Adler School of Professional Psychology

M.A. in Counseling Psychology Specialization
in Rehabilitation Counseling (M.A.C.R.)

Mission Statement

The mission of the specialization in Rehabilitation Counseling is to educate students in the profession of rehabilitation counseling, with a special emphasis on the provision of services that enhance the independence and quality of life for persons with disabilities. Special emphasis is placed on training students to become socially responsible practitioners who embrace diversity perspectives and who empower individuals with disabilities to build bridges across social, economic, cultural, racial, and political systems. The program will foster the development of social equality, justice, and respect for individuals with disabilities in the global community.

Program Objectives

1. To provide a well-balanced curriculum that emphasizes theoretical, clinical, ethical, and research-based support for the profession of rehabilitation counseling.

2. To enable students to acquire the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes for working with a wide variety of persons with disabilities, including those who have been traditionally disenfranchised and marginalized.

3. To recruit students from traditionally under-represented populations.

4. To nurture an approach to professional practice and rehabilitation research that is characterized by inquiry, critical thinking, flexibility and self-confidence.

5. To systematically and continuously evaluate the overall quality of the program.

6. To enable students to achieve appropriate professional credentials as Certified Rehabilitation Counselors and/or Licensed Professional Counselors.

7. To maintain accreditation by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE).
From Adler Catalog 2012/2013:

Practicum Requirements – M.A. Degree Programs

This information contained in this section applies to all M.A. degree programs. Certificate programs may have specialized practicum requirements. Please refer to individual program descriptions for specialized or additional practicum requirements.

An integral part of all Master’s programs offered at Adler is the acquisition of practical counseling and scholarly skills gained in field placements. Ongoing involvement in counseling and scholarly activities at professional training sites, including Adler Community Health Services (ACHS) at the Chicago campus, gives students the closely supervised opportunity to apply and further develop the knowledge, skills, values, and competencies they gain in course work. Practicum training requirements begin with a first year Community Service Practicum that focuses on developing skills related to community-based interventions, advocacy, social justice, and systemic interventions that benefit human welfare and well-being. Counseling training provided in students’ second practicum (sometimes referred to as practicum/internship) focuses on developing the competencies needed to prepare students for entry-level practice upon graduation. Because the focus is on integrating Master’s level education at Adler with Master’s-level supervised counseling training, no transfer credit is granted for practicum credits earned elsewhere. Students must successfully complete course prerequisites specific to their degree program, prior to being approved to begin their counseling practicum.

First year students will spend 8-10 hours per week over the course of six months at an approved Community Service Practicum site and must concurrently enroll in required coursework. A minimum of 200 clock hours of Community Service Practicum is required. At least one of the following courses must be taken concurrently with Community Service Practicum I & II (213-214), Community Psychology (350), Professional Development, Issues and Ethics (505), Introduction to Adlerian Psychology and Psychopathology (402), and/or Social Psychology and Individual Differences (641).

During the second year of a two-year sequence, or the third year of a three-year Master’s program, students are required to spend the equivalent of at least two full days per week (16-20 hours) over the course of at least nine months at an approved counseling practicum site, and must concurrently enroll in Practicum Seminars throughout their field training. A minimum 700 total clock hours of counseling practica (which includes master’s practicum and internship) are required. The Department of Training and Community Service works in collaboration with students in identifying counseling experiences which meet the standards and requirements of their specific program. For more details, students should refer to the Practicum Handbook, which is available on Moodle. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the practicum application, interview, and match process beginning in the fall of the year before starting practicum. Information about the process is conveyed through small group information sessions, announcements through Student Services, and postings in the Training and Community Engagement section on Moodle. Many parts of this process are conducted through the online Practicum Management Tool, through which students find potential sites and indicate their intention to apply to training sites in the community. All placements require a Master's Pre-registration Contract, which must be submitted to the Department of Training and Community Engagement at least three weeks prior to starting practicum. For further information, consult the Master’s and Certificate Clinical Practicum Handbook.

MACR Program Specific Practicum and Internship

Students in the MACR Program acquire and develop practical clinical skills in rehabilitation counseling and general counseling through clinical practicum and internship in the second year. Students spend roughly twenty hours per week over nine to twelve months at an approved MACR site. A minimum of 700 hours of clinical training is required. A minimum of 100 hours of practicum is required, including at least 40 hours of face to face client contact. A minimum of 600 hours of internship is required, including a minimum of 240 hours of face to face contact. The Department of Training and Community Engagement and the Director of the Master’s in Counseling: Rehabilitation Program will work in collaboration with MACR students to identify clinical experiences which will meet the specialized needs of the
MACR profession and the goals of the student. Additional resources are available in the Practicum Handbook and the database of MACR practicum sites available from the Training Department.