Prepare for graduate school and a career as a chiropractor, occupational therapist, physical therapist, clinical exercise physiologist, or physician’s assistant with the rehabilitation science program. As part of your degree you can do research as an undergraduate with world-class health physicians; engage in community outreach programs to build your professional experience; and put your education into practice in top-of-the-line wellness, aquatics and recreation facilities.

Major

Comprehensive major (no minor required)
• Kinesiology - Rehabilitation Science

Where you'll find our grads
• Rehabilitation Assistant, Door County Medical Center (Casco, WI)
• Clinical Exercise Physiologist, Swedish American Health System (Machesney Park, IL)
• Exercise Specialist, Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute (Golden Valley, MN)

Prepared for Success

The rehabilitation science program prepares students for professional programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy, chiropractic medicine, clinical exercise physiology, therapeutic recreation, rehabilitation science, physician assistant, or medicine. Our students are also prepared for prestigious graduate programs offered at universities like Concordia University, the College of St. Scholastica, UW-Madison, UW-La Crosse, the University of Minnesota, Carroll University, and more. Students with this bachelor's degree can directly enter the workforce in medical-based fitness centers, cardiac rehabilitation programs, gerontology/senior fitness programs, and community centers involving physical activity programs for individuals with disabilities or special needs.

“I just finished my first year of Physician Assistant school. I was far better off in my cardiology, pulmonology and orthopedic modules, thanks to the foundation provided. I cannot say enough about the kinesiology program at UWEC and about what it provided me.” — Allison Stone | Kinesiology
Rehabilitation Science (continued)

Why UW-Eau Claire

Hands-On Experience

Students get hands-on professional experience with outreach programs offered by the Kinesiology Department, helping community members from diverse populations improve their health, while also gaining valuable experience that will make them stand out to potential employers. A broader, theoretical emphasis on diversity is included in program coursework as a supplement to the experiential learning pieces that are a big part of the program. Outreach programs include:

- Cancer recovery and fitness program
- Community fitness program
- P.R.I.D.E. Program (Physical activity and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities in the Eau Claire area)
- P.R.I.D.E. Program for adults
- Homeschool physical education

Research Opportunities

Our students enjoy individualized attention from dedicated faculty as they dive into their research interest and collaborate with world-class physicians under the new master collaborative research agreement between UW-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic Health System. Senior rehabilitation science majors complete a research project, and outstanding research is submitted by faculty to national scholarly journals, like the International Journal of Research in Exercise Physiology - a peer-reviewed journal founded for the purpose of publishing undergrad student research and providing undergraduates with valuable experience in the peer-review and publication process.

First-Year Suggested Curriculum

- Anatomical Kinesiology
- General Chemistry I
- Orientation to Kinesiology
- Physical Science or Physics
- University writing requirement - depending on placement exam

Special Admission Guidelines

Admission Requirements:

- 2.75 GPA
- Individual performances in KINS 320: Foundations of Rehabilitation Science
- Resume and application
- Sophomore standing

Innovative Facilities

The Kinesiology Department is dedicated to providing hands-on work that will set students apart. Outside of the classroom, students work in the Exercise Physiology Lab, a research facility where they get hands-on experience evaluating human performance and researching fitness and performance. The Exercise Physiology Lab is expanding in size to allow even more undergraduate-level research.

Preliminary plans have also been laid out for the Sonnentag Event and Recreation Complex. As currently envisioned, the complex will include YMCA, UW-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic Health System wellness, aquatics and recreation facilities, providing even more opportunity for kinesiology students to have professional experiences.