

Graduate Degree Program Assessment Plan Cover Sheet (rev. 07):

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

Plan No. 73a

Degree Program: Rehabilitation of the Blind: Orientation and Mobility

Department and College: Counseling, Adult and Rehabilitation Education, College of Education

Degree Type(MA, MS, EdS, EdD, PhD, Certificate): MA

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Submitted to College Assessment Committee on November 24, 2010 Approved on December 14, 2010

Submitted to Provost Assessment Advisory Group on _____ Approved on _____

Respond to all four questions, following the Degree Program Assessment Plan Form Instructions. Attach additional pages as needed.

1. What are your student learning goals for this degree program?

Goal #1: Assessment Procedures:

Students will demonstrate the ability to use appropriate assessment instruments and procedures to evaluate clients' current level of functioning in the areas of concept development, sensorimotor skills, posture and gait, and travel abilities.

Goal #2: Cognitive knowledge of Orientation and Mobility skills:

Students will the knowledge of the appropriate skills necessary for traveling with impaired vision and/or with additional disabilities.

Goal #3: Instructional Methodology:

Students will demonstrate the ability to apply learned theories and knowledge of skills (Goal #2) when developing, sequencing, and teaching appropriate lessons for and to their clients with visual impairments.

Goal #4: Monitoring of clients:

Students will demonstrate the ability to monitor their clients' independent travel skills (including acquisition of orientation and mobility techniques and safety procedures) by successfully attaining the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) orientation and mobility competencies during their practicum and internship experiences.

Goal #5: Human Growth and Development:

Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize the psychosocial, medical, and cultural needs of each client as they relate to his or her individual education/rehabilitation plan.

Goal #6: History and Philosophy of Orientation and Mobility:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the profession as it relates to current critical issues, the orientation and mobility code of ethics, certification of mobility instructors, and implementation of orientation and mobility services.

2. What are your learning objectives or outcomes associated with each student learning goal?

Objective #1: Upon graduation, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to assess the level of acquired orientation and mobility skills and to evaluate those skills over time in their clients with visual impairments.

Objective #2: Upon graduation, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to develop and teach orientation and mobility skills through appropriately sequenced lessons for their clients with visual impairments.

Objective #3: Upon graduation, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to monitor their client's safety when traveling through various environments.

3. Where will the objectives be addressed in your program? In which courses and through which activities will they be assessed? (Attach Curriculum Assessment Map.)

See attached

4. How will you assess each objective? (a) Methods; b) Design; c) Assessment cycle; d) Stakeholder involvement.)

(a)-(c) See attached curriculum map.

(d) Stakeholder Involvement. The stakeholders related to the O&M Program are: the current students; alumni; and various agency directors both locally and nationally. Agency CEO's from Lions world Services for the Blind, the Arkansas School for the Blind, the Arkansas Division of Services for the Blind are examples of local agency directors who meet bi-monthly with the O&M Program coordinator and annually during the COE's Stakeholder's conference in Little Rock. During those meetings issues related to the program are discussed and feedback is obtained. Previous meetings have resulted in some of the following changes to the program over the past several years: going from an on campus program to a hybrid, online program; cooperative relationships in the summers with LWSB and ASB (free room and board arrangements with students in exchange for recreational duties for our graduate students) and DSB (transition O&M services from our O&M graduate students with college/business bound young adults with impaired vision). In addition, the CEO's provide program advocacy with the Arkansas legislature and Governor's Office.

In addition, students are surveyed for course input during the respective online and face-to-face classes as well as instructor evaluations are conducted at the end of every semester. Course and instructor adjustments are made as necessary. Previous surveys have lead to the replacement of one adjunct instructor. Surveys of recent graduates and their employers, all stakeholders, will take place one year after program completion; results will assist in future program adjustments. (The O&M Program graduates approximately 6 students per year.)

