

Rehabilitation Counseling Graduate Program Course Descriptions

RCP/L 501: Substance Use Disorders and Addiction

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the history, types, and problems associated with drug and alcohol abuse and various forms of addiction. Specific topics will include alcohol abuse and addiction, prescription and illegal drug use, and other forms of addictive behavior including compulsive gambling and eating disorders. Programs such as AA, NA, Al-Anon, Over Eaters Anonymous will be explored, along with other treatment and rehabilitation approaches. Special Emphasis will be on the impact of these disorders on the individual, family, community and society at large. Effective counseling strategies and evidence-based practices will also be covered in this course. 3 credits

RCP/L 502: Rehabilitation Research and Program Evaluation

The course provides an introduction to the scientific method with an emphasis on understanding empirical research in Human Services, Rehabilitation and Disability Studies. Students will examine the importance of research activities on improvement of rehabilitation services, and learn how to develop and implement meaningful program evaluation. Students will become familiar with many peer-reviewed journals and literature search strategies and many of the most commonly used research test designs and statistical analyses. 3 credits

RCP/L 503: Foundations of the Rehabilitation Counseling Profession

This course is an introduction to the field of rehabilitation, independent living and the role of the rehabilitation counselor. It provides an overview of the historical, legislative and philosophical forces that shaped the field of rehabilitation. Special emphasis will be on the civil rights movement for individuals with disabilities, the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act, and evolving disability policy in the U.S. Historical and present day societal attitudes and values toward individuals with disabilities will also be examined. 3 credits

RCP/L 505: Introduction to Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals with Disabilities

This course provides an introduction to a wide range of assessment instruments and tools used by rehabilitation counselors, psychologists, vocational evaluators and others in the assessment and evaluation in individuals, including those with disabilities. Students will gain an understanding of the purpose and administration of various types of tests and other instruments and how results can be used to facilitate the rehabilitation process. Concerns about cultural bias and reasonable accommodation in testing will be addressed, along with strategies for interpreting and reviewing testing results with clients. Students will have an opportunity to experience several assessment instruments commonly used in

rehabilitation counseling. Prerequisite: a course in Test and Measurements, or its equivalent, and/or consent of instructor; 3 credits

RCP/L 510: Introduction to Medical Rehabilitation

This course includes a brief review of the human anatomy and physiology, and a review of the major medical/physical disabilities and chronic illnesses that result in significant disabling conditions and impairments. It provides students with an understanding of the various medical specialties, medical terminology and skills in effectively utilizing medical consultation in the rehabilitation workplace. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the social, educational and vocational implications of chronic illness and physical disability. The health care system, disability benefits and resources will also be addressed in this course. Prerequisite: Anatomy and Physiology is recommended but not required; 3 credits

RCP/L 512: Occupational Analysis, Career Development Theory and Job Placement Strategies

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the world of work for rehabilitation counselors. Students become familiar with various forms of occupational data, information, and resources and their utilization in rehabilitation. Topics covered will include job classification systems, such as O*NET and the DOT, job analysis, and labor market surveys. Students will also become familiar with the major career development theories and their relevance to the vocational rehabilitation process. A variety of job placement support services and strategies will also be addressed, along with major federal and state legislation related to the employment of individuals with disabilities. 3 credits

RCP/L 513: Vocational Evaluation and Career Planning

This course focuses on the vocational evaluation of individuals with disabilities, and the development of counselor skills to assist clients to develop a realistic and attainable vocational goal. Students become knowledgeable about a variety of vocational evaluation and assessment tools, and the essential elements of a vocational evaluation report. Special topics include job analysis, transferrable skills analysis, reasonable accommodation and assistive technology. Prerequisite: RCP 505; 3 credits.

RCP/L 514: Private Sector and Forensic Rehabilitation

This course provides students with a basic knowledge and understanding of rehabilitation, and the role of the rehabilitation specialist in the private-for-profit sector. The focus is on injured-worker rehabilitation, and the vocational rehabilitation and case management services provided under worker's compensation, and long-term disability insurance

coverage. The course covers disability management systems, including risk management strategies, forensic rehabilitation, and the relevant federal and state laws. Additional topics will include issues related to Managed Care and Life Care Planning. Prerequisite: RCP 512; 3 credits

RCP/L 520: Principles of Psychiatric Rehabilitation

The course introduces students to the major categories of Psychiatric Disability, including their etiology, symptoms, prognosis, treatment and recovery. A major focus of the course is on the core principles and evidence-based practices of Psychiatric Rehabilitation. Content areas covered include implications of psychiatric disability throughout the life span, psychiatric disability within the family, and the rehabilitation counselor's role as facilitators in the recovery process. 3 credits

