Rehabilitation and Human Services, B.S. (Education)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Program Description

This RHS major helps prepare students for entry-level positions in a variety of human service settings, particularly settings that provide services to persons with physical, emotional, and/or mental disabilities. Graduates pursue employment in a variety of settings including rehabilitation hospitals, drug and alcohol programs, geriatric service centers, community mental health programs, programs for people with intellectual disabilities, justice system, and schools. Increasing opportunities are available in private for-profit insurance programs for the industrially injured, and in employee assistance programs within business and industry. Well-planned use of electives and internships allows for specialization. The internship is provided under the supervision of professionals in human service agencies. These intensive “hands-on” experiences are frequently avenues for employment since the internship is completed during the senior year. Students may not go on internship until they have successfully completed all other course work. Students are encouraged to participate in volunteer experiences that provide opportunities to work with people with disabilities. Students are encouraged to declare a minor in a related area and should be discussed with the student’s adviser. The major also helps prepare students for graduate study in many human service professional disciplines such as rehabilitation counseling, school counseling, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and social work.

You Might Like This Program If...

You enjoy learning about human development, diversity, health and disability, treatment interventions, advocating and working directly with people, and solving individual problems using applied interpersonal skills.

Entrance to Major

Baccalaureate degree candidates must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to be admitted to the Rehabilitation and Human Services (RHS) major; thereafter, students must earn a C or better in all RHS required courses.

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Rehabilitation and Human Services, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

- **Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better**
  - PSYCH 100: Introductory Psychology
  - PSYCH 270: Introduction to Abnormal Psychology
  - SOC 119N: Race, Ethnicity and Culture
  - RHS 100: Introduction to Disability Culture
  - RHS 300: Introduction to Rehabilitation and Human Services
  - RHS 301: Introduction to Counseling as a Profession
  - RHS 302: Client Assessment in Rehabilitation and Human Services
  - RHS 303: Group Work in Rehabilitation Practice and Human Services
  - RHS 400W: Case Management and Communication Skills
  - RHS 401: Community Mental Health Practice and Services
  - RHS 402: Children and Families in Rehabilitation Settings and Human Services
  - RHS 403: Medical Aspects of Disability
  - RHS 493: Professional Development and Internship Preparation in RHS
  - RHS 495A: Rehabilitation and Human Services Internship

- **Additional Courses**
  - CI 185 or SOC 1: Principles of Social Justice in Education
  - EDPSY 10: Individual Differences and Education
  - HDFS 239: Adolescent Development
  - PSYCH 212: Introduction to Developmental Psychology
  -Select 3-4 credits from the following:
    - ANTH 21: Introductory Biological Anthropology
    - BIOL 110: Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity
    - BIOL 133: Genetics and Evolution of the Human Species
    - BIOL 141: Introduction to Human Physiology
    - BISC 1: Structure and Function of Organisms
    - BISC 2: Genetics, Ecology, and Evolution
    - BISC 3: Environmental Science
    - BISC 4: Human Body: Form and Function

Select one of the following:
- EDPSY 101: Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education
- STAT 100: Statistical Concepts and Reasoning
- STAT 200: Elementary Statistics

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 6 credits from the approved courses in this list:
- CNED 401: Foundations of Chemical Dependency Counseling
- CNED 416: Interpersonal Relationships and Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Dependency
- CNED 421: Counseling Strategies for Preventing Chemical Dependency
- CNED 422: Foundations of Addictions Counseling

Prescribed Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 270</td>
<td>Introduction to Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 119N</td>
<td>Race, Ethnicity and Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Disability Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 300</td>
<td>Introduction to Rehabilitation and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Counseling as a Profession</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 302</td>
<td>Client Assessment in Rehabilitation and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 303</td>
<td>Group Work in Rehabilitation Practice and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 400W</td>
<td>Case Management and Communication Skills</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 401</td>
<td>Community Mental Health Practice and Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 402</td>
<td>Children and Families in Rehabilitation Settings and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 403</td>
<td>Medical Aspects of Disability</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 493</td>
<td>Professional Development and Internship Preparation in RHS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 495A</td>
<td>Rehabilitation and Human Services Internship</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

- Select 6 credits from the approved courses in this list:
  - CNED 416: Interpersonal Relationships and Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Dependency
  - CNED 421: Counseling Strategies for Preventing Chemical Dependency
  - CNED 422: Foundations of Addictions Counseling

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

- Select one of the following:
  - EDPSY 10: Individual Differences and Education
  - HDFS 239: Adolescent Development
  - PSYCH 212: Introduction to Developmental Psychology

- Select 3-4 credits from the following:
  - ANTH 21: Introductory Biological Anthropology
  - BIOL 110: Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity
  - BIOL 133: Genetics and Evolution of the Human Species
  - BIOL 141: Introduction to Human Physiology
  - BISC 1: Structure and Function of Organisms
  - BISC 2: Genetics, Ecology, and Evolution
  - BISC 3: Environmental Science
  - BISC 4: Human Body: Form and Function

Additional Courses

- Select one of the following:
  - EDPSY 101: Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education
  - STAT 100: Statistical Concepts and Reasoning
  - STAT 200: Elementary Statistics