The O&M Program recently received a five-year federal grant to train O&M specialists through the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration. The UALR O&M Program was one of only three awardees this year. As part of that award, the program will be extensively reviewed on an annual basis related to the various objectives of that grant. In addition, the rehabilitation counseling, O&M and Rehabilitation Teaching Programs lost the special tuition rate the university had afforded the programs since 2001. This means that non-resident students must pay the out of state tuition costs. As the O&M Program has enrolled mainly non-resident students, this

may have a devastating impact on future student enrollments. The RSA grant may alleviate some of the impact, as it will pay the tuition costs for eight full-time enrollees.

Finally, the O&M Program will undergo an extensive program evaluation by a team of experts selected by The Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired. It is expected that this program review will take place in the fall of 2011 or spring of 2012.

2010-2015 O&M Assessment Student Goals/Learning Outcomes

Student Goals	Learning outcomes	Courses	Method	Timeline
1) Assessing clients	1a) Knowing and understanding, and demonstrating systematic assessment	RHBL 7317, 7318, 7325, 7390, 7395	Lesson Plans, Exams, projects	Annually
	1b) Understanding and demonstrating the process of documentation and report writing	RHBL 7317, 7318, 7390, 7395	Assessment report writing, lesson plans	Annually
	1c) Knowing and understating and demonstrating sequenced teaching plans and instructing students and clients with visual impairments.	RHBL 7317, 7318, 7390, 7395	Lesson plans, teaching simulations, student teaching	Annually
2) Knowledge of O&M Skills	2a) Knowing about & understanding basic O&M skills	RHBL 7317, 7390, 7395	Exams, blindfold simulations	Annually
	2b) Knowing and understanding intermediate O&M skills	RHBL 7317, 7390, 7395	Exams, blindfold simulations	Annually
	2c) Knowing and understanding advanced O&M skills	RHBL 7318, 7390, 7395	Exams, blindfold simulations	Annually
3) Instructional Methodology	3a) Demonstrates the ability to teach basic O&M skills	RHBL 7317, 7390, 7395	Exams, blindfold simulations	Annually
	3b) Demonstrates the ability to teach intermediate O&M skills.	RHBL 7317, 7390, 7395	Exams, blindfold simulations	Annually
	3c) Demonstrates the ability to teach advanced O&M skills.	RHBL 7318, 7390, 7395	Exams, blindfold simulations	Annually
4) Monitoring Clients	4a) Students will monitor their peers' safety during blindfold simulations	RHBL 7317, 7318	Observations/forms	Annually
	4b) Students will monitor their clients' safety while they travel indoors.	RHBL 7390, 7395	Supervisor observations/forms/rubrick	Annually
	4c) Students will monitor their clients' safety while they travel in residential areas.	RHBL 7390, 7395	Supervisor observations/forms/rubrick	Annually
	4d) Students will monitor their clients' safety while they travel in business areas.	RHBL 7390, 7395	Supervisor observations/forms/rubrick	Annually
5) Human Growth and Development	5a) Students will demonstrate knowledge of the special medical issues and needs of clients with visual impairments.	RHBL 7316, 7317, 7318, 7315, 7325, 7390, 7395	RHBL 7315 Exams, RHBL 7390 lesson plans, RHBL 7316 research papers, RHBL 7317/18 blindfold simulations	Annually
	5b) Students will demonstrate knowledge of the special issues and needs of their clients' posture and gait and other physical disabilities.	RHBL 7316, 7317, 7318, 7315, 7325, 7390, 7395	RHBL 7316 Exams, RHBL 7390 lesson plans, RHBL 7316 research papers, RHBL 7317/18 blindfold simulations	Annually
	5c) Students will demonstrate the knowledge of issues and psychological needs of their clients with visual disabilities.	COUN 7362, RHBL 7315, 7325,	COUN 7362 Exams, RHBL 7390 lesson plans, RHBL	Annually

