Rehabilitation Psychology is the academic home to students interested in the health or helping professions. Rehab Psych students enjoy working with people with disabilities or individuals who experience barriers in accomplishing personal goals; they gravitate toward psychology and other coursework in the social sciences.

In this major students learn how to promote and support the independence and full inclusion of people with disabilities in employment and the community. Students in the major examine various types of disabilities and other short-term or long-term barriers including physical, mental, intellectual, emotional, and developmental disabilities. Graduates are prepared to provide quality entry-level general services in a variety of community settings, including advocacy, behavioral support, independent living, and supported employment.

The majority of students go on to complete graduate programs in rehabilitation counseling, mental health counseling, occupational therapy, physical therapy, nursing, special education, social work, and other human services and health professions.

The culminating experience in the degree program is the community-based internship. Students complete six credits of internship, a minimum of 240 hours, working with agencies that serve individuals with disabilities. Students often find full-time employment at their internship site after completing their degree. Graduates receive a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Rehabilitation Psychology.

Visit the departmental website (http://rpse.education.wisc.edu/) to view the program handbook (https://rpse.education.wisc.edu/current-students/forms/), learn more about internship opportunities and guidelines, and what students have to say (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=list=PL9F9013685146C73A&v=Zu0uIM0yB4&feature=youtu.be) about the program.

“I chose to pursue rehabilitation psychology as I want to become an occupational therapist one day. This major allowed me to meet requirements for graduate programs while also furthering my passion to be a part of the human service field. I had a lot of opportunities to go out into the community and make a difference in people’s lives.” Aneta Glowacz, Rehab Psych B.S. graduate 2020