



Undergraduate Program in
Rehabilitation Science
Addendum to SHRS Undergraduate
Handbook 2022-2023



University of
Pittsburgh

School of Health and
Rehabilitation Sciences



Addendum to SHRS Undergraduate Handbook 2022-2023

Undergraduate Program in Rehabilitation Science

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Introduction

Welcome to the Undergraduate Program in Rehabilitation Science! This program is designed to prepare students for graduate education in occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, prosthetics and orthotics, rehabilitation and mental health counseling, assistive technology, physician assistant, medicine, and other areas of healthcare.

The faculty members who teach in this program are a strong interdisciplinary group from almost all departments within SHRS, including the departments of Emergency Medicine, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Rehabilitation Science and Technology, and Sports Medicine and Nutrition. In addition, community leaders, practitioners, and researchers with expertise in select areas teach within the program.

Once matriculated into the program, students will complete their undergraduate education within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. Students may also choose to complete one of the Rehabilitation Science undergraduate certificates or consult with their academic advisor to design a more individualized plan of study. All plans of study have built in flexibility to allow students to pursue their interests and goals. Students are encouraged to complement their Rehabilitation Science curriculum with minors and certificates from departments throughout the university, clinical experiences, undergraduate research, study, internship, or study abroad, participation and leadership in student organizations and active community involvement.

Admission Requirements

Prior to beginning the Rehabilitation Science program, students must successfully complete approximately 60 college credits, including the following prerequisite courses:

	CREDITS
General Biology and Lab	4
General Chemistry and Lab	4
Physics I	3
Introduction to Psychology	3
Human Development	3
English Composition	3
Writing Intensive Course	3
Oral Communications	3
Mathematics (College Algebra or higher)	3
Statistics	3-4
Diversity (one course)	
Literature, The Arts, Creative Work or Philosophical Thinking and Ethics (one course)	
Social Sciences (one course)	
Cross-Cultural Awareness, Global Issues, or Specific Geographic Region, (one course)	

Note: Students planning to apply to graduate professional programs in health sciences are recommended to complete most of the prerequisite courses for those graduate programs (e.g., Physics II, Biology II, Chemistry II, etc.) prior to admission to the Rehabilitation Science program. Anatomy and Physiology (prerequisites for many professional health science programs) are included in the Rehabilitation Science curriculum.

Other Admission Criteria:

Minimum cumulative QPA of 2.75 (based on 4.0)

Minimum prerequisite science and math QPA of 2.5 (based on 4.0)

A minimum grade of C- (C for external transfer) in all courses designated as prerequisites

Letter of recommendation from college level faculty or direct supervisor

Application to the program

Personal statement

Resume

Curriculum

General Requirements

Completion of the undergraduate program in Rehabilitation Science includes:

- Completion of all prerequisites for undergraduate program in Rehabilitation Science
- Successful completion of a minimum of 30 credits from SHRS departments while enrolled in SHRS
 - *HRS 1018 Survey of Health and Rehabilitation Professions does not count toward the required 30 SHRS credits*
- Fulfillment of core requirements
- 120 credits total
- Completion of:
 - *UPMC Information Privacy and Security Awareness Training for Physicians, Mid-Level Providers, Dentists, Staff and Students Who are NOT Employed by UPMC but Who Encounter Protected Health Information in UPMC Facilities and*
 - *Annual Bloodborne Pathogens Training* certification
- Plan of Study approved by academic advisor or program director

Core Requirements

- REHSCI 1200 and 1201 – Human Anatomy and Lab
- REHSCI 1225 - Introduction to Rehabilitation Science
- REHSCI 1235 Medical Terminology*
- REHSCI 1240 - Issues in Health Care
- REHSCI 1265 - Pharmacology in Rehabilitation
- REHSCI 1280 Psychology and Sociology of Disability
- Human Physiology - 4 credits (one of the following):
 - REHSCI 1205 Human Physiology
 - BIOSC/NROSCI 1250 Human Physiology and BIOSC 1255 Physiology Lab
 - BIOSC/NROSCI 1070 Honors Human Physiology
- Neuroscience (one of the following):
 - REHSCI 1210 Neuroscience
 - NROSCI 1000 Introduction to Neuroscience
 - NROSCI 1003 UHC Introduction to Neuroscience
 - NROSCI 0080 Brain and Behavior
 - NROSCI 0083 UHC Brain and Behavior
 - PSY 0505 Introduction to Biopsychology
- Research (one of the following):
 - REHSCI 1000 Principles of Research Methodology
 - PSY 0036 Research Methods Lecture
- Health/Science Writing Intensive (choose one)
 - ENGCOMP 0430 Public Communication of Science and Technology
 - ENGCOMP 0450 Research Writing
 - ENGCOMP 0530 Writing for the Sciences
 - ENGCOMP 0535 Writing in the Health Science Professions

