

REHABILITATION COUNSELING PROGRAM

FACULTY

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The graduate program in rehabilitation counseling, accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education, prepares prospective rehabilitation counselors for employment in State and federal vocational rehabilitation programs, public, and private agencies. These include rehabilitation units in mental hospitals, correctional institutions, public schools, rehabilitation agencies and centers, sheltered workshops, adjustment centers, social service agencies, and other organizations serving persons who are mentally, emotionally, socially, or physically handicapped for employment. The program also provides advanced training for persons presently employed in agencies and facilities offering services to handicapped individuals.

Emphasis is placed upon professional education for developing the skills and knowledge necessary for effective rehabilitation counseling of handicapped persons. The variety of activities performed by rehabilitation counselors necessitates a program highly diversified in character and interdisciplinary in nature. In addition to the development of a broad understanding of human behavior, techniques of individual and group counseling, interprofessional relations, vocational appraisal and adjustment, and use of community resources in facilitating rehabilitation of mentally, emotionally, socially, and physically handicapped persons are stressed.

The graduate program of study leads to the degree of master of arts in rehabilitation counseling. The program meets the professional employment requirements of state and federal rehabilitation programs throughout the United States. No teaching credential is required or awarded upon completion of the program. Graduates of this program with one year of experience are eligible to take the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination.

The Rehabilitation Counseling Program at CSUF is accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE). CORE is recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation as the accreditory body for master's degree programs in rehabilitation counseling education. This national recognition of the CSUF rehabilitation programs enhances the career opportunities of our graduates.

INTERNSHIP

The internship in rehabilitation counseling is required of all students who have had no previous rehabilitation agency experience. In addition, observation of and participation in clinical procedures with selected clients is an integral part of the academic course content. The internship provides an opportunity for students to develop techniques and skills in connection with the total rehabilitation process. It gives students an opportunity for application of theory in the practice of rehabilitation counseling and case management in a rehabilitation setting. The internship is provided under the direction of the rehabilitation counseling program and the immediate supervision of qualified personnel in approved and cooperating rehabilitation agencies or facilities. Enrollment in the internship constitutes full-time study for the semester and is permitted for only those students who have demonstrated their readiness to undertake the experience.

COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS

Rehabilitation facilities and agencies throughout California participate in the rehabilitation counseling program by providing field experience and observation. These include offices of the California Department of Rehabilitation, Community College Enabler Programs, County Mental Health Units, Goodwill Industries of America, Fresno Community Hospital, and Kelso School and Activity Center. Other agencies are added as relationships are established. Other cooperating agencies include out-of-state rehabilitation programs which have demonstrated effective and innovative approaches to the rehabilitation of the disabled.