

PhD in Rehabilitation and Movement Science

Mission Statement

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Rehabilitation and Movement Science (<https://www.apu.edu/bas/programs/phd-rehabilitation-movement-science/>) program at Azusa Pacific University prepares graduates to practice as academic faculty and clinical researchers in the fields of rehabilitation and movement science. These graduates are guided by Christian principles and ethical values, and are critical thinkers and lifelong learners, supporting the global community and the rehabilitation and movement science profession as service-oriented practitioners. They promote excellence in patient care, are guided by a belief in human worth and dignity, and are dedicated to the optimization of human health and function.

Requirements

Code	Title	Units
RMS 702	Basic Biostatistics I	3
RMS 703	Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Theory and Methods	3
RMS 704	Research for the Rehabilitation and Movement Scientist	3
RMS 705	Instrumentation and Measurement in Rehabilitation and Movement Science	3
RMS 706	Leadership Theories Applied to Rehabilitation Education and Administration	3
RMS 708	Literature Appraisal: Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis	3
RMS 709	Grant Proposal and Scientific Writing	3
RMS 710	Intermediate Biostatistics II	3
RMS 711	Concentration Independent Inquiry ¹	3
RMS 712	Mixed Methods	3
RMS 714	Neurophysiology of Motor Control	3
RMS 715	Current Concepts in Pain Science	3
RMS 716	Biomechanical Assessment of Movement	3
RMS 717	Frontiers in Rehabilitation and Movement Science	3
RMS 719	Dissertation Qualifying Examination and Research Prospectus ¹	1
RMS 720	Dissertation I: Introduction and Literature Review ¹	3
RMS 721	Dissertation II: Methods and Research Proposal ^{1,2}	3
RMS 722	Dissertation III: Data Collection, Results, and Analysis ^{1,2}	3
RMS 723	Dissertation IV: Discussion and Research Defense ^{1,2}	3
RMS 724	Qualitative Analysis	3
RMS 749	Dissertation Continuation ^{1,2}	1
RMS 798	Doctoral Study Continuation ³	1
Total Units		58

¹ For students who have met the prerequisite requirements, RMS 711, RMS 719, RMS 720, RMS 721, RMS 722, RMS 723, and RMS 749 will be available for enrollment each semester.

² If a student has not completed any Dissertation Course (RMS 720, RMS 721, RMS 722, or RMS 723) and until their dissertation is approved for ProQuest submission, they must register for RMS 749 Dissertation Continuation for 1 unit every term until the dissertation coursework is successfully completed.

³ RMS 798 may be taken until a non-dissertation course is completed (e.g., RMS 711 or RMS 719). Non-dissertation RMS courses are expected to be completed in the established course time frame. In the rare occurrence a student does not finish a non-dissertation RMS course, they may take RMS 798.

Suggested Plan of Study

The following is a suggested sequence of study for students who are interested in part-time study in the rehabilitation and movement science program. This sequence is a suggestion only and can be modified based on student need and course offerings.

Course	Title	Units
Year I		
Summer		
RMS 705	Instrumentation and Measurement in Rehabilitation and Movement Science	3
Units		3
Fall		
RMS 702	Basic Biostatistics I	3
RMS 716	Biomechanical Assessment of Movement	3
Units		6
Spring		
RMS 710	Intermediate Biostatistics II	3
RMS 717	Frontiers in Rehabilitation and Movement Science	3
Units		6
Year II		
Summer		
RMS 709	Grant Proposal and Scientific Writing	3
Units		3
Fall		
RMS 703	Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Theory and Methods	3
RMS 714	Neurophysiology of Motor Control	3
Units		6
Spring		
RMS 704	Research for the Rehabilitation and Movement Scientist	3
RMS 715	Current Concepts in Pain Science	3
RMS 712	Mixed Methods	3
Units		9
Year III		
Summer		
RMS 706	Leadership Theories Applied to Rehabilitation Education and Administration	3
Units		3
Fall		
RMS 711	Concentration Independent Inquiry	3
RMS 708	Literature Appraisal: Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis	3
RMS 724	Qualitative Analysis	3
Units		9
Spring		
RMS 719	Dissertation Qualifying Examination and Research Prospectus	1
RMS 720	Dissertation I: Introduction and Literature Review	3
Units		4
Year IV		
Summer		
RMS 721	Dissertation II: Methods and Research Proposal	3
Units		3
Fall		
RMS 722	Dissertation III: Data Collection, Results, and Analysis	3
Units		3

Spring

RMS 723	Dissertation IV: Discussion and Research Defense	3
Units		3
Total Units		58

Admission

University graduate admission and program-specific requirements must be met before an application is complete (see Admission to the University (<http://catalog.apu.edu/admissions/>)). **Program-specific application requirements are available online (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>).**

International students should contact Graduate and Professional Admissions (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>) for application procedures.

Program Learning Outcomes**Program Learning Outcomes**

Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Critically evaluate and synthesize literature in rehabilitation and movement science.
2. Disseminate and effectively communicate research findings through conferences, peer-reviewed journals and/or other appropriate recognized professional reports including oral presentations, research proposals, grant writing, dissertation, and publication.
3. Design and implement ethical research which is innovative, methodologically sound, and contributes to the body of knowledge and/or service delivery in their individual discipline.
4. Provide servant leadership which is effective, innovative and collaborative in education, research, service delivery, and/or policy development in their individual fields.
5. Critically examine and apply theories and principles of effective pedagogy to deliver and assess student learning in their discipline.
6. Apply principles of the Christian worldview to the science of education and research in their individual discipline.