

**Student Assessment of the Rehabilitation Counseling Graduate Program
Graduates between April 2007 – March 2008**

An assessment of the Rehabilitation Counseling graduate program is administered toward the end of the program as part of the internship. Candidates are asked to complete a formal assessment of the academic preparation they have received and also, to provide narrative feedback. This data along with a periodic survey of program graduates is used for program curriculum and operations improvements. The table below displays summary data from a student assessment survey of 6 candidates who graduated between 2007 and 2008.

Summary Data from 6 (out of 21) students who graduated between April 2007 and March 2008

Please rate your academic preparation in the following areas.

1. Skills in Counseling:					
	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis
A. Knowledge & Understanding of:					
Rehabilitation principles and process	4	2			
Psychological aspects of rehabilitation	4	1	1		
Medical aspects of rehabilitation	3	2	1		
Community resources	3	3			
Ethical principles & standards	3	2	1		
Appropriate legal principles & ethical decision-making skills	3	2	1		
Developing & maintaining a counseling relationship	4	1	1		
Establishing consumer goals & objectives of counseling	2	3	1		
Facilitating an individual's independent decision making	2	2	2		
Multi-cultural techniques and effectively counseling approaches with culturally diverse consumers.	4	1		1	
Comments:					
❖ <i>Overall, my WWU RC experience was above average to excellent. I will always work at improving my skills with the knowledge I have been given/learned (skills, techniques, etc.).</i>					

2. Case Work Skills & Abilities	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis
Development of a rehabilitation plan	2	3		1	
Report writing and documentation	3	2	1		
Identification of individual strategies to resolve problems that impede the rehabilitation process	3	1	2		
Identify available resources and determine jointly, with the consumer, an appropriate rehabilitation plan	3	2	1		
Facilitate, with the consumer, the development of a rehabilitation transition, and /or independent living plan	2	2	2		
Communicate with other service providers involved with the consumer/family	4	1	1		
Determine mutual responsibilities with other service providers involved with the consumer/family	3	1	1	1	
Assist consumers in identifying potential fiscal resources to obtain needed services	3	2	1		
Evaluate the feasibility of a consumer's rehabilitation or independent living objectives	2	3	1		
Assess the consumer's capabilities to make decisions	3	2	1		
Establish follow-up and/or follow-along procedures to maximize a consumer's independent functioning	3	2	1		
Demonstration of skills in job analysis, working site modification and/or restructuring, including the application of appropriate technology	2	2	1	1	
Demonstration of skills in job developing, job placement, employer contacts, supported employment, follow-up and/or follow-along services	2	2	1	1	
Demonstration of appropriate and effective case work with culturally diverse consumers	4	1		1	

Comments:

- ❖ *I felt that I was adequately trained through Western Washington for rehabilitation counseling. During my internship, I was able to refer back to my training and training materials finding value in both.*
- ❖ *I expected an entire course on cultural diversity. I wrote papers on the topic as an elective in other classes so that I had a chance to research ethnic differences.*
- ❖ *All of my professors maintained a high level of knowledge in all areas of study. Each professor allowed me to grow and work on skills.*

3. Readiness for Internship

Did you feel that you were adequately prepared to be effective in the field experience placement?

- ❖ *Absolutely. I feel that all of my classes substantially contributed to my success in this field. Even though I did have some experience in VR, it couldn't possibly compare to what I have learned over the past two years.*

❖ *Yes*

- ❖ *I did feel in the beginning of it a bit frustrated as the agency I did both practicum and internship did not know what was to happen. But once we were on track it went swell. I miss being a part of them and what they do. I miss the clients I was working with too. Transition to leave was handled by both them and me well.*

- ❖ *Yes – I had the knowledge and resources I needed. I felt well supported during the entire program.*

- ❖ *I blew off the case management class. It is not your fault that I was unprepared. I just found the class to be boring. Then I felt unprepared when I started by field work.*

- ❖ *Yes. I felt our on-line discussion with professors and classmates were very helpful – as I entered the internship I had many resources.*

What recommendations or suggestions would you make for the Rehabilitation Counseling Program for improving or enhancing student training?

- ❖ *None, you guys are great!!!!*

❖ *None at this time.*

- ❖ *I have no additional comments. The program is great, challenging, tough, but if you work and do all that is expected of you there is no reason you cannot get a passing grade.*

- ❖ *Keep the Cohort program, the additional help and support from students in the same classes quarter after quarter really helped.*

- ❖ *More focus on diversity. Don't have such low standards for the Practice of Counseling Course. People should do practice interviews until they are good at it. Perhaps some overview course – even a one-time 2 hour prep on a Saturday for the CRC exam. Would help students be more courageous and take the CRC sooner rather than later. This could be on the phone and recorded for those unable to attend.*

- ❖ *Both the online discussions & face-to-face meetings complimented each other*

Additional Comments:

- ❖ *I had a wonderful & challenging experience in the WWU Rehab Counseling program. Professors were very knowledgeable, prepared, helpful & very encouraging to myself & classmates. I would recommend WWU to anyone. It was a very fulfilling, empowering & supporting program.*