- ENGCOMP 1101 Language of Science and Technology
- ENGCOMP 1102 Language of Medicine
- ENCMP 1400 Grant Writing
- Global Citizenship (one of the following):
 - Designated Course, * 3 cr.
 - REHSCI 1292 Diversity and Cultural Issues in Health, Disability and Rehabilitation
 - ANTH 1761 Patients and Healers: Medical Anthropology 1
 - HIST 1090/SOC 1488 History of Medicine and Health Care
 - NUR 1829 Contemporary Issues in Cross-Cultural Health Care
 - PSY 0186 Cross-cultural Psychology
 - PUBHLT 1001 Introduction to Global Health
 - PUBHLT 1002 Special Topics in Global Health
 - SOCWRK 1035 Global Perspectives in Social Work
 - SPAN 1323 Medical Spanish
 - Study abroad (*contact academic advisor for more information*)
 - 4 weeks minimum
 - Credited health or disability component
 - Cultural exploration (incorporated into academic class) OR
 - REHSCI 1297 Cross-cultural Independent Study, 1 credit to be completed on return
 - Cultural exploration and comparison (written)
 - Weekly reflective journal
 - Summary of experience

*Requirement may be fulfilled by another approved course.

Additional Undergraduate Program in Rehabilitation Science Policies

Online Course Policy

Once a student has matriculated into the BSRS Program, up to 6 online credits will be accepted from either the University of Pittsburgh or another four-year institution.* An additional one credit may be accepted for an online medical terminology. No online courses will be accepted from a two-year institution, other than medical terminology.

Additional online credits may be accepted if taken prior to matriculation into the BSRS Program.

Students are expected to review their plan of study with the BSRS Academic Advisor before registering for any online course. All credits from an outside institution must be approved before a student may enroll.

* All University of Pittsburgh classes offered online due to COVID-19 will be accepted while the University is operating under Flex@Pitt.

Policy on Taking Courses at Another Institution

Current SHRS students in good academic standing (cumulative GPA of at least 2.00), including students admitted to SHRS who need to complete prerequisites prior to starting their program, may attend another accredited institution to complete their degree requirements, provided they receive prior approval from their advisor. Students who have completed 60 or more credits may not take program-required courses or electives at two-year institutions. However, up to six credits of graduate school prerequisites may be taken at a two-year institution and applied to the BSRS degree.

Students will be required to fill out and submit the SHRS *Request to Take Courses at Another College or University* form and provide appropriate course descriptions to their advisor for approval. Students may not receive credit for courses taken without advance approval. SHRS students may not enroll in courses outside the University of Pittsburgh in the semester they are graduating from SHRS.

Course Content Policy

Courses with content equivalent to or more elementary than a course taken and passed previously may be denied credit towards graduation. E.g., HPA 1300 *Nutrition in Exercise and Sport* is not accepted if taken after or concurrently with NUTR 1006 *Introduction to Human Nutrition*. The same policy applies to HPA 0050 *Sports and Drugs* and REHSCI 1265 *Pharmacology*.

Physical Activity Class Credits

A maximum of two (2) credits of physical activity classes taken while a student is enrolled in SHRS may be counted toward an undergraduate degree in Rehabilitation Science. Likewise, a total of four (4) physical activity credits taken throughout her/his undergraduate career may be counted toward the student's degree.

This policy applies to all exercise-only classes, found in the School of Education's Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education (PEDC courses). It does not apply to PEDC or HPA classes that include academic content, e.g. PEDC/HPA 1141 *Fitness for Instructors* or PEDC/HPA 0196 *First Aid and CPR*.