		7390, 7395	7316 research papers, RHBL 7317/18 blindfold simulations	
	5d) Students demonstrate the knowledge of cultural issues of their clients with visual disabilities.	COUN 7360, 7362; RHBL 7316, 7315, 7317, 7318.	COuN 7360 Exams, RHBL 7390 lesson plans, RHBL 7316 research papers, RHBL 7317/18 blindfold simulations	Annually
6) History and Philosophy of O&M	1.1) Students will demonstrate knowledge of the history of the O&M profession.	RHBL 7316, 7317, 7318, 7325	RHBL 7317/7325 Exams, RHBL 7316 research papers	Annually
	1.2) Students will demonstrate knowledge of the code of ethics and its history	RHBL 7318	Exams, research papers	Annually
	1.3 Students will demonstrate knowledge of certification and licensure issues for the profession.	RHBL 7318	Exams, discussion, research papers	Annually
	1.4) Students will demonstrate knowledge of the delivery of O&M services of O&M in schools and agencies for the blind.	RHBL 7318, 7390, 7395	Exams, lesson plans	Annually

2010-15 Curriculum and Assessment Matrix: O&M Program Assessment

Goal #1 Assessment Procedures: Students will demonstrate the ability to use appropriate assessment instruments and procedures to evaluate clients' current level of functioning in the areas of concept development, sensori-motor skills, posture and gait, and travel abilities.			
Courses	Outcome 1: Knowing and understanding, and demonstrating systematic assessment	Outcome 2: Understanding and demonstrating the process of documentation and report writing	Outcome 3: Knowing and understating and demonstrating sequenced teaching plans and instructing students and clients with visual impairments
RHBL 7317 Intro. To Methods of O&M	Somewhat Exam, demonstrations, simulations, teaching peers	Little Projects	Extensive Exam, demonstrations, simulations, peer teaching
RHBL 7318 Adv. Methods of O&M	Somewhat Exam, demonstrations, simulations, teaching peers	Little Projects	Extensive Exam, demonstrations, simulations, peer teaching
RHBL 7325 Low Vision Implications	Extensive Exam, paper, project	Little Exam	None
RHBL 7390 Student Teaching in O&M	Extensive Lesson planning	Extensive Report Writing	Extensive Report Writing, lesson plans
RHBL 7395 Internship in O&M	Extensive Lesson plans, assessments	Extensive Report writing, daily note taking	Extensive Lesson plans, report writing

2010-15 Curriculum and Assessment Matrix: O&M Program Assessment

Goal #2 Cognitive Knowledge of Orientation and Mobility Skills: Students will demonstrate the knowledge of the appropriate skills necessary for traveling with impaired vision and/or with additional disabilities.			
Courses	Outcome 1: Knowing about & understanding basic O&M skills: sighted guide through self-protection techniques	Outcome 2: Knowing and understanding intermediate O&M skills: basic cane skills and indoor travel techniques	Outcome 3 Knowing and understanding advanced O&M skills: residential and business travel, and special travel environments
RHBL 7317	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers	Limited Simulations, teaching peers
RHBL 7318	Little None	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers
RHBL 7390	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients
RHBL 7395	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients

2010-15 Curriculum and Assessment Matrix: O&M Program Assessment

Goal #3 Instructional Methodology: Students will demonstrate the ability to apply learned theories and knowledge of skills (Goal #2) when developing, sequencing, and teaching appropriate lessons for and to their clients with visual impairments.			
Courses	Outcome 1: Demonstrates the ability to teach basic O&M skills.	Outcome 2: Demonstrates the ability to teach intermediate O&M skills: basic cane skills and indoor travel techniques	Outcome 3: Demonstrates the ability to teach advanced O&M skills: residential and business travel, and special travel environments
RHBL 7317	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers	Limited Simulations, teaching peers
RHBL 7318	Little None	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers	Extensive Exam, simulations, teaching peers
RHBL 7390	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients
RHBL 7395	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients	Extensive Teaching students/clients

