



UNIVERSITY
of
TECHNOLOGY,
MAURITIUS

School of Business ,Management And Law

MSc Elder Care

PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

VERSION 1.0
CODE MELC 1.0
November 2012

MSc. Elder Care

A. Programme Information

This programme in MSc Elder Care is designed to meet the needs of professionals and other graduates interested in the care of the Elderly and working in either the Public or the Private sector, Parastatal bodies, NGO's and other Institutions. It is mainly geared towards providing those interested in this challenging area of human life an insight in the practical and theoretical issues related to ageing.

The programme is intended for both, people seeking training in the field of Elder Care, and those who are already involved in activities with the elderly and who wish to enhance their knowledge and skills as practicing professionals in the sectors of health, social and other welfare services concerned with the welfare of the Elderly.

The curriculum covers topics related to the biological, psychological, social and epidemiological changes caused by the aging process; attitudes towards the ageing individuals; care and services promoting productive ageing; intergenerational relationships and other cultural issues related to ageing.

The modules will provide students with a broad educational base covering the impact of ageing on individuals from different cultures. The programme will draw on other disciplines such as management, social and behavioural sciences, economics, political and other natural sciences.

The programme is open to Graduates with occupational backgrounds in the following areas and is practicing as:

- Social workers
- Probation officers.
- Family counselors
- Health workers
- Personnel involved in the care of the elderly
- Educators
- Welfare officers
- Police Officers.
- Prison Officers.
- Nursing Officers
- Social Welfare Officers
- Personnel involved in family and the counseling of the elderly .

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B. Programme Aims

The overall aim of this programme is to offer all students a supportive and challenging learning environment that will enable them to develop personal qualities and professional knowledge, expertise and skills deemed necessary for competent practitioners interested in the ageing issues within society. It is designed to equip the course participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to work with elderly people, in institutions and situations arising in this stage of human life. It will support the professional development of those already involved in working with the elderly; while adding an academic dimension to their existing skills, with a view to make them more efficient practitioners in the field of Elder Care Management.

C. Programme Objectives

- Develop an appreciation of the philosophies, theories and research concerning the ageing process.
- Provide opportunities to investigate significant ageing issues through case studies.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the ageing process.
- Acquire critical understanding of the place and role of the elderly in society.
- Appraise the importance of personal experience and values and attitudes in working with the elderly.
- Explore the issues in relation to ageing in various settings: health care, social, organisational and the family.
- Explain the importance of research methodology in gerontology.
- Consider the relevance of ethical, social and cultural and legal issues in the ageing process.

PART I - Regulations

D. General Entry Requirements

As per UTM'S Admissions Regulations, and 'Admission to Programmes of Study at Masters Degree Level'.

E. Programme Entry Requirements

Admission decisions will be made by the School of Business, Management and Finance on a case to case basis subject to the approval of the Academic Council.

Candidates must either be: Graduates from a recognised university or other institutions of higher education with at least a second class honours degree or holders of an approved professional qualification deemed equivalent to an honours degree.

Or

Other honours graduates or holders of an equivalent qualification may be admitted if they produce evidence which satisfies the School Board, of their competence to pursue the programme;

Or

Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations or the above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations or have acquired managerial experience which are deemed by the Academic Council to be equivalent to any of those listed.

Overseas Candidates

Overseas candidates whose first language is not English and who do not hold a degree or equivalent professional qualification taught in English will be required to produce evidence of their competence in English.

F. Programme Mode and Duration

Full Time: 1 ½ Years

Part Time: 2 Years

Each academic year includes two semesters of 15 weeks each (excluding exam period) and each semester is comprised of activities of teaching and learning strategies.

G. Teaching and Learning Strategies

The programme will consist of a wide variety of teaching methods, including lectures, individual or group projects, presentations, workshops, seminars and case studies. Self-learning will be the key feature of the programme, enabling students to explore, investigate and research in various issues related to human resource management.

