

AGHE Teaching Brief

My Career in Aging Project

People are living longer and populations are aging worldwide. The demand for professionals with expertise in aging is growing rapidly. GSA hosts [Careers in Aging Week](#) every year to raise awareness about the diverse careers available in the field of aging. Celebrate CIAW with your students using this project – or use it as a class assignment or final independent project. The protocol may be adapted to your class needs.

Project Overview

This project allows you to explore career opportunities in aging. You may work with a partner or on your own. Your goals are to learn about different jobs that may be of interest to you, identify one “real” job opportunity, learn about it and the employer, and make a plan for how you could work toward obtaining that job when you graduate. The job may be one that you can apply for with your current degree or one that will require an advanced degree.

You are encouraged to consider career paths that intersect aging with gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, social economic status, regional location, or other components that distinguish our diverse aging population.

You will share what you learned with other students in class presentations (using PowerPoint).

Presentation Guidelines: Use the following slide format to build your presentation. Total time should be about 15 minutes.

Slide 1: Who you are (Name, Major/Minor, Class, Year) and Presentation Title

Slides 2 - 3: Background information about what you learned about opportunities surrounding careers in aging, this particular job path, and what drew you to looking at the position you selected.

Slide 4: A description of the career opportunity you identified – including “background” information about the job sector as well as information about the specific position (which could draw on an actual employment posting). Dig around for as much information as you can (e.g., job responsibilities, salary, benefits, company culture, challenges). You may also find out about the opportunity by speaking personally with someone in the field or someone working at the organization.

Slide 5: A description of how your skills, interests, talents, life experiences can connect you to the position – as well as steps you could take to develop your connection further. For example, are there particular courses you could take, internships, special workshops or training sessions? Does the job require an advanced degree? If so, what options would help you obtain that training?

Slide 6: In a few sentences, tell us – and your possible employer – why you are the person for this position!

My Career in Aging Project *Some Resources to Get You Started*



AgeWork The GSA Career Center
<https://agework.geron.org/>

The Gerontological Society of America (GSA): Career Center
<https://www.geron.org/career-center>

American Psychological Association (APA): Exploring Careers in Aging
<https://www.apa.org/pi/aging/resources/careers>

Longevity Economics
<https://www.geron.org/programs-services/alliances-and-multi-stakeholder-collaborations/longevity-economics-and-longevity-fitness>

It is recommended that instructors also provide students with local resources for searching for employment opportunities in the aging field.