

III. PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Currently, Illinois Tech offers one 60-hour program of study in the Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling M.S. program (RMHCP). The Full-Time Program is designed for individuals entering the rehabilitation and mental health counseling field. The Working Professionals Program (WPP) is also a 60-credit hour program designed specifically for individuals currently working in a mental health or disability-related field and because of their work schedule are unable to attend classes on a full-time basis.

Students completing either program are eligible to sit for the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) examination and in order to become a CRC. Students who pass this examination are also eligible for counselor licensure in the state of Illinois at the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) level. Program graduates who wish to pursue a clinical license may subsequently become Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors (LCPC) in Illinois after completing two years of supervised clinical counseling experience. If moving out of Illinois, graduates are strongly encouraged to understand licensure laws in their new state of residency.

Full-Time Program of Study

The full-time program of study in the RMHCP provides for the equivalent of two years (four semesters) of full-time study and is designed to provide students with the essential knowledge and skills necessary for professional rehabilitation and mental health counseling practice. A basic core of required graduate courses is described below and there is no option for elective coursework. The program of study also affords students ongoing opportunities for interactive and collaborative experiences with persons with mental health concerns, disabilities and chronic illness, requiring activities that facilitate student interaction with persons with disabilities and clinical experiences in practicum and internship that resonates within the clinical specializations through additional clinical coursework.

Typical Course Sequence for Full-Time Program of Study

All courses listed below are required except where previous coursework makes them superfluous:

1st Semester

Course	Credit	Title
PSYC 523	3	Introduction to Theories of Psychotherapy
PSYC 410	3	Introduction to Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
PSYC 411	3	Medical Aspects of Disability
PSYC 412	3	Multicultural & Psychosocial Issues in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
PSYC 557	3	Pre-Practicum in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling

15

2nd Semester

PSYC 549	3	Practicum in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
PSYC 513	3	Assessment in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
PSYC 583	3	Rehabilitation Engineering Technology I
PSYC 590	3	Psychiatric Rehabilitation I
PSYC 526	3	Psychopathology

15

3rd Semester

PSYC 578	6	Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Internship I
PSYC 562	3	Job Placement
PSYC 564	3	Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Research Seminar
PSYC 547	3	Evidence-based Practice in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling

15

4th Semester

PSYC 579	6	Rehabilitation Counseling and Mental Health Internship II
PSYC 563	3	Human Growth & Career Development
PSYC 561	3	Applied Group Counseling
PSYC 576	3	Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Research Project

15

Total Credits = 60

Psychiatric Rehabilitation – The curriculum in the Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling program has a strong emphasis in psychiatric rehabilitation. This emphasis is designed to prepare students to more effectively help people with mental illness to obtain and maintain employment. Topics studied include counseling methods, successful vocational techniques and job placement strategies, psychopharmacology, consumer empowerment, use of community resources, supported education model, working with groups, and more. The following courses are intended to serve as the psychiatric rehabilitation core:

PSYC 590	Psychiatric Rehabilitation
PSYC 526	Psychopathology
PSYC 547	Evidence-based Practice in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling

Working Professionals Program (WPP)

The WPP is specifically designed for people who are currently working in the field of rehabilitation and mental health counseling who would like to pursue a master's degree for job maintenance or enhancement. The WPP is designed to allow students to complete the degree program within three years while maintaining employment by taking into consideration students' work schedules. The WPP is different from typical distance learning programs because we

believe certain skill sets, such as counseling techniques and research methods, can only be obtained by engaging in group activities and direct contact with faculty. Therefore, in addition to providing online options for some classes, the WPP offers face-to-face evening classes and summer weekend classes, where students will benefit from direct interaction with faculty and other students with little-to-no impact on work schedules. The WPP is a 60 credit-hour program which meets eligibility criteria to obtain certification as a CRC and counseling licensure as a clinical professional counselor in the state of Illinois.

Typical Course of Study for the Working Professionals Program

Term	Semester #	Course #	Hrs	Course Title
Fall	1	PSYC 410	3	Intro to R & MH Counseling (IITV)
		PSYC 523	3	Intro to Theories of Psychotherapy
		PSYC 557	3	Pre-Practicum in R & MH Counseling
Spring	2	PSYC 583	3	Rehabilitation Engineering Tech I (IITV)
		PSYC 549	3	Practicum in R & MH Counseling
		PSYC 590	3	Psychiatric Rehabilitation I
Summer	3	PSYC 513	3	Assessment in R & MH Counseling
Fall	4	PSYC 578	6	R & MH Counseling Internship I
		PSYC 411	3	Medical Aspects of Disability (IITV)
		PSYC 564	3	Research Methods
Spring	5	PSYC 526	3	Psychopathology
		PSYC 563	3	Human Growth and Career Development (IITV)
		PSYC 579	6	R & MH Counseling Internship II
Summer	6	PSYC 561	3	Applied Group Counseling
Fall	7	PSYC 412	3	Multicultural & Psychosocial Issues in R & MH Counseling
		PSYC 562	3	Job Placement (IITV)
		PSYC 576	3	Research Project
Spring	8	PSYC 547	3	Evidence Based Practice in MHC

 Total Credits = 60

IV. ACCREDITATION

The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program (RMHCP) has been in existence at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) since 1966. The program was among the first nationwide to be accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) as a *Rehabilitation Counseling* program in 1975, and it has remained fully accredited since that time.

The program will be reviewed in 2014 with the newly developed *Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling* (CIRC) program standards by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) and, subsequently, by the Council on Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) with the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program standards.