Field Experience and Independent Study

REHSCI 1295 *Field Experience* allows the student to participate in a structured experience working with individuals with disabilities or other health care needs and with agencies and facilities that work with these individuals. Additional academic work is necessary to fulfill credit requirements.

Students fulfilling field experience requirements for the Assistive Technology in Rehabilitation (ATR) certificate must register for REHSCI 1296 *ATR Field Experience*. This experience requires significant exposure to assistive technologies.

Students may register for up to three (3) credits of field experience per term and complete a maximum of six (6) credits of field experience (REHSCI 1295 and REHSCI 1296 combined) throughout their undergraduate career.

REHSCI 1299 *Independent Study* provides an opportunity for the student to complete an intense, individualized study project, with faculty supervision, in an area of special interest which is not covered to any great extent in existing courses. A maximum of six (6) independent study credits may be accepted toward degree requirements in the program.

NOTE: If a student anticipates interacting with people as a component of the independent study, s/he must register for Field Experience, not Independent Study.

REHSCI 1297 *Cross-cultural Independent Study* is a specialized independent study course that fulfills the *RS Global Citizenship Requirement* when taken in addition to previous international experience of 4+ weeks that included a health, health care or disability component.

Faculty Mentor

The Undergraduate Program in Rehabilitation Science pairs each student with an SHRS faculty mentor in the profession(s) of the student's greatest interest (if possible). Students may meet with their faculty mentor(s) for the following:

- general and admission information concerning SHRS graduate programs
- general information about programs at other universities (e.g. reputation, strengths)
- general information about their chosen profession
- information regarding mentor's research area
- possible contacts for volunteer, research assistance or paid positions.

Students can learn more about their mentor by reading their CV on the SHRS website. If a student is dissatisfied with their faculty mentor assignment, they should contact the program administrator for possible reassignment.

Registration and Add/drop Process

Students should review their PeopleSoft Academic Advisement Report regularly and are responsible for their own degree progress and completion.

Students in the RS program should process all requests for permission to add a closed or restricted Rehabilitation Science (REHSCI) class with the RS administrator. To do so, the student must first receive written permission from the professor offering the class, then forward this to the administrator. The administrator will then evaluate the request and, if appropriate, provide the student with a permission code allowing them to enroll in the class. Admission to a closed or restricted class is at the will of the professor offering it and restricted by classroom capacity.

Disability Resources and Services

It is the student's responsibility to set up disability services, as needed.

Register with the DRS for:

- testing accommodations
- alternative format texts and course materials
- transportation assistance

Student Responsibilities:

- Acquire letter
- Present the letter to faculty member
- Come to a mutual agreement with faculty about accommodations
- Sign agreement

140 William Pitt Union
3959 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Phone: 412-648-7890
Video Phone: 412-228-5374
Fax: 412-624-3346

Monday – Friday
8:30am to 5:00pm

Rehabilitation Science Major GPA Calculation

The following courses should be included when calculating the “major” GPA for the Undergraduate Program in Rehabilitation Science (BSRS):

- Any course taken to fulfill a BSRS requirement, excluding the pre-requisite courses
- Any course taken to fulfill an RS certificate requirement (ATR, PKR, PSIR certificates)
- Any SHRS course, regardless of when it was taken. This includes courses with department codes: ATHLTR, CSD, EM, HIM, HRS, NUTR, OT, PAS, PT and REHSCI.

A GPA calculator can be found on Canvas, under the ‘RS Degree Requirements and Certificate Information’ module. Note: this calculator may not be the same as other Universities’ calculators and is specific to the University of Pittsburgh.

Tips for Student Success

- **Become the professional you want to be.** Be aware of the impression you make on the people around you: peers, staff, faculty, and school leaders. Always exhibit good manners, humility, and compassion, and practice maturity and independence.

