

Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Mental Health: Rehabilitation Counseling Concentration



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Class FormatOnline (Synchronous)

Application DeadlinesRolling



Mental health and rehabilitation counseling share a commitment to increasing the quality of life for people with disabilities and mental health issues. This interdisciplinary program draws from psychology, education, behavioral sciences, biological sciences, philosophy, engineering and law to prepare clinically skilled, knowledgeable, and committed rehabilitation and mental health professionals.

This program encourages professionals to promote universal justice for people with disabilities and to advocate for accessible, effective, evidence-based mental health programming. It has been developed with the belief that opportunities for people with mental illness should be equal to those of all other citizens. All individuals are vital resources for the betterment of society, and we celebrate that diversity.

This 12-credit program is designed for professionals who have a master's degree in counseling that is fewer than the 60 credits required for licensure in R.I., Mass. and most states. It is modeled on a national standard for mental health counseling licensure, enabling eligibility for licensure in most states. It is recommended that students explore the specific requirements for licensure as a mental health counselor in the state where they intend to practice. Students may take additional credits, as needed, to meet state-specific academic requirements for licensure as a mental health counselor.

Students may obtain internship placements in a variety of clinical settings and work with a variety of client populations of their choice. Examples of internship settings include community mental health centers, adoption agencies, family service agencies, alternative education programs, psychiatric hospitals, child and adolescent residential programs, prisons and other related social service agencies.

CAGS in Mental Health: Rehabilitation Counseling Concentration

Admission Requirements

Applicants must hold a master's degree in a counseling discipline from a regionally accredited college or university.

Application materials are submitted online at salve.edu/graduate-admissions. There is no fee to apply. Salve Regina University evaluates the total application package; you must submit the following to be considered:

- Completed graduate application
- Official transcripts from each college/ university attended
- Personal statement
- Two professional letters of recommendation from a person able to evaluate the candidate's academic potential
- Resume

About Salve Regina University

Salve Regina is an independent coeducational institution. Since our founding by the Sisters of Mercy in 1947, we have grown to a community of more than 2,700 undergraduate and graduate students who proudly carry forward our mission of responsible citizenship and public service in their personal and professional lives. Salve Regina is fully accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

To earn this certificate, students complete four courses (12 credits). This includes two internship classes with required clinical experience hours in the field. Additional credit hours may be needed based on the academic requirements of the individual state in which the student chooses to practice.

Required Courses:

RHB603: Psychopharmacology for the Mental Health Professional

RHB515: Assessment and Treatment Planning

RHB608: Advanced Internship I and Seminar in Mental Health: DBT

RHB609: Advanced Internship II and Seminar in Mental Health: Trauma-Informed Care

Following completion of the 60 credit hours of specified graduate study, a person must complete a minimum of two years of supervised clinical experience with required clinical experience hours in the field.

Depending on the state, this would include 2,000 hours or more of direct client contact offering clinical or counseling therapy services, with an emphasis on mental health counseling. Rhode Island regulations require that counselors working toward licensure receive a minimum of 100 hours of clinical supervision spread over the two-year period, by an approved supervisor, before being eligible to sit for the national licensing exam. This requirement varies from state to state.

Students are responsible for researching and understanding the licensure requirements of the state in which they choose to practice.



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