A primary mission of the Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education is to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. The Disability Rights and Services Certificate provides undergraduates across the broader campus with knowledge, skills, and dispositions to contribute to the department’s mission. Students completing the certificate will become advocates for equity and inclusion of individuals with disabilities within their own major programs of study and future careers.

Two required courses, RP & SE 100 Disability and Society and RP & SE 300 Individuals with Disabilities, address broad themes of disability, equity, and diversity that can be applied to a variety of other disciplines and majors. Additionally, students select a minimum of two elective courses from a growing list of courses in both special education and rehabilitation psychology. Popular topics include disability and the criminal justice system, early childhood special education, forensic rehabilitation, and disability and substance abuse. Students are encouraged to build a certificate that helps them explore their interests and aligns with their educational and career goals.

This certificate is a popular option for pre-health students excited to learn important knowledge and skills related to supporting individuals with disabilities. Additionally, students who are considering graduate work in education can use the certificate to explore coursework related to special education.

STUDY ABROAD

The Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education is excited to host Disability Rights and Access in Australia (https://studyabroad.wisc.edu/program/?programId=330353), a faculty-led short-term study abroad summer course that serves as an elective in the certificate.