



### **Course Description**

#### **PSY2940C | Mental Health - Aging Practicum | 3.00 Credits**

This capstone course offers students practical field experience in neuroscience and aging through a practicum in settings serving older adult populations. Students will apply their knowledge of behavioral science concepts and principles to analyze the cognitive and neurological aspects of aging, as well as the social and economic factors affecting older adults. This course includes works from the Western canon. Through hands-on experience and critical reflection, learners will develop a deeper understanding of how neuroscience research informs current approaches to aging-related issues, preparing them to address complex social, political, and economic challenges in gerontology. Departmental permission for course enrollment is required.

### **Course Competencies:**

**Competency 1:** The student will apply related theories in a field setting by:

1. Collaborating with the placement site to identify health aging deliverables for the population served.
2. Identifying the needs of the individual clients-patients as described by the program deliverables

**Competency 2:** The student will identify at least two areas of potential growth as related to their placement into an aging-related field by:

1. Analyzing what is in the student's best interest as they explore a career in aging
2. Identifying what skills might need to be further developed as they provide hands-on assistance to their clients.

**Competency 3:** The student will participate in interdisciplinary activities that will enhance their hands-on knowledge of adulthood and aging by:

1. Participating in article discussions, on-ground rounds, colloquiums, seminars, presentations, or related that might be offered at the placement site.
2. Collaborating with their lead instructor and on-site supervisor on adding a module
3. or training program for future members of their program, looking at it from a multi-disciplinary perspective.
4. Generating an end-of-the-semester project in collaboration with the lead instructor and on-site supervisor that incorporates at least two of the areas covered in the CCC of Neuroscience and Aging.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data.
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning.
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information.
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities.
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment