Master of Arts in Rehabilitation Counseling

Requirements (72 units)

Program Code: EREH

The Master of Arts in Rehabilitation Counseling offered by the College of Education is designed to prepare students to work with individuals with disabilities in public and private rehabilitation agencies, hospitals, industry and related fields. The graduate program, a three-year course of study, will train students in rehabilitation counseling, vocational evaluation and job placement of persons with disabilities. Graduates of the program will be prepared to take the certified rehabilitation counselor examination.

Rehabilitation counseling is a growing field in the mental health and allied health professions. A rehabilitation counselor helps persons with disabilities achieve their optimal social, psychological and vocational potential. Whenever possible, the final goal of rehabilitation is job placement. The rehabilitation counselor works with people who have different disabilities. The handicaps may be physical, intellectual, emotional or sociocultural.

Students will be encouraged to develop areas of specialization by completing research of individual interest and field work experiences in specialization areas. The rehabilitation counseling program also may offer a bilingual rehabilitation counseling experience. The purpose for having a bilingual experience is that there is a demand in the rehabilitation profession for counselors to have the skills to speak and work with Hispanic clients. The mission of the bilingual rehabilitation counseling experience will be to educate students to be rehabilitation counselors who will be able to speak conversational Spanish with Hispanic clients, have an understanding of Hispanic culture and be aware of the special needs of Hispanic persons with disabilities.

Admission to the Program

In addition to the general requirements of the university, specific requirements for admission to classified graduate status are:

1. A baccalaureate degree with a major preferably in education psychology, sociology, or a related social service field;
2. A cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 ("B") overall;
3. Completion of the graduate entrance writing requirement;
4. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 ("B") in all previous graduate work;
5. Completion of an interview with two faculty members to assess competence in interpersonal skills and aptitudes for the rehabilitation counseling profession;
6. Participation in a continual evaluation process which will assess personality, character, professional ethics, aptitudes, counseling skills, dispositions, oral and written language usage and other interests;
7. Students need to pass EREH 615 and EREH 616A with a grade of "B" or better in each course.

Advance to Candidacy

In order to be formally advanced to candidacy, a student must have:

1. Achieved classified graduate standing;
2. Satisfactorily completed EREH 615 and EREH 616A with a grade of "B" (3.0) or better in each;
3. Secured approval of candidacy from the College of Education;
4. Filled an approved graduate program for completion of the degree.

This must be prepared in consultation with an advisor in the College of Education and approved by the College and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Requirements for Graduation

1. A minimum of 72 quarter units of acceptable work, with 59 completed in residence at this university;
2. A minimum of 48 quarter units of credit taken after a student has been advanced to candidacy for the degree;
3. A grade point average of 3.0 ("B") in course work taken to satisfy the Master of Arts degree requirements, including a minimum of a "B" in EREH 615 and EREH 616A and grades of "C" (2.0) or better in all courses in the program;
4. Successful completion of the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) Examination, which is a national Certification examination given by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification in Schaumburg, Illinois, and of the university graduation writing requirement.

Degree Requirements (72 units)

Rehabilitation counseling courses (68)

EREH 610 Research and Assessment in Rehabilitation 4
EREH 615 Introduction to Rehabilitation Counseling 4
EREH 616A Multiple Aspects of Disability: Medical 4
EREH 616B Multiple Aspects of Disability: Vocational 4
EREH 617 Vocational Assessment and Development 4
EREH 618 Applied Job Placement 4
EREH 649 Organizational Development of Rehabilitation Services 4
EREH 655 Multicultural Counseling in Rehabilitation 4
EREH 652 Dynamics of Human Behavior 4
EREH 656 Counseling Theories and Techniques in Rehabilitation 4
EREH 657 Counseling Practicum in Rehabilitation 4
EREH 667 Practicum in Rehabilitation Counseling 4
EREH 672 Seminar Topics in Rehabilitation Counseling (Topic examples: Casework Management, Research in Rehabilitation, Current Issues in Rehabilitation, and Multicultural Issues) 4
EREH 678 Theory and Practice of Group Counseling in Rehabilitation 4
EREH 679 Fieldwork in Rehabilitation Counseling (for a total of 12) 12

Culminating Experience (4)

EREH 695 Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination Preparation 4
* A grade of CR will be awarded upon successful completion of the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) Examination, which is a national Certification examination given by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification in Schaumburg, Illinois, 60173. The exam is given in March, July and October with usual available sites in California. Students need to apply on an individual basis and pay a fee to take the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) Examination. Students need to provide evidence of registration for the CRC Exam no later than the second quarter of their third year in the program. Students must take the CRC Exam no later than one year after the completion of all required coursework for the master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling. Student's scores will be sent to the Coordinator of the Rehabilitation Counseling Master's Program, and will be credited to EREH 999. If a student does not pass the CRC on the first attempt, they need to retake the exam the next time the CRC exam is given. If after the second attempt they do not pass the examination, the student needs to petition both the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Coordinator of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program, for permission to develop a plan of remediation in order to retake the CRC exam.