NIAGARA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Course Number and Title:

EDU 672-Bases to Drug and Alcohol Addictions

Number of Credits

Three (3) credit hours

Course Textbooks:


Peel, Stanton (Ed.) Visions of Addiction. Lexington Books 1988

Recommended Reading:


Instructor:

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Catalogue Description of Content:

Examination of the psychological, sociological and biological reasons for addictions, which will lead to an understanding of the models for treating addictions. One focus of the course will be on recognizing physical, behavioral, emotional, social and spiritual symptoms of chemical dependence and other addictions. Another focus in on learning the counseling and treatment methods commonly used in treating the chemically dependent and addicted.
Course Objectives:

- The student will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the aetiology of chemical dependence and other addictive behaviors, including the disease concept, Transtheoretical Model, Bio-Psycho-Social Model, Harm Reduction and other models explaining addiction.

- Describe and explain genetic, developmental and cognitive factors (e.g., the nature versus nurture controversy) in the aetiology of substance use/abuse and dependence.

- Apply theories of aetiology of addiction in understanding, interpreting and treating it.

- Describe the range of behaviors related to substance use from non-problematic to full addiction.

- Explain the issues inherent in psychological dependence, including: guilt, shame and personal and social inadequacy.

- Describe the pathological effect of mood-altering substances and behaviors on personality functioning.

- Understand the role of resistance in the addictions process including issues of denial, lying and dependence. Specify how the clinician’s personal values and theories of counseling impact on this process and respond to it.

- Recognize the family’s multi-generational role in the aetiology of substance abuse and addictions.

- Be able to diagnose and assess chemical dependence and other addictions.

- Recognize physical, behavioral, emotional, social and spiritual symptoms of chemical dependency and other addictions.

- Explain differences in the counseling process that result from both the clinicians and client’s orientations to understanding chemical dependence and its effects on the individual.

- Demonstrate working knowledge of counseling and treatment methods that have value for the treatment of the chemically dependent or those with other addictions.

- Understand the problem of relapse and demonstrate methods of addressing it.

- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the various settings and levels of care making up the treatment continuum for helping addicted individuals, including the objectives, focus of treatment and techniques used in each.
Teaching Procedure:

Textbook assignments will be read by the student on a weekly basis. There will be in-class discussions of the content of the readings and their relevance to the understanding of addiction and its treatment. Students will be expected to conduct a literature review and write a critique of their findings. Case studies and role-plays may be used to assess knowledge gained from the texts, other readings and classes.

Class time will include guest speakers (recovering persons and clinicians), mini-lectures, group discussions and case studies.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

35% Case analysis Paper
20% Transtheoretical Model Log
20% Critique of research articles in the field
20% Take-Home mid term exam
5% Class attendance and participation

Topical Outline:

Week 1: Discuss course objectives. What is an addiction?


Week 4: Signs and symptoms (physical, Emotional, behavioral, social, spiritual) (Reading: On the Possibility of an Addiction-Free Mode of Being, MacAndrew & A Biobehavioral View of substance Abuse and Addiction, Pomerleau and Pomerleau in Peele)
**Week 5:** Review of Basic theories. (Reading: Vulnerability to Alcohol and Drug Abuse: A Behavioral-Genetic View, Tarter & Edwards & Anticipation of Pharmacological and Nonpharmacological Events: Classical Conditioning and Addictive Behavior, Siegel, Krank, Hinson in Peele)

**Week 6:** Family’s multi-generational role in aetiology of addictions (Reading: Theoretical Bases of Family Approaches to Substance Abuse Treatment, McCrady & Epstein in Rotgers/Keller/Morgenstern & Common Elements in Youth Drug Abuse: Peer Clusters and Other Psychosocial Factors, Oetting, Beauvais in Peele)

**Week 7:** Basic Pharmacology, (Reading: Neurobehavioral Model of Addiction: Addiction as a Primary Disease, Frawley in Peele)

**Week 8:** Cognition, Substance Use and Treatment (Reading: Exploration in the Service of Relapse Prevention: A Psychoanalytic Contribution to Substance Abuse Treatment, Keller, in Rotgers/Keller/Morgenstern)

**Week 9:** 12-Step, Abstinence oriented treatment approaches (Readings: Theory of 12-Step-Oriented Treatment, Wallace; & Facilitating 12-Step Recovery from Substance Abuse and Addiction, Nowinski in Rotgers/Keller/Morgenstern)

**Week 10:** No Class (Jim is on sabbatical in Florida)

**Week 11:** Addiction as behavior (Readings: Behavioral Theory of Substance Abuse Treatment: Bringing Science to Bear on Practice, Rotgers & Behavioral Treatment Techniques for Psychoactive Substance Use Disorders, Morgan in: Rotgers/Keller/Morganstern)

**Week 12:** Motivation and addiction (Readings: Motivation and Addictive Behaviors: Theoretical Perspectives, Saunders, Wilkinson, Towers & Motivational Interviewing in Practice, Bell, Rolnick in: Rotgers/Keller/Morganstern)

**Week 13:** Pharmacological approaches to treating addictions (Reading: Integrating Psychotherapy and Pharmacotherapy in Substance Abuse Treatment, Carroll in Rotgers/Keller/Morganstern)

**Week 14:** Abstinence, self-control, harm-reduction – where do we go from here? (Readings TBA)