RCP/L 525 Human Growth, Development and Disability Across the Life Span

This course utilizes a life span framework to describe and explain the physical, social, emotional and cognitive changes that occur across the life span. The course focuses on the major determinants associated with adjustment to disability during different developmental stages. The impact of disability on personality development, sexual functioning, families, social functioning and active participation in the community will be explored. The course will also provide an historical and cultural perspective of how disability has been perceived through the ages, by the media and society, in general. Students will have an opportunity to examine their own experiences, attitudes, values, and beliefs toward disability as they relate to disability in their lives. 3 credits

RCP/L 530: Introduction to Counseling Theory, Practice, and the Profession

This course examines the fundamental principles and techniques of the major counseling theories, including Person-centered, Cognitive-Behavioral, Gestalt, Reality, Psychoanalytic, and Behavior and their applicability to the role of the rehabilitation counselor. Students will have an opportunity to develop and practice fundamental counseling skills. Students will also examine common ethical issues that arise in the counseling relationship and the nature and importance of supervision in counseling. 3 credits

RCP/L 540: Case Management and Rehabilitation Plan Development

This course will examine the concept of case management as a critical component of the role of the rehabilitation counselor. There will also be an emphasis on the importance of community outreach and the rehabilitation counselor's role in developing and maintaining effective working relationships with community agencies. This course will review the major

stages of the rehabilitation process, and examine the case and caseload management issues and challenges associated with each stage. Topic areas will include: Referral and Intake; Client Evaluation and Assessment; Rehabilitation Plan Development, Job Placement Planning; and Termination/Case Closure and Follow-up Issues. Other topics covered will include scheduling and time management, caseload analysis and goal setting, case recording and documentation, and ethical case management decision-making. 3 credits

RCP/L 550: Principles of Family and Group Process

This course focuses on the nature of groups in human services and rehabilitation and provides students with an understanding of group process and group dynamics, and the fundamental skills in group facilitation and group leadership. Family systems and family processes will also be examined. The course includes an experiential component in which students experience what it is like to be a member of a group. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor; 3 credits

RCP/L 599: Practicum Experience and Counseling/Ethics Seminar

The purpose of the clinical practicum is to provide a supervised practical experience in rehabilitation counseling in which students develop and practice counseling skills with actual consumers in an approved agency setting. The practicum requires a total of 100 hours over the course of one semester, 40 hours of which is in direct contact with individuals with disabilities. Students receive ongoing supervision by an approved on-site supervisor, and a faculty supervisor who conducts a weekly supervision seminar. Students will also examine common ethical and legal issues that present significant challenges in the field of rehabilitation counseling. Prerequisite: Permission of Clinical Coordinator; 3 credits

RCP/L 619: The Effective Use of Technology in Rehabilitation Counseling Practice

This course promotes awareness and understanding of the numerous forms of technology that impact the provision of services to a range of individuals with disabilities. The course also addresses the efficient and effective incorporation of these technologies into the rehabilitation process. Special emphasis is placed on various forms of assistive technologies that enable individuals with disabilities to achieve independent living goals and successful employment outcomes. 3 credits

RCP/L 630: Advanced Counseling Practice

This course provides a deeper understanding of the counseling theories and evidence-based practices that have particular relevance in rehabilitation counseling and serving

individuals with disabilities. Special emphasis will be on developing knowledge and skills in the areas of positive psychology and motivational interviewing. Prerequisites: RCP 530, RCP 550; 3 credits

RCP/L 631: Cultural Responsiveness in Counseling

This course promotes knowledge and understanding of the role of culture in counseling. Cultural influences will be considered as representing a wide range of diversity issues including ethnicity, race, religion, age, gender, geography and sexuality. Students will examine their personal experiences, biases, attitudes, values and beliefs about groups representing diversity. Focus is placed on the development of cultural competencies to ensure effective counseling services to all clients with compassion and sensitivity while valuing cultural backgrounds. 3 credits

RCP/L 640: Directed Study

Individually supervised study and projects with advisor when appropriate. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor; 3 credits

RCP/L 698/699: Internship and Internship Seminar I &II

The purpose of this course is to provide supervised practical experience in rehabilitation counseling and related rehabilitation services. The internship in Rehabilitation Counseling will require 600 clock hours over the course of two academic semesters. This course involves two types of clinical supervision: 1) supervised experience in an approved setting that provides services to individuals with disabilities; and 2) faculty supervision via individual and group consultation. The internship requires students to observe and participate in all aspects of the delivery of rehabilitation counseling services. The internship is an opportunity to further develop and refine skills required for effective practice in rehabilitation counseling. Prerequisite: Permission of the Clinical Coordinator; 6 credits total / 3 credits per course