H. Student Support and Guidance

In addition to traditional lectures, group tutorials or individual tutorials are arranged for students. Wherever possible, students will be encouraged to attend short placements in institutions catering for the elderly in either the public or the private sector.

I. Attendance Requirements

As per UTM's Regulations and Policy.

J. Credit System

MSc – 42 Credits

PGDip – 30 Credits

PGCert – 18 Credits

1 module = 3, 4, or 8 credits

Project / Dissertation = 12 credits

All modules will carry 100 marks.

K. Student Progress and Assessment

- Written examination inclusive of reading time shall be of duration of 2 - 3 hours for modules carrying less or equal to 3 credits and not less than 3 hours for modules carrying more than 3, 4 and 8 credits.
- All modules are normally assessed over 100 marks, except for project/dissertation where it shall be as specified in the programme document.
- The overall pass mark for a module shall be 40%.
- Where a module is assessed by both, coursework and exams, a minimum of 40% should be attained in
 - Coursework, and
 - Examination

Grading

Postgraduate		
Overall Marks	Grade	Remarks
$70 \leq X \leq 100$	A	Excellent
$60 \leq X < 70$	B	Very Good
$50 \leq X < 60$	C	Good
$40 \leq X < 50$	D	Satisfactory
$X < 40$	F	Referred

L. Evaluation of Performance

For MSc:

The percentage mark contributes a 100% weighting toward the degree classification.

M. Award Classification

Overall weighted mark x (%) Classification

For MSc:

Master Degree with Distinction	:	CPA \geq 70
Master Degree with Merit	:	60 \leq CPA<70
Master Degree	:	40 \leq CPA<60
No Award	:	CPA<40

N. Programme Organisation and Management

Programme Director and Coordinator: Dr. Mahendrenath Motah

Contact Details:

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- Telephone Number: 207 5250 (Ext. 406)
- Email: mmotah@umail.utm.ac.mu

Part II - Programme Structure

O. MSc Elder Care – Full Time

YEAR 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits	Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits
PSYC 5201	Critical appraisal of the ageing process	2 + 1	3	ECON 5806	Welfare and Economic issues in Elder Care	3+1	4
PSYC Y 5116	Psychology of ageing	3 + 1	4	PSYC 5117	Mental and Physical Health aspects of ageing	2+1	3
GOVT 5305	Public Policy and Elder Care	3+1	4	PSYC Y 5116	Psychology of ageing	3+1	4
QUAN 5404	Research Methods	3+1	4	DISS 5000	<i>Dissertation/Applied Project</i>		12

* Research Methods will be assessed 100% by coursework

** Dissertation starts in Semester 2. Credits earned at the end of Semester 3

YEAR 2			
Semester 3			
Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits
MAUR 5102	Managing Institutions for the Elders	3+1	4
DISS 5000	<i>Dissertation/Applied Project</i>		

TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS: 42 (inclusive of Dissertation)

P. MSc Elder Care – Part Time

YEAR 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits	Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits
PSYC 5201	Critical appraisal of the ageing process	2+1	3	QUAN 5404	Research Methods	3+1	4
PSYC Y 5116	Psychology of ageing	3+1	4	ECON 5806	Welfare and Economic issues in Elder Care	3+1	4
GOVT 5305	Public Policy Elder	3+1	4				

* Research Methods will be assessed 100% by coursework

YEAR 2							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits	Code	Modules	Hrs/Wk L/T	Credits
PSYC Y 5116	Psychology of ageing	2+1	3	MAUR 5102	Managing Institutions for the Elders	3+1	4
PSYC 5117	Mental and Physical Health aspects of ageing	3+1	4	DISS 5000	<i>Dissertation/Applied Project</i>		12
DISS 5000	<i>Dissertation/Applied Project</i>						

** Dissertation starts in Semester 1 of Year 2. Credits earned at the end of Semester 2 of Year 2

TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS: 42 (inclusive of Dissertation)

Q. MODULE OUTLINE

CODE: PSYC 5201: Critical appraisal of the ageing process

The physical and physiological changes associated with ageing; implications for the individual in relation to gender; issues related to ageing: dependence, movement, self- image, care, needs; gerontology and geriatrics areas of study related to understanding the ageing process; coping with the changes – organs, senses, body, muscles, activities; what is ageing; major aspects of the process. Surveys and research on the needs of the ageing population and implementation of findings to better the services provided to this category of citizens. Attitudes towards ageing and the elders in relation to the various changes – mobility, skin, memory, body shape, hearing, vision, immunity and other ailments affecting the ageing individual.

