MS in Disability and Human Development

Please note: The Master of Science in Disability and Human Development has been suspended effective Fall 2014. Contact the department for more information.

Admission Requirements
Applicants are considered on an individual basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Field** No restrictions.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester (90 quarter) hours of undergraduate study. In exceptional cases applicants having a lower GPA may be admitted if they can demonstrate substantial evidence of their ability to complete the program successfully.
- **Tests Required** GRE General with a combined verbal and quantitative score of 297 (tests taken August 2011 or after) or combined verbal and quantitative score of 1000 (tests taken prior to August 2011).
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score** (for international applicants)
  - TOEFL 550 (paper-based); 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (IBT Internet-based TOEFL), OR.
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, OR.
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Program Application** Required.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required.
- **Personal Statement** Required.
- **Deadlines** Application deadlines for this program are listed on the Graduate College website at http://grad.uic.edu/deadlines.

Degree Requirements
In addition to the minimum requirements of the Graduate College, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 36.
- **Course Work** This program requires a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit. At least 12 of these 36 hours must be attained in courses at the 500 level. A minimum of 13 elective hours must be taken. A maximum of 25% of the 36 hours (9 semester hours) may be transferred from accredited and acceptable graduate study at other institutions. Therefore, all students are required to earn a minimum of 27 semester hours of credit in formal course work and thesis/project work within the Master of Science program. Thesis research or thesis project credit may not exceed 40% of the required 36 hours, or a maximum of 14 hours.

Required Core Courses

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DHD 401</td>
<td>Foundations of Disability and Human Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHD 510</td>
<td>Concepts in Interdisciplinary Research on Disability</td>
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Concentration Courses
Disability Studies and Social Policy—Must complete the following two additional courses:

- DHD 581 Disability Policy I: Foundations of Disability Policy
- DHD 570 Disability and Culture

Rehabilitation Technology—Must complete the following two additional courses:

- DHD 540 Introduction to Assistive Technology: Principles and Practice
- DHD 551 Computers, Communication and Controls in Rehabilitation Technology
- or DHD 565 Research Methodology and Outcomes Measures in Rehabilitation Technology

Electives
Minimum of 13 hours

- **Comprehensive Examination** A written comprehensive examination is required only for students who do not elect the thesis option.
- **Thesis, Project, or Course-Work-Only Options** Thesis or project required. No other options are available.
  - **Thesis:** A thesis is strongly recommended for students interested in pursuing careers in scholarship or research. Students electing a thesis must complete either DHD 546 or DHD 515 or an equivalent graduate-level statistics course, and must complete at least 8 hours of DHD 598.
  - **Project:** Students must complete at least 4 hours of DHD 597. Students electing the project option must complete an additional 7 semester hours of course work to reach the 36 hours required for the degree. The additional hours may be taken in the form of elective courses or project hours.

Interdepartmental Concentration in Gender and Women’s Studies
Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling for a concentration in Gender and Women’s Studies after consulting with their graduate advisor. See Gender and Women’s Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences section for more information.