**Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling**

**(Post-Bacc) program**

**Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

**Fall:** January 15

**Spring:** August 31

**Minimum Total Hours:** 60

**Program Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 51.2310

**Dept Code:** REH

**Program (Major/College):** REH BC

**Approved** 1971

**Concentrations:**

Addictions and Substance Abuse Counseling (ASA)

Marriage and Family Therapy (MFL)

**Also offered as a 5-year program:**

**5-year program is currently inactive.**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Behavioral & Community Sciences

**Department:** Child and Family Studies (CFS)

**Contact Information** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu/)

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

The Department of Child and Family Studies trains counselors to work with physically, mentally, emotionally, and chemically disabled individuals. Training emphasizes psychological, social, medical, and vocational aspects of disability, and also the development and refinement of personal adjustment counseling skills. Graduates with this M.A. are prepared for careers as both rehabilitation specialists and mental health counselors.

The Department offers only the M.A. degree. Most students are admitted after earning a baccalaureate degree in one of the behavioral, social, health-related, or educational disciplines (REH). A Five-Year Program (REF)Five-Year Program (REF) is available to undergraduates with strong academic credentials, and undergraduates interested in this program should contact the department during their sophomore year. The Department offers two areas of concentration that may also lead to a certificate: (1) Addictions and Substance Abuse Counseling; (2) Marriage and Family Therapy. Each student may elect to pursue a program of specialization in any of these areas. The Addictions and Substance Abuse counseling program is approved by the Certification Board for Addictions Professionals of Florida (CBAPF Approved Provider #179A).

Upon completion of at least 75% of the program, students are eligible to sit for the national examination to become a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC). Upon graduation, individuals are also eligible to take the examination for the state licensure as a Mental Health Counselor. Upon completion of 1500 hours of post-graduate clinical supervision graduates receive their state license as a Mental Health Counselor. For a complete description of the department and its program, visit the department’s Web page at:

<http://rmhc.bcs.usf.edu>

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools, and the Commission on Rehabilitation Education (CORE).

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed below.

**Program Admission Requirements**

Same as university requirements plus:

* Three letters of recommendation
* Online department application (which includes a personal statement of intent)
* GRE
* Interview (on campus)
* Undergraduate statistics or research methods course

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Total Minimum Program Hours: 60 credits

The department offers both a thesis and a non-thesis program. There is no language requirement; however, a comprehensive examination is required of all students. The following 54-hour core curriculum is consistent with national certification standards for rehabilitation counselors and must be taken by all students (post-baccalaureate, thesis, and non-thesis). Students must receive a B or better in all core curriculum and elective classes.

**Core Requirements 54 hours**

MHS 5020 Foundations of Mental Health Counseling 3

MHS 5480 Human Growth & Development 3

RCS 5780 Legal & Ethical Issues & Professional Standards 3

RCS 5035 Rehabilitation Counseling: Concepts & Applications 3

RCS 5080 Medical Aspects of Disability 3

RCS 5450 Fundamentals of Substance Abuse Counseling 3

RCS 6220 Individual Evaluation & Assessment 3

RCS 6476 Human Sexuality 3

RCS 6301 Career & Lifestyle Assessment 3

RCS 6408 Diagnosis & Treatment Psychopathology 3

RCS 6409 Counseling & Community Settings 3

RCS 6440 Social & Cultural Foundations 3

RCS 6510 Group Theories and Practice 3

RCS 6407 Counseling Theories and Practice 3

RCS 6740 Research & Program Evaluation 3

RCS 6803 Practicum In Counseling 6

RCS 6825 Internship 3

**Concentration Requirements: 15 hours**

**Addictions and Substance Abuse Counseling 15 credit hours**

RCS 5450 Fundamentals of Substance Abuse Counseling 3

RCS 6459 Professional Skills for Addictions Counselors 3

RCS 6930 ST: Employee Assistance Programs 3 or approved elective 3

RCS 6803 Practicum (Substance Abuse) 3

RCS 6456 Counseling Approaches for Substance Abusers 3

**Marriage and Family Therapy 15 hours**

RCS 6476 Human Sexuality 3

RCS 6930 Seminar: Dynamics of Marriage and Family Therapy 3

RCS 6930 Seminar: Marital Therapy, Theory, and Techniques 3

RCS 6930 Seminar: Family Therapy, Theory, and Techniques 3

RCS 6803 Practicum in Marriage and Family Therapy 3

**Non-Thesis 6 hours**

Students in the non-thesis program must complete a minimum of 60 hours in the Post-Baccalaureate Program (REH). Two electives (6 credits) may be taken from Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling offerings or from offerings outside the Department of Child and Family Studies (CFS) with the consent of an advisor.

**Thesis 6 hours**

RSC 6970 Thesis

All students are initially admitted to the non-thesis program. Admitted students may subsequently apply to the faculty for a thesis program. Students in a thesis program must complete a minimum of 60 hours in the Post-Baccalaureate Program (54-hr.) core curriculum including a minimum of 6 hours of RCS 6970. An oral defense of the thesis is required.

**Five-Year Program** (including 54-hour core curriculum).

Additional hours to complete the minimum of 150 hours for students in the Five-Year Program may be elected from other Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling offerings or from related programs with the consent of the advisor.

**Comprehensive Examination**

The written comprehensive examination assesses the student’s understanding of the significant content and process areas of the program curriculum.

**COURSES**

See <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/>