Rehabilitation Counseling

Do you want to make a difference in the lives of those with disabilities? Become a rehabilitation counselor, and help people deal with the personal, social and vocational effects of disabilities.

“You will receive specialized training in
• Social, psychological and medical aspects of disabilities
• Vocational assessment and job placement of people with disabilities
• Rehabilitation counseling theories and techniques
• Improving the quality of life for people with disabilities
• Evaluating research in the field of human rehabilitation

Program Highlights
This program has a 60-credit requirement and includes a comprehensive national CRC examination. Students typically complete this degree in two academic years, including one summer. The program’s unique format offers online and evening classes, with weekend workshops to accommodate the adult learner. Students come from a variety of backgrounds with undergraduate degrees in psychology, nursing, speech therapy, human services, and criminal justice, among others.

In addition to coursework, you will participate in supervised clinical experiences working with individuals and their families as part of a practicum and internship.

You’ll be a certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC) upon graduation and also eligible for licensure as a professional counselor (LPC).

Career Opportunities
Jobs in this field are expected to grow 20 percent in the next decade (according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics). A master’s degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Northern Colorado’s Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) accredited program will prepare you to become a rehabilitation counselor.

Our graduates work as rehabilitation counselors in state rehabilitation agencies, mental health centers, schools, insurance companies, hospitals, independent-living centers and correctional facilities, and private practice. UNC Rehabilitation Counselors are highly recruited regionally and nationally.

“Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone!”
Neale Donald Walsch

For more information, visit the program website: unco.edu/nhs/rehabilitation
FACULTY OVERVIEW
Our full-time faculty are experienced, and committed to your development as a Rehabilitation Counselor. Faculty members, including Joseph Ososkie, Ph.D., Juliet Fried, Ed.D., and Jill Bezyak, Ph.D., have been teaching in the program for many years and have additional expertise in the counseling field.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
You must hold a bachelor's degree with a GPA of at least 3.0 on the most recently completed degree. In addition to the academic requirements, students should have a desire to help people, want to work with people, have an open mind in how they view people and their problems, be quick-thinking and resourceful and very importantly, be willing to challenge themselves.

“I started working in Rehabilitation Counseling in 2012, just a few days after commencement. UNC’s Rehabilitation Counseling program built essential knowledge through interactive learning and research that helped me to be successful in the workforce. Through two years in the program, I learned how my passion for helping others can be transformed into a career choice in an exciting and rewarding field.”
David Herbstman, Rehab Counseling 2012

“The internship experience is vital and invaluable for success as a new rehabilitation counselor. I am still referring back to my internship experience as I have grown in this profession. The structure of the classes and the relationships with the professors also promote success for all students. I like that I am really making a difference and I can see the positive outcomes. In my job I get to see my clients in the beginning of their process and the struggles they may be having. At the end I get to see my clients lives changed for the better.”
Kelly Dieter, Rehab Counseling 2012

UNC offers only the graduate program in Colorado in Rehabilitation Counseling.
UNC offers competitive scholarships through a long term training grant program through the U.S. Department of Education to assist masters students in the Rehabilitation Counseling program with educational expenses.