2010-15 Curriculum and Assessment Matrix: O&M Program Assessment

Goal #4 Monitoring of clients: Students will demonstrate the ability to monitor their clients' independent travel skills (including acquisition of orientation and mobility techniques and safety procedures) by successfully attaining the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) orientation and mobility competencies during their practicum and internship experiences.				
Courses	Outcome 1: Students will monitor their peers' safety during blindfold simulations	Outcome2: Students will monitor their clients' safety while they travel indoors.	Outcome 3: Students will monitor their clients' safety while they travel in residential areas.	Outcome 4: Students will monitor their clients' safety while they travel in business areas.
RHBL 7317	Extensive Blindfold simulations; rubrick	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed
RHBL 7318	Extensive Blindfold simulations; rubrick	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed
RHBL 7390	None Not Assessed	Extensive Observations, report forms	Extensive Observations, report forms	Extensive Observations, report forms
RHBL 7395	Little Not Assessed	Extensive Observations, report forms	Extensive Observations, report forms	Extensive Observations, report forms

2010-15 Curriculum and Assessment Matrix: O&M Program Assessment

Goal #5: Human Growth and Development: Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize the psychosocial, medical, and cultural needs of each client as they relate to his or her individual education/rehabilitation plan.				
Courses	Outcome 1: Students will demonstrate knowledge of the special medical issues and needs of clients with visual impairments.	Outcome 2: Students will demonstrate knowledge of the special issues and needs of their clients' posture and gait and other physical disabilities.	Outcome 3: Students will demonstrate the knowledge of issues and psychological needs of their clients with visual disabilities.	Outcome 4: Students demonstrate the knowledge of cultural issues of their clients with visual disabilities.
RHBL 7315 Medical Aspects of Blindness	Extensive Exam, projects	Limited Exam, projects	None Not assessed	Limited Exam, discussions
RHBL 7316 Principles of O&M	Somewhat Exam, Research paper	Extensive Exam, research paper, discussions	Little Discussions	Little Discussions
RHBL 7317	Somewhat Exam; discussions	Extensive Exam; demonstrations, discussions	Little Exam; discussions	Somewhat; discussions
RHBL 7318	Extensive Exam; demonstrations, discussions	Extensive Exam; demonstrations, discussions	Little Exam; discussions	Little Exam; discussions
RHBL 7390	Somewhat Medical report analyses, lesson plans	Extensive Lesson plans	Extensive Observations, lesson plans	Extensive Observations, lesson plans
RHBL 7395	Somewhat Medical report analyses, lesson plans	Extensive Lesson plans	Extensive Observations, lesson plans	Extensive Observations, lesson plans
COUN 7360 Foundations of Rehabilitation	None Not assessed	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed	Somewhat Exam; research paper
COUN 7362 Psychological Aspects of Disabilities	Somewhat Exam	None Not assessed	Extensive Exam; paper	Extensive Exam; paper

2010-15 Curriculum and Assessment Matrix: O&M Program Assessment

Goal #6: History and Philosophy of Orientation and Mobility: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the profession as it relates to current critical issues, the orientation and mobility code of ethics, certification of mobility instructors, and implementation of orientation and mobility services.				
Courses	Outcome 1: Students will demonstrate knowledge of the history of the O&M profession.	Outcome 2: Students will demonstrate knowledge of the code of ethics and its history	Outcome 3: Students will demonstrate knowledge of certification and licensure issues for the profession.	Outcome 4: Students will demonstrate knowledge of the delivery of O&M services of O&M in schools and agencies for the blind.
RHBL 7316	Extensive Exam	None Not Assessed	Somewhat Project	None
RHBL 7317	Extensive Exam	Somewhat Exam	None	None
RHBL 7318	Extensive Exam	Extensive Exam	Extensive Exam; discussions	Somewhat Exams; discussions
RHBL 7325	Somewhat Exam	None Not Assessed	Somewhat Not Assessed	Somewhat Field Evaluation Principle 5
RHBL 7390	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed	None Not Assessed	Extensive Projects
RHBL 7395	None Not Assessed	Somewhat Observations	Somewhat Observations	Somewhat Observations