Fox Valley Region

- Masters of Science in Behavior Analysis and Therapy

The Southern Illinois University Carbondale Rehabilitation Institute wishes to inform the Illinois Board of Higher Education of its intent to offer the Master of Science in Behavior Analysis and Therapy in the Fox Valley Region.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s Master of Science in Behavior Analysis and Therapy is designed for the working professional seeking to gain additional graduate education and eventual certification by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. The Behavior Analysis and Therapy program emphasizes empirically based development and application of learning principles to a wide range of situations. Program graduates will be prepared to conduct research, teach and apply the principles of behavior to assist individuals or organizations. Graduates of the program may seek applied work immediately following graduation or pursue doctoral training at SIU or elsewhere. The Behavior Analysis and Therapy program prepares the student for either career path through a wide variety of coursework, research, and hands on training opportunities.

The Behavior Analysis and Therapy Program requires a minimum of 45 credit hours including required courses (or their equivalents), at least two elective courses, a practicum, an internship, and a research paper or thesis. The student must complete nine credits of internship under the supervision of a Behavior Analysis and Therapy faculty member. The internship usually involves working in a human service facility full time for one semester or half time for two semesters. Those students interested in pursuing doctoral programs may participate in a more research-oriented internship. The Master of Science requires the completion of either a research paper or thesis. The research paper requires supervision and approval by a chairperson and entails projects such as conducting an empirical study, reviewing the professional literature, or constructing a treatment manual. The thesis requires an experimental project supervised by a chairperson, with an oral defense before a three-member thesis committee. This blend of educational experiences will lead the graduates to be scientists/practitioners who can enter the workforce or pursue additional education upon degree completion.

Applicants must possess a bachelor’s degree and have the required G.P.A. for admission to the Behavior Analysis and Therapy Program and the SIUC Graduate School. The students are likely to reside in the area of Rockton in the State of Illinois. It is anticipated that these classes will be delivered by SIUC faculty who will travel to an off-campus location at the Goldie Floberg Center in Rockton, IL, through distance learning delivery or a combination of both. The University estimates that the student body will consist of approximately 18-20 students who will form a three-year cohort.

Requests for additional information about the proposed program should be addressed to Dr. John S. Haller, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Southern Illinois University, 1400 Douglas Drive, Carbondale, IL 62901. E-mail: jhaller@notes.siu.edu