

# DISABILITY RIGHTS AND SERVICES, CERTIFICATE

The Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education's primary mission is to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. The Disability Rights and Services Certificate equips undergraduate students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to support this mission. Upon completion, students will be prepared to advocate for the equity and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in their academic fields and future careers.

This certificate is particularly popular among pre-health students who seek to gain valuable knowledge and skills related to supporting individuals with disabilities. It also serves as an excellent option for students considering graduate studies in education, offering exposure to special education coursework.

## STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education offers a short-term, faculty-led, summer study abroad course, Disability Rights and Access in Australia (<https://studyabroad.wisc.edu/program/?programId=330353>), which can be counted as an elective for the certificate.

## HOW TO GET IN

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Students intending to complete the Disability Rights and Services Certificate will find the declaration form on the School of Education's Certificate Programs (<https://education.wisc.edu/academics/certificates/>) page. The declaration for this certificate program can be submitted at any time during the calendar year.

Please note, students completing a major in Rehabilitation Psychology, Special Education, or Elementary Education and Special Education are not eligible to complete this certificate.

## REQUIREMENTS

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Complete a minimum of 12 credits to include at least 6 credits in residence. Completion of the certificate requires a minimum GPA of 2.5 in certificate coursework.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required courses</b>		
RP & SE 100	Disability and Society	3
RP & SE 300	Individuals with Disabilities	3
<b>Specialization courses</b>		<b>6</b>
RP & SE 121	Disability and Substance Abuse	
RP & SE 125	Health and Rehabilitation Professions	

RP & SE/ LEGAL ST 135	Disability and the Criminal Justice System
RP & SE 200	Issues in Special Education (only offered as a FIG course)
RP & SE 210	The Disability Experience (only offered as a FIG course)
RP & SE 310	Positive Psychology and Well Being
RP & SE 311	International Perspectives on Disability in Australia
RP & SE/ COM ARTS/ JOURN 312	Disability and the Media
RP & SE 330	Behavior Analysis: Applications to Persons with Disabilities
RP & SE 435	Overview of Early Childhood Special Education
RP & SE 466	Diversity in Special Education
RP & SE 500	Rehabilitation-Counseling Psychology: Foundations
RP & SE 505	Biological, Psychosocial, and Vocational Aspects of Disabilities
RP & SE 510	Partnering with Families and Other Professionals in Early Childhood Special Education

**Total Credits**

**12**

## CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student's undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Identify and analyze societal barriers and supports that affect the lives of people with disabilities.
2. Explore the societal aspects of disabilities, including the culture of disabilities, attitudes toward persons with disabilities, and quality of life issues.
3. Evaluate current approaches, advocacy efforts, and proposed solutions for overcoming barriers experienced by people with disabilities.
4. Use disability as a lens through which to examine broader aspects of history and culture, including power, discrimination, social stigma, social and political activism, media representations, re-appropriation, identity, intersectionality, education, work, and design.