in the profession and to serve older adults locally and nationally through the health, business, non-profit, and academic sectors.

Three goals reflect the mission of the Gerontology program:

1. Provide a transdisciplinary curriculum that gives new and seasoned professionals the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful career working with older adults.
2. Facilitate and support opportunities for students to participate in innovative coursework that further their academic and professional goals in the field of gerontology.
3. Provide professional training and experiences in gerontology in order to enhance understanding of and professional practice using research and theories on aging.

Program Administration

The Gerontology Program is proudly housed in the Department of Social Work in the School of Health and Human Sciences.

About

The goal of the Gerontology Program is to provide opportunities for learning and practice that create competent and capable gerontologists who meet the needs of the aging population. Students are provided with a scientific, broad and integrated view of aging through collaborative relationships with academic disciplines, community organizations,
and businesses in order to approach issues of aging from a truly biopsychosocial perspective. The undergraduate and graduate programs in Gerontology prepare students for careers in agencies and organizations serving older adults and their families.

The UNC Greensboro Gerontology Program offers an Undergraduate Minor in Gerontology, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Gerontology, a Master of Science in Gerontology, and an Accelerated B.A. or B.S. to M.S in Gerontology.

**Affiliated Faculty**

**Rebecca G. Adams**, Gerontology Undergraduate Coordinator, **Professor**

**Elise Eifert**, Gerontology Graduate Coordinator, **Assistant Professor**

**Chantelle Caro**, Assistant Professor

**Undergraduate**

**Rebecca Adams**, Gerontology Undergraduate Coordinator
336-256-1020

The Gerontology Program offers an undergraduate minor in Gerontology that requires 12 credit hours to complete.

Undergraduate students who plan to undertake graduate study at UNC Greensboro, and who need no more than 12 credits of work to fulfill all requirements for the bachelor’s degree, may enroll in the Graduate School. See the Dual Registration in the University Catalog.

**Graduate**

**Elise Eifert**, Gerontology Graduate Coordinator
336-256-1099

A Post-Baccalaureate Certificate and a Master of Science degree in Gerontology are offered through the Gerontology Program. The graduate programs are fully online and tailored to working, adult learners. Programs are flexible and practitioner oriented with a focus on authentic learning and developing practical knowledge and skills for the job market.

The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Gerontology curriculum provides the professional foundation necessary to prepare students for practice as a Gerontological Specialist in their primary discipline. The P.B.C. requires a minimum of 12 credit hours of course work. Visit the P.B.C. program page (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-pbc/) for information about applying, admission, and certificate requirements.

The accredited Master of Science in Gerontology curriculum provides the professional foundation necessary to prepare students for practice as a Gerontologist. Courses are designed to provide students with opportunities to master core competencies in the Gerontology discipline. The M.S. requires a minimum of 30 credit hours of course work. Visit the M.S. program page (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-ms/) for information about applying, admission and degree requirements.

**Professor**

Melissa Raymelle Floyd-Pickard
Kelly Jay Poole
John C. Rife

**Associate Professor**

Meredith Christine Foster Powers

**Academic Professional Associate Professor**

Elise Eifert

Fran Pearson
Daniel Thomas Rhodes
Beth Webb

**Academic Professional Assistant Professor**

Regina T Alexander
Chantelle Sharpe Caro
Chauncey Greene
Ashley Mariette Stewart
Johnette Celeste Walser

**G**

**Graduate-level faculty**

- Gerontology Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-minor/)
- Social Work Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/social-work-minor/)
- Gerontology, M.S. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-ms/)
- Social Work, M.S.W., offered jointly with North Carolina A&T State University (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/social-work-msw/)
- Social Work, Ph.D., offered jointly with North Carolina A&T State University (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/social-work-phd/)
- Gerontology, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-pbc/)