

Master of Rehabilitation Counseling

The Master of Rehabilitation Counseling (MRC) degree is a 60-semester credit hour graduate program that provides a strong foundation in the philosophy, process, and profession of rehabilitation counseling through didactic coursework, field experiences, and extracurricular experiences. It develops expertise in the independent living, medical, social, and psychological aspects of disability and in the vocational rehabilitation process. Students are trained in applied processes such as vocational assessment, job placement, career development, and disability management. Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certification exam, the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Exam, offered by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification. Individuals with graduate degrees in rehabilitation counseling are highly sought after by a number of rehabilitation agencies in El Paso, the state of Texas, and across the nation. These agencies include organizations such as the Texas Division of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, CIGNA Corporation, and many other rehabilitation service agencies.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the general requirements for admission into a graduate program as specified by the Graduate School, applicants should have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in their undergraduate programs or in the last 60 credit hours of coursework. Applicants must separately submit to the MRC Admissions Committee via the Program Director:

1. Official copies of transcripts
2. TOEFL scores
3. A brief statement summarizing professional goals
4. At least three (3) letters of recommendation, two (2) of which should be from former professors or academic instructors.

Prior to making a recommendation on acceptance to the Graduate School, the MRC Admissions Committee will review the academic preparation of applicants. There are no requirements regarding undergraduate majors for acceptance in the program; however, students with backgrounds in psychology, social work, sociology, and special education are encouraged to apply. Potential applicants should make early inquiry of the Program Director for consultation regarding undergraduate courses that will prepare them for the MRC program.

Degree Requirements

The MRC degree consists of 60 graduate hours comprising required courses and elective. The program of study requires two to three years of academic work, including field experiences in either public or private sector rehabilitation agencies. Students can choose to enroll as full-time or part-time. Students who participate in internships with agencies requiring background checks must successfully pass the background checks to complete the practicum requirement. A thesis is not a requirement for this degree. Students need to pass the comprehensive exam or Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Exam to graduate.

With the approval of the MRC Program Director and the Graduate School, up to six (6) semester hours of graduate work can be transferred from another accredited institution to replace equivalent courses listed above. Only credit hours that have not been counted towards a previously awarded degree are allowed to be transferred.

Electives. In addition, students will take a total of three (3) semester hours of elective coursework and/or project work. A list of pre-approved electives is available from the Program Director. Approval is required by the student's Graduate Advisor for elective courses not on this list.

Practicum. The student will enroll in REHC 5390 Practicum in Rehabilitation to complete a 100-clock-hour practicum, with 40 hours of direct client service at a practicum site at a government institution, community rehabilitation program, or other location that is a current or potential employer of rehabilitation counselors. Students are required to consult with their advisor regarding the rehabilitation services offered at different practicum sites and their preference for placement at specific practicum sites.

Internship. The student will enroll in REHC 5391 Internship in Rehab (I) and REHC 5392 Internship in Rehab (II) to complete a 600-clock-hour internship, with 240 hours of direct client service at an internship site at a government institution, community rehabilitation program, or other location that is a current or potential employer of rehabilitation counselors. The student must receive a grade of Satisfactory or better in order to fulfill the internship requirement of this degree. Students are required to consult their advisor regarding the rehabilitation services offered at different internship sites and their preference for placement at specific sites. This consultation will include a review of students' long-term goals and professional focus.

Degree Plan

Required Credits: 60

Code	Title	Hours
Master of Rehab Counseling (All courses require a grade of B or better)		
EDPC 5317	Human Growth and Development	3
EDPC 5345	Abnormal Human Behavior	3
EDPC 5347	Addictions Counseling	3
EDPC 5360	Intro Marriage & Family Therapy	3

or EDPC 5364	Family Therapy	
REHC 5300	Professional Issues in RC	3
REHC 5310	Rehab Counseling Theory	3
REHC 5320	Medical Aspects of Disability	3
REHC 5324	Ethics and Legal Issues Rehab	3
REHC 5330	Psychosocial Aspects of Disab	3
REHC 5338	Grp Couns & Rehab Couns	3
REHC 5339	Techniques in Rehab Counseling	3
REHC 5350	Psychiatric Rehabilitation	3
REHC 5360	Career Counseling & Develop	3
REHC 5370	Diversity-Disab. across Lifesp	3
REHC 5375	Assessm & Res. in REHC	3
REHC 5389	Rehab Research & Pro Eval	3
REHC 5390	Practicum in Rehabilitation	3
REHC 5391	Internship in Rehab (I)	3
REHC 5392	Internship in Rehab (II)	3

Elective

Select three additional hours of master's coursework		3
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Total Hours**60**