CODE: PSYC – Y 5116: Psychology of ageing

Individual differences in ageing; perception of the process in men and women; attitudes towards ageing; retirement and related issues; growing old in the present society; compensating for the loss related to old age; major psychological issues: respect, love, acceptance, independence/dependence, compassion, consideration, loneliness, friendship, other related problems: emotional, social, cognitive dissonance, interpersonal relations; Companionship, divorce and separation among elders. Psychological implications of ageing: Role and responsibilities of family members, relatives, parents and children in the overall well-being of elders; Gender issues in family relations; the place of the elders within the family – (nuclear, extended). Involvement of the elders in family matters. Intergenerational relations; values and attitudes of the family towards elders. Considering the vulnerability of individuals as a consequence of ageing among the elders; maintaining social relations and the place of compassion; Coming to terms with life and death during this last stage of human life; Coping with neglect, rejection and abuse.

CODE: GOVT 5305: Public Policy and Elder Care

The role of government in the provision of care and protection of the elders; the pension scheme; benefits provided by the public institutions; access to leisure facilities; role of the Monitoring Committee for the Protection of the Elderly; the elderly watch groups; homes for the elders; scope and perspectives of existing facilities and prospects for the growing population of elders; employment of the elders in the public sector: health, education, welfare, and others. Redeployment of the retired in specific areas of expertise. Public policy and the welfare of the elders – what needs to be done.

CODE: QUAN 5404: Research Methods

This module will introduce students to research methods used in academic and professional fields. They will be exposed to methodologies from both qualitative and quantitative perspectives. Lectures will offer students an overview of the different approaches involved in social research and other human research methods such as interviews, surveys, experiments, ethnographies and others. Emphasis will also be on the digital e-tools mixed methods approaches, case studies and other research methods.

CODE: ECON 5806: Welfare and Economic issues in Elder Care

The elderly person,s income and economic welfare; pension and social welfare adequacy; loss of job and income through retirement; economic dependence on others; exploitation by family members and abuse in relation to welfare and basic needs satisfaction of the elderly; identifying major economic issues in elder care; measures to ensure economic support for elders; self-employed and retired elders economic safety; management of retirement and other benefits of elders. Retirement schemes for public and self-employed elders.

CODE: PSYC 5117: Mental and Physical Health aspects of ageing

Relationship between mental and physical health among the elders Provision of health care facilities in relation to: diet, medication, health care, therapy; counselling the elderly; information on current ailments affecting the elders and proposed solutions through existing structures. Establishing programmes to ensure the mental and physical well-being of the elders within the society; public and private institutions caring for elders with mental and physical health problems. Demographic issues in relation to the health issues. Psycho-social issues affecting mental and physical health of elders.

CODE: MAUR 5102: Managing Institutions for the Elders

Structure of institutions for the welfare of elderly; regulations governing residential care of the elderly; management of elder care homes; public and private institutions; the responsibilities of management; planning, organising and directing roles and functions of managers. Caring for the elderly and implications for the manager and staff of institutions involved. Welfare of the elders in public and private institutions. Providing and managing the infrastructure and facilities for the overall well being of the elders.

CODE: DISS 5000 Dissertation/Applied Project

Students will have to submit a dissertation/applied project in the form of an empirical study, quantitative or qualitative, conducted by the student himself /herself on some aspect of Elder Care Management. A 15,000-18,000 words dissertation will have to be submitted at the end of the last semester of the programme leading to the Masters Degree. The work submitted should conform to the school's Postgraduate Dissertation Guidelines available at the registry.