## Gerontology Transcript

**Text on Screen:**

Gerontology
Dr Angela Herd, Course Coordinator talks about Gerontology at La Trobe

Gerontology is the study of ageing and more broadly the study of care and support of older people.

People want to study gerontology for a couple of reasons usually. One is that they are very interested in working in areas related to older people. So they want to use the course as a bridge to get into that area of work. Secondly, for people who are already working in that area and want to increase their knowledge and skills.

The course is a mixture of subjects and either a project or a research thesis. The subjects include Foundation studies in Gerontology, care and support services for older people, a specialised unit about dementia, and health and wellbeing for older people as well as a subject related to policy about people. There are two pathways you can choose. One is an industry based project, the other is a research project which tries to answer a research question about older people that you’re particularly interested in, and the outcome of that is a minor thesis.

There is a range of areas where gerontologists can work. They can be working in the government sector, so at the commonwealth, state or local government level. They can be working in the health sector. They also might be working in community agencies looking at housing and care support for older people. They might also be working in policy areas with a particular focus on older people.