Rules for Undergraduate Students: 82-00 and 83-00 Degree Requirements (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 270</td>
<td>Introduction to Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 119N</td>
<td>Race, Ethnicity and Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Disability Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 300</td>
<td>Introduction to Rehabilitation and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Counseling as a Profession</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 302</td>
<td>Client Assessment in Rehabilitation and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 303</td>
<td>Group Work in Rehabilitation Practice and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 400W</td>
<td>Case Management and Communication Skills</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 401</td>
<td>Community Mental Health Practice and Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 402</td>
<td>Children and Families in Rehabilitation Settings and Human Services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 403</td>
<td>Medical Aspects of Disability</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 493</td>
<td>Professional Development and Internship Preparation in RHS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 495A</td>
<td>Rehabilitation and Human Services Internship</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

- Select one of the following:
  - EDPSY 10: Individual Differences and Education
  - HDFS 239: Adolescent Development
  - PSYCH 212: Introduction to Developmental Psychology

- Select 3-4 credits from the following:
  - ANTH 21: Introductory Biological Anthropology
  - BIOL 110: Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity
  - BIOL 133: Genetics and Evolution of the Human Species
  - BIOL 141: Introduction to Human Physiology
  - BISC 1: Structure and Function of Organisms
  - BISC 2: Genetics, Ecology, and Evolution
  - BISC 3: Environmental Science
  - BISC 4: Human Body: Form and Function

Rules for Undergraduate Students: 82-00 and 83-00 Degree Requirements (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).
Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

### Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

### Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

### Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

### Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

### Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

### Academic Advising
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

### University Park
**College of Education**
**Advising and Certification Center**
228 Chambers Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-0488
ed@admissions.psu.edu
**Suggested Academic Plan**

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2023-24 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

**Rehabilitation and Human Services, B.S. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses**

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

### First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30H*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYCH 100*†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 1*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Arts or Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantification*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts or Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective/Minor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective/Minor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>RHS 300*†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 119N†</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>RHS 301*†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 21, BIOL 133, BIOL 110, BIOL 141, BISC 1, BISC 2, BISC 3, or BISC 4†</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 212, HDFS 239, or EDPSY 10†</td>
<td>3 Elective/Minor</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 100†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Health and Physical Activity</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Third Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202A or 202B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>RHS 303*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDPSY 101, STAT 100, or STAT 200†</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>RHS 400W*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 302*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>RHS 401*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts or Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective/Minor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 270</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Criminology or Biobehavioral or Human Development and Family Studies or Psychology or Kinesology or Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fourth Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RHS 402*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>RHS 495A*2</td>
<td>6-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHS 403*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective/Minor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminology or Biobehavioral or Human Development and Family Studies or Psychology or Kinesology or Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 113-121

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain)
requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

1 Students at campuses other than UP should schedule General Education or elective courses in place of RHS 100, 300 & 301, which may be scheduled with the other RHS courses at UP.

2 No Additional coursework permitted during Internship.

Additional Notes:

- GWS, GHW, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are codes used to identify General Education requirements.
- Must complete at least 3 cr. of United States (US) and 3 cr. of International Cultures (IL).
- Summer study could reduce some of the credit loads above.
- Effective Fall 2012, all incoming Schreyer Honors College freshmen at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits. At the discretion of the college, ENGL/CAS 138T satisfies the first-year seminar requirement.
- Academic Advising Notes: The course series listed above is only one of many possible ways to move through this curriculum. Please be sure to also use the curriculum check sheets and degree audits, as well as consult with an adviser about appropriate scheduling sequences, clearances for field experiences and Testing requirements. Advisers also can assist students in identifying coursework offered at Penn State in the SUMMER.

Career Paths

The RHS major provides excellent preparation specifically for graduate programs leading to professions such as occupational therapy, counseling, social work, and physical therapy. Advising of courses outside the major for electives are provided in order to enhance competitiveness of graduate school applications.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RHS SPECIAL INTEREST AREAS (https://ed.psu.edu/rehabilitation-human-services-bs/)

Careers

RHS allows students to pursue a variety of employment options as case workers and direct service providers in alcohol and other drug treatment centers, correctional facilities, mental health agencies, private non-profit rehabilitation centers, private-for-profit rehabilitation agencies, human resources, programs for children and youth, programs for older adults, public welfare agencies, rehabilitation hospitals, schools, social service agencies, and vocational rehabilitation programs.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE REHABILITATION AND HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM (https://ed.psu.edu/rehabilitation-human-services-bs/)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

To prepare students for graduate studies, students can work with faculty on independent studies and can petition to take graduate courses within the department. For qualified students, we also offer the Schreyer Honors Program (https://www.shc.psu.edu/).

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (https://ed.psu.edu/rehabilitation-human-services-bs/)

Contact

University Park

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, COUNSELING, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION
125G CEDAR Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-7454
mmm7153@psu.edu


Abington

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7371
mbl122@psu.edu

https://www.abington.psu.edu/academics/majors-at-abington/rehabilitation-human-services

Hazleton

Graham 112
Hazleton, PA 18202
570-450-3385
lrk148@psu.edu

https://hazleton.psu.edu/rehabilitation-and-human-services

Lehigh Valley

2809 Saucon Valley Road
Center Valley, PA 18034
610-285-5251
tpk12@psu.edu

https://lehighvalley.psu.edu/academics/degrees/rehabilitation-and-human-services

Wilkes-Barre

44 University Drive
Dallas, PA 18612
570-675-9213
man20@psu.edu
https://wilkesbarre.psu.edu/academics/rhs (https://wilkesbarre.psu.edu/academics/rhs/)