- **Explore the SHRS website.** It has helpful information and links: undergraduate and graduate program information, a faculty and staff directory as well as your SHRS Undergraduate Handbook and RS Addendum. www.shrs.pitt.edu
- **Browse the SHRS Rehab Science Canvas page.** You are now enrolled in the RS Canvas page. Please familiarize yourself with this web resource. We regularly post helpful information and reminders.
- **Read the *SHRS Undergraduate Student Handbook*.** It is your responsibility to be familiar with these policies. A link to this document can be found on the Canvas Advising Organization site.
- **Review University Undergraduate Catalog.** (Go to <https://catalog.upp.pitt.edu/>) It is your responsibility to be familiar with these policies. This link can also be found on the Canvas Advising Organization site.
 - Any policies not found in this handbook or the *SHRS Undergraduate Student Handbook* will follow the Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences policy as noted in the University Undergraduate Catalog.
- **Check and empty your PITT email account regularly.** We communicate primarily by email using your Pitt email address. Make sure that your inbox will always accept new emails and attachments.
- **Surveys:** you will be expected to complete an exit survey at the time of graduation to collect post-graduation data.
- **Follow us on social media.** Join the conversation on Facebook - *PittRehabScience* & Twitter – *@pittrs*
- **COVID-19 Information**
 - Be sure to regularly check coronavirus.pitt.edu for the most up-to-date information regarding University policies and procedures during this time.
 - You must follow all University/SHRS guidelines regarding masks, PPE, hand washing, daily self-attestation, elevator and stairwell rules, and facility capacities, etc.
 - You must consult the syllabus for each class to follow your instructor's guidelines and expectations if we enter a hybrid/online classroom.

Program Contact Information

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Addressing Problems or Concerns –

If an academic problem or situation should occur during the semester, the proper channels should be utilized in a specific order. First, you should contact your instructor or professor to let them know there is a problem and work through possible solutions. Next, your program director Dr. Tom Platt, can meet with you to further discuss any issues or problems you may be having and recommend possible solutions. If needed, Dr. Platt will consult with the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies. The SHRS Dean should never be contacted unless all other channels have been exhausted.

- Academic
 1. Course Instructor/Professor/Instructor Assistant
 2. Director of RS (Dr. Platt)
 3. Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies (Dr. Conley)
- Personal
 1. Program Advisor
 2. Faculty
 3. University Counseling Center (www.counseling.pitt.edu)

Undergraduate Rehabilitation Science Certificates

The undergraduate program in Rehabilitation Science offers undergraduate certificates for students planning to continue their education in rehabilitation science programs or seeking a concentration of courses in a particular rehabilitation science area. These certificates are designed to best prepare students for such graduate programs but are not required for graduate admission.

The undergraduate Rehabilitation Science certificates are listed below. The requirements for each follow.

- **Assistive Technology in Rehabilitation**
- **Pathokinesiology in Rehabilitation**
- **Psycho-Social Issues in Rehabilitation and Personal Care**

Assistive Technology in Rehabilitation

This certificate provides a focused area of study for students interested in careers in provision of technology to individuals with disabilities. It will prepare students for graduate programs such as prosthetics and orthotics or rehabilitation technology. It will also provide the course work and some of the clinical hours needed to satisfy the requirements for the RESNA (formerly Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America) Assistive Technology Supplier certification.

Course Number	Course Name	Cr	Term
REHSCI 1200 and 1201	Human Anatomy and Lab	4	F
REHSCI 1205/HRS 1023 BIOSC 1070/ NROSCI 1070 BIOSC 1250/NROSCI 1250 and BIOSC 1255/REHSCI 1206	Choose one of the following courses: Human Physiology Human Physiology Human Physiology and Lab	4	F F F or S
HRS 1787	Introduction to Orthotics and Prosthetics	3	F
RT 1101	Fundamentals of Rehab and Assistive Technology Applications	3	F
RT 1102	Fundamentals of Rehab and Assistive Technology Design	4	F
REHSCI 1210 NROSCI 0080 or 0083 NROSCI 1000 or 1003 PSY 0505	Choose one of the following courses: Neuroscience Brain and Behavior/ UHC Brain and Behavior Intro to Neuroscience/ UHC Intro to Neuroscience Introduction to Biopsychology	3 or 4	F F or S F or S F or S
REHSCI 1220 and 1221	Kinesiology/Biomechanics and Lab	2+1	S
REHSCI 1290 HRS 1017 HRS 1515/PSY 0515 TLL 1560 TLL 1562 TLL 1563 TLL 1580 HHD 1010	Choose one of the following courses: Practical Issues in Disability Intro to Epidemiology Rehabilitation Psychology Early Ed. of Young Children w/ Disabilities Assessment: Young Children w/ Disabilities Inclusion Pre-K Foundations of Special Education Developmental Disabilities	3	F or S F or S S S F F, S F, S, Su S
REHSCI 1275	Introduction to Occupation Science	3	S
REHSCI 1296	Assistive Technology in Rehab Field Experience Or 2 credits and RT 1207	3	F or S
Optional but recommended on following page:			

RT 1207	Client Centered Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Design (sequel to HRS 1706)	3	S
IE 1061 ¹	Human Factors in Engineering	3	F

Pathokinesiology in Rehabilitation

Completion of this certificate provides the student with an excellent background in the sciences related to normal and pathological motion. It prepares students for graduate programs such as physical therapy, exercise science, kinesiology, and sports medicine. With minimal additional coursework (nutrition and fitness instruction), it also prepares students to take examinations for certification as a personal trainer or fitness expert, such as the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS®) that is offered by the National Strength and Conditioning Association.

Course Number	Course Name	Cr	Term
REHSCI 1200 and 1201	Human Anatomy and lab	4	F
REHSCI 1205/HRS 1023 BIOSC 1070/NROSCI 1070 BIOSC 1250/NROSCI 1250 and BIOSC 1255/REHSCI 1206	Choose one of the following courses: Human Physiology Human Physiology Human Physiology and lab	4	F F F or S
REHSCI 1210	Neuroscience	4	F
REHSCI 1215/1216	Exercise Physiology and Lab	2+1	F
REHSCI 1220/1221	Kinesiology/Biomechanics and Lab	2+1	S
REHSCI 1250	Pathophysiology/Human Disease	4	S
REHSCI 1285	Introduction to Evidenced-Based Rehab	3	F
Total Certificate Credits = 25			

¹ Requires a co-requisite of IE 1070 or ENGR 0020 – Probability and Statistics for Engineers 1 (which require a prerequisite of MATH 0230 – Analytic Geometry and Calculus 2). Students may be able to use STAT 0200 as the prerequisite.

Psycho-Social Issues in Rehabilitation and Personal Care

Completion of this certificate provides the student with a background in the psychological and social issues involved in disability, rehabilitation, and personal care. It prepares students for graduate programs in areas such as occupational therapy, rehabilitation counseling, accelerated or direct entry nursing programs, or disability studies. This certificate also introduces the student to some of the skills needed to provide personal care to individuals with disabilities.

Course Number	Course Name	Cr	Term
RT 1101	Fundamentals Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Applications	3	F
REHSCI 1200/1201	Human Anatomy/Lab	4	F
REHSCI 1205/HRS 1023 BIOSC 1070/ NROSCI 1070	Choose one of the following courses: Human Physiology Human Physiology	4	F F
BIOSC 1250/NROSCI 1250 and BIOSC 1255/REHSCI 1206	Human Physiology /Lab		F or S
REHSCI 1210 PSY 0505 NROSCI 0080 or NROSCI 0083 NROSCI 1000 or NROSCI 1003	Choose one of the following courses: Neuroscience Introduction to Biopsychology Brain and Behavior or UHC Brain and Behavior Intro Neuroscience or UHC Intro Neuroscience	3 or 4	F F or S F or S F or S
REHSCI 1230	Rehabilitation Ethics	2	F
REHSCI 1250	Pathophysiology/Human Disease	4	S
REHSCI 1275	Introduction to Occupation Science	3	S
REHSCI 1290 HRS 1017 HRS 1515/PSY 0515 TLL 1560 TLL 1562 TLL 1563 TLL 1580 HHD 1010	Choose one of the following courses: Practical Issues in Disability Intro to Epidemiology Rehabilitation Psychology Early Ed. of Young Children w/ Disabilities Assessment: Young Children w/ Disabilities Inclusion Pre-K Foundations of Special Education Developmental Disabilities	3	F or S F or S S S F F, S F, S, Su S
Total Certificate Credits = 26-27			

SHRS STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

I Hereby Acknowledge and Agree

I _____ have read and understand all terms and polices associated with the Rehabilitation Science Addendum to the SHRS Undergraduate Student Handbook 2021-2022

_____ Printed name _____ Date

_____ Signature

**** Please sign and date and upload to Canvas in the Assignments Tab.**
The link to these documents can be found our Canvas page.