Course Description: Strategies for working with persons who abuse substances.

Course Learning Objectives: By the end of the term, students should be able to

1. Describe social work practice with substance abusers and their significant others.
2. Identify the types of drugs and other substances typically used by abusers.
3. Specify the symptoms and the major physical/psychosocial consequences of selected types of substance use and abuse.
4. Discuss prominent theories concerning the etiology of different types of substance abuse.
5. Describe procedures used to screen for the presence of a drug.
6. Describe major public and private substance abuse prevention, education and treatment programs and services.
7. Discuss the strengths of the social worker’s role in providing preventive, developmental, supportive and remedial services to substance abusers and their significant others.
8. Apply selected clinical theories, strategies and techniques when intervening with substance abusers and their significant others, in given case situations.
9. Describe ways in which the worker and client system share responsibility for ensuring the effectiveness and appropriateness of services for substance abusers and their significant others.
10. Demonstrate professional attitudes, behaviors and value orientations associated with ethical social work practice with substance abusers and their significant others, within given course assignments.
11. Discuss the relative effectiveness of selected treatment and rehabilitation services and programs for improving the social functioning and reducing the stress experienced by substance abusers and their significant others from a systems perspective.
12. Identify the role of self-help, mutual aid, and other types of groups in providing social support to and empowering substance abusers and their significant others.
13. Utilize knowledge about diversity to effectively work with and on behalf of substance abusers and their significant others.
14. Understand and discuss intervention with women, people of color, the aged, gays and lesbians, children and adolescents, the poor, and other special populations.
15. Demonstrate an ability to critically assess and improve services for substance abusers and their significant others.

Evaluation of Learning and Grading: Achievement of learning objectives is measured as follows:

1. Treatment Center Visits: You are to visit a private for-profit and a public non-profit substance abuse treatment facility or two programs serving diverse populations. Write an essay that compares and contrasts the facilities, the treatment milieu, and the clientele of each. You should learn about the philosophy, population served, fees, and other information you consider relevant. Conclude the essay with your impressions of each facility. If you have experience in a treatment facility, select programs that
serve different clients. This is due week 6 and is worth 20% of your final grade.

2. **Client History/Assessment:** With approval of the field instructor, you must complete an alcohol and drug use history/assessment on a client seen in your field agency. In addition to those identified in the course texts, the instructor will supply examples of outlines for history taking and other resources for conducting the client assessment. If this is not possible, see the instructor for an alternative assignment. This is due week 10 and is worth 20% of your final grade.

3. **Mid-term and Final Exams:** There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam. The final exam will not be cumulative. Each exam is worth 20% of your final grade.

4. **Paper:** A paper on a substance abuse topic of your choice, with instructor approval, will be completed by week 12. The paper is worth 20% of your final grade.

A final course grade will be based upon the total number of points accumulated by a student on the above evaluations.

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\begin{align*}
A & = 95-100 \quad (4.0) \quad B- & = 80-83 \quad (2.75) \quad D+ & = 67-69 \quad (1.25) \\
A- & = 90-94 \quad (3.75) \quad C+ & = 77-79 \quad (2.25) \quad D & = 64-66 \quad (1.00) \\
B+ & = 87-89 \quad (3.25) \quad C & = 74-76 \quad (2.00) \quad D- & = 60-63 \quad (0.75) \\
B & = 84-86 \quad (3.00) \quad C- & = 70-73 \quad (1.75) \quad F & = 59 \text{ or less} \quad (0.00)
\end{align*}
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**Required Texts:**

Course Policies: See the School of Social Work's Graduate Student Handbook and UCF's The Golden Rule.
- Attendance is expected.
- Three absences (excused or unexcused) will result in a one-letter course grade reduction.
- Late assignments will be reduced one-letter grade per week.

**Course Outline and Schedule**

**Week 1 Introduction and orientation to the course, review syllabus, and assignments.**
Video: "Clean and Sober"* or "28 Days"
Note: *This film received the Entertainment Industries Council PRISM Award for accurate depiction in the media of alcohol and/or drug problems.

**Week 2 Addiction as a disease: biological/genetic, psychosocial, and socio-cultural contributors**
Readings:
1. McNeece and DiNitto, Chapters 1 and 2
2. Johnson, Chapter 1
Weeks 3 & 4  Alcohol and drug experimentation, abuse, dependency and addiction. 
Psychopharmacology of substance use, misuse, and abuse. 
Poly-substance abuse 
Video: Moyers on Addiction: The Hijacked Brain 
Readings 
1. Johnson, Chapters 2 and 3 
2. McNeece and DiNitto, Chapters 3 and 4 

Week 5 Client Engagement 
Readings: 
1. Buelow and Buelow, Chapter 1 
2. Johnson, Chapters 4, 5, and 6 
Recommended Further Reading: 

Week 6 Screening, Assessing, and Diagnosing 
Video: Lifestyles - Co-dependency and Intervention 
Readings: 
1. Johnson, Chapters 7 and 8 
2. McNeece & DiNitto, Chapter 5 
3. Buelow & Buelow, Chapter 2 

Week 7 Mid-Term Exam 

Week 8 Substance Abuse Prevention and Control 
Substance Abuse Treatment System 
Readings: 
1. McNeece & DiNitto, Chapters 6, 7, & 8 
2. Johnson, Chapter 9 
Video: Moyers on Addiction: Getting Help 

Week 9 Case Conceptualization and Treatment Planning 
Readings:  Buelow & Buelow, Chapter 3 

Week 10 Treatment Strategies 
Readings: 
1. Johnson, Chapter 10 
2. Buelow & Buelow, Chapters 4 and 5 
Handout on Harm Reduction 

Week 11 Relapse and Relapse Prevention 
Readings:  Buelow and Buelow, Chapter 4
Week 12  Co-Morbid Diagnosis and Treatment
Readings:
1. McNeece & DiNitto, Chapter 13
2. Handout on Co-Morbidity

Week 13  Substance Abuse Treatment with Sexual Minorities
          Substance Abuse Treatment with Elderly People
Readings:
1