

Prepared by the Department of Social Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: January 31, 2017

Date Approved by Curriculum and Programs: February 15, 2017

Effective: Fall 2017

1. **Course Number:** HUS104
Course Title: Introduction to Alcohol and Substance Abuse
2. **Description:** Introduction to Alcohol and Substance Abuse explores the causes and consequences of addiction as it relates to all aspects of society. This course briefly discusses the impact on the healthcare system, family system, and legal system. Historical implications and response to changes over time are reviewed. Topics regarding intervention, treatment, education, and prevention are discussed. Competencies and requirements for licensure in Massachusetts are explained. Addiction issues related to diverse populations are presented.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes** (instructional objectives, intellectual skills): Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following.
 - A. **Knowledge Base of Alcohol & Substance Abuse**
Students who successfully complete the course will demonstrate familiarity with the major characteristics of addiction & substance abuse. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the historical context and laws regarding regulation and abuse of substances. Students will discuss the impact addiction & substance abuse has on society. Addictions such as gambling, sexual addiction as well as tobacco, alcohol and other substances will be included.
 - B. **Research Methods in Alcohol & Substance Abuse**
Students who successfully complete the course will be able to use critical thinking when reviewing research in human services. Students will analyze important topics in alcohol & substance abuse and explore the specialized terminology of the addictions counselor as a social change agent.
 - C. **Critical Thinking Skills in Alcohol & Substance Abuse**
Students who successfully complete the course will use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to alcohol & substance abuse. The student will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking effectively by distinguishing between personal values and experiences and academic alcohol & substance abuse literature. Student will learn to use current state forms and write case notes.
 - D. **Application of Alcohol & Substance Abuse Theory**
Students who successfully complete the course will understand and apply concepts and theories to the alcohol & substance abuse field. Students will demonstrate the ability to look beyond personal experiences, be informed by educational information, to grow personally and professionally. Students will demonstrate awareness of the importance of confidentiality and state regulations.
 - E. **Values in Alcohol & Substance Abuse**
Students who successfully complete the course will develop a personal philosophy of working with individuals in alcohol & substance abuse recovery that respects human diversity. The student will recognize and respect human diversity and understand that principles of addictions and substance abuse may vary across populations and contexts. The student will recognize the necessity for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of addictions counseling.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No
6. **Prerequisite:** ENL108 (Critical Reading & Thinking) or satisfactory basic skills assessment scores

7. Semesters Offered: Fall, Spring

8. Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation: The methods of assessment used to measure these outcomes may be written assignments, tests, online and class discussion, small group activity and presentations.

9. General Topical Outline:

I. Introduction:

- a. An overview of addiction issues.
- b. Defining the gateway to use and abuse.
- c. Multicultural perspective on alcohol and substance abuse.

II. History:

- a. Tobacco
- b. A look at the Temperance Movement,
- c. Prohibition, history of opium, and early attempts at legislation.
- d. Types of drugs
- e. Current legislation.
- f. Turn towards treatment

III. The Biology of Addiction:

- a. Physiological theories of abuse.
- b. Overview of the connections between the brain, the central nervous system, and abuse.

IV. Substances and Patterns of Use & Abuse:

- a. Defining addiction including gambling, sex addiction, alcohol and other substances.
- b. Discussions of patterns seen in the research on addictive behavior and connection to societal issues.

V. The Sociology of Use & Abuse: Sociological theories of abuse, which may include Anomie and Social Control theory.

VI. The Psychology of Addiction.

VII. Treatment strategies for Addiction:

The "Cure" industry

. Implications of medication assisted treatment.

A look at various treatment approaches including 12 step programs

VIII. Drug laws and law enforcement.