

PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences

Contact Information:

ahs.uic.edu/rehabilitation-sciences

Admission Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- Prior Degrees** No restrictions outside of a bachelor's degree in a related area. Prospective students are expected to have backgrounds in physical therapy, occupational therapy, kinesiology, speech and language pathology, prosthetics and orthotics, nursing, medicine, engineering, mental health, or other fields related to rehabilitation science. The ideal applicant should have a strong interest in rehabilitation research, completed preparatory coursework in biology, physiology, anatomy, physics and mathematics, psychology, and statistics as well as a master's degree in an area related to rehabilitation science. The exceptional applicant with a bachelor's degree, a sufficient number of credits of relevant graduate coursework, and/or compelling clinical/research experience in rehabilitation science will be considered. For other applicants, conditional acceptance may be granted with the understanding that by enrolling in appropriate prerequisite courses missing areas will be addressed before PhD program courses may commence.
- Transfer of graduate credits from another institution will be handled on a course-by-course basis.
- Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester (90 quarter) hours of undergraduate study, and at least 3.50/4.00 for any previous graduate work.
- Tests Required** None.
- Minimum English Competency Test Score**
 - TOEFL iBT** 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21, **OR**,
 - IELTS Academic** 6.5, with 6.0 in each of the four subscores, **OR**,
 - PTE-Academic** 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- Letters of Recommendation** Three required from individuals who can assess the candidate's aptitude and potential to complete doctoral work.
- Personal Statement** Submit no more than a two-page statement that addresses the candidate's goals for graduate study, career development, teaching and research experience.
- Curriculum Vitae** Submit a current CV, including scholarly activities and publications to date.
- Faculty Commitment to Advise** Because this program follows a mentoring model, it is important that applicants identify and contact at least one desired mentor/advisor working in their desired specialty area prior to applying. Faculty member must sign the form.
- Deadlines** [Application deadlines](#) for this program are listed on the Graduate College website.

Degree Requirements

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

- Minimum Semester Hours Required** 96 hours from the baccalaureate.
- Course Work** Only 400- and 500-level courses can be applied to the degree. Excluding dissertation hours, credit toward a graduate degree is only given for courses in which a student received a grade of A, B, C, CR, or S. Students must earn at least 32 hours using the 599 rubric (PhD Thesis Research). Each student will have an advisor chosen from the faculty of the program who will serve as chair for the dissertation committee.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Theoretical Courses		
Select a minimum of two of the following courses in consultation with the advisor:		
PT 505	Advances in Rehabilitation Sciences I	
PT 506	Advances in Rehabilitation Sciences II	
OT 528	Race, Culture, and Health Disparities	
Statistical and Data Analysis Courses		
Select at least one statistical course from the following courses. In consultation with the advisor, choose a minimum of one additional course from the list of selectives. A student can choose a course outside the list in consultation with the advisor and with approval from the Director of Graduate Studies:		
AHS 511	Biostatistics I	
AHS 512	Biostatistics II	
Selectives		
DHD 546	Qualitative Methods in Disability Research	
BHIS 508	Q Research Methodology – Qualitative Research	
BHIS 509	Informatics for the Clinical Investigator	
DHD 510	Concepts in Interdisciplinary Research on Disability	
OT 553	Program Evaluation: Documenting the Impact of Human Services	
OT 570	Health Outcomes Assessments	
PT 563	Research Methods in Rehabilitation Sciences	
Responsible Conduct in Research Courses		
Select one of the following:		
KN 503	Responsible Conduct of and Ethical Decision Making in Research	
GC 501	Scientific Integrity and Responsible Research	
Elective Courses		
Select a minimum of 18 semester hours of study in a content area, chosen in consultation with the student's advisor		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examinations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary exam Dissertation proposal Dissertation defense Dissertation Required. Students must earn at least 32 hours in AHS 599. 		

PT 505	Advances in Rehabilitation Sciences I
PT 506	Advances in Rehabilitation Sciences II
OT 528	Race, Culture, and Health Disparities

AHS 511	Biostatistics I
AHS 512	Biostatistics II

DHD 546	Qualitative Methods in Disability Research
BHIS 508	Q Research Methodology – Qualitative Research
BHIS 509	Informatics for the Clinical Investigator
DHD 510	Concepts in Interdisciplinary Research on Disability
OT 553	Program Evaluation: Documenting the Impact of Human Services
OT 570	Health Outcomes Assessments
PT 563	Research Methods in Rehabilitation Sciences

KN 503	Responsible Conduct of and Ethical Decision Making in Research
GC 501	Scientific Integrity and Responsible Research

- Examinations**
 - Preliminary exam
 - Dissertation proposal
 - Dissertation defense
- Dissertation** Required. Students must earn at least 32 hours in AHS 599.

- **Other Requirements** All PhD students are expected to participate in the teaching programs of the College of Applied Health Sciences.

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Neuroscience