

REHABILITATION SCIENCE – PH.D.

Program director

Terry D. Douglas

The School of Allied Health Professions offers the Doctor of Philosophy degree in rehabilitation science. By design, the degree program is inclusive of the many rehabilitation professions and offers opportunities for qualified clinical professionals in allied health to prepare for careers in independent research, teaching, and administration.

Program learning outcomes

By the end of the program, the graduate should be able to:

1. Provide vision and direction for the integration of the rehabilitation professions.
2. Commit themselves to whole-person care.
3. Advance the theory and practice of rehabilitation science through research.
4. Acquire and integrate knowledge related to the social and basic medical sciences.
5. Assess, develop, and implement interdisciplinary community-based services.

Admissions

In addition to Loma Linda University (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/admission-policies-information/#admissionrequirementstext>) and School of Allied Health Professions (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/allied-health-professions/#generalregulationstext>) admissions requirements, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Master's degree in any allied health professions area or discipline related to rehabilitation science.
- Minimum G.P.A. of 3.0 in academic and professional coursework.

Prospective students are required to submit the following:

1. A formal letter of support from a primary research faculty member at Loma Linda University whose research interests and availability most closely match those of the applicant. The program director will coordinate meetings between applicants and prospective research faculty members.
2. Curriculum vita, including work history, formal education, continuing education, licensure or certification, professional organizations, honors, awards, publications, presentations, and grants.
3. At least one example of written work (e.g., term paper, course assignment, publication, master's degree research project or thesis).
4. Proof of involvement in a complete research project (group or individual) that involved data collection and production of a research paper or research poster.

Program requirements

A minimum of 80 units beyond the master's degree is required for students holding a master's or doctoral degree in a professional area. The student's program coursework for the degree must be approved by the Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Science Committee.

Domain 1

Rehabilitation Science and LLU Values (16 units)		
RESC 517	Profession Advocacy in Allied Health Professions	4
RESC 519	Rehabilitation Theories and Applications in Health Care	3
Choose from the following (9 units minimum):		9
AHCJ 528	Lifestyle Health and Wholeness	
AHCJ 541	Managing Stress	
AHCJ 545	Legal and Ethical Issues in the Health Professions	
AHCJ 568	Spirituality and Health: The Wholeness Connection	
NUTR 664	Vegetarian Nutrition: Person, Population, Planet	
ORPR 575	Couples, Families, and Disabilities	

Domain 2

Leadership		
Choose from the following (6 units minimum):		6
AHCJ 548	Human Resource Management in the Health-Care Environment	
AHCJ 556	Administration in Higher Education	
OCTH 606	Leadership for Health Professionals	
PHCJ 607	Professional Leadership	
PHCJ 609	Building Healthy Individuals	
PHCJ 610	Building Healthy Communities ¹	
PHCJ 617	Building Healthy Systems	
PTGR 514	Professional Systems in Management I	
SLPD 580	Clinical Issues in Speech-Language Pathology	

Domain 3

Education		
Choose from the following (6 units minimum):		6
AHCJ 506	Educational Evaluation and Clinical Assessment	
AHCJ 509	Transformational Teaching and Learning	
AHCJ 515	Curriculum Development in Higher Education	
AHCJ 564	Collaborative Learning in Higher Education	
IDMT 521	Instructional Design I	
OCTH 605	Education for Health Professionals	
PHCJ 614	Pedagogy: The Art and Science of Teaching	
PHCJ 618	Transformative Communication	

Religion and wholeness

Include 9 units of religion, chosen from the following ethical, theological, and relational courses; and the Graduate Wholeness Portfolio		
AHCJ 519	Graduate Wholeness Portfolio	1
Choose from the following (3 units minimum):		3
RELE 524	Bioethics and Society	
RELE 525	Ethics for Scientists	
RELE 535	Ethical Issues in Health-Care Management	
RELE 548	Christian Social Ethics	
RELE 567	World Religions and Bioethics	
RELE 588	Philosophical Ethics	
Choose from the following (3 units minimum):		3
RELR 540	Wholeness and Health	
RELR 584	Culture, Psychology, and Religion	
RELR 587	Religion and the Social Sciences	
Choose from the following (3 units minimum):		3

RELT 509	Biblical Perspectives in Religion and Health	
RELT 540	World Religions and Human Health	
RELT 557	Theology of Human Suffering	
Research and dissertation		
Didactic coursework (15 units minimum)		
AHRM 581	Research and Statistics I	3
AHRM 582	Research and Statistics II	3
EPDM 509	Principles of Epidemiology	3
Select from the following (6 units minimum):		6
AHCJ 555	Writing for Health-Care Professionals	
AHRM 518	Nonparametric Statistics for the Health Professions	
AHRM 605	Critical Analysis of Scientific Literature	
EPDM 520	Data Collection Methods	
HPRO 589	Qualitative Research Methods	
SLPD 600	Components of Clinical Inquiry	
STAT 515	Grant- and Contract-Proposal Writing	
Selectives		
Advanced coursework in speciality area		6
RESC 697	Research (1-12)	21
Total Units		80

¹ Fulfills service learning requirement

Service learning requirement

This requirement may be met by taking PHCJ 610 Building Healthy Communities or a religion course designated as a service learning course. For more information about this requirement and a list of religion courses that fulfill it, see section on academic service learning (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/academic-policies-information/degree-completion-requirements/>) in this CATALOG.

Comprehensive examinations

The written comprehensive examination is designed to establish that the student has a broad understanding of rehabilitation science. A student is eligible to take the written examination after completing coursework from the three domains and six units in research and statistics.

The oral examination is designed to establish that the student has adequate foundational information in appropriate content areas, as well as a plan to answer a research question appropriate for a doctoral dissertation. Following successful completion of the written comprehensive examination, the oral examination will be scheduled by the student's research mentor in consultation with the program director. The examination will cover the student's research proposal and content areas on which the proposal rests.

Advancement to candidacy

The student may apply for admission to doctoral candidacy after (a) passing the written and preliminary oral comprehensive examinations, and (b) securing the approval of their research advisory committee.

Dissertation

The candidate's capacity for independent investigation and scholarly achievement must be demonstrated by the presentation and oral defense of an acceptable dissertation, resulting in at least two publications in

peer-reviewed journals. One paper must be accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal before the candidate's graduation.

General requirements

For information about requirements and practices to which all graduate students are subject, the student should consult the Policies and General Regulations sections of this catalog for the University (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/academic-policies-information/>) and the School of Allied Health Professions (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/allied-health-professions/#generalregulationstext>).

Normal time to complete the program

Four (4) to five (5) years based on three-quarter-time enrollment

Courses

RESC 517. Profession Advocacy in Allied Health Professions. 4 Units.

Examines legislative and regulatory bodies that define and regulate health-care practice in California. Identifies techniques to advance the profession's advocacy. Field training experience includes district and state capitol meetings with legislators and policymakers.

RESC 519. Rehabilitation Theories and Applications in Health Care. 3 Units.

History of and current trends in health care theory and applications, emphasizing successful approaches to integration of the rehabilitation professions.

RESC 697. Research. 1-12 Units.

Must be repeated to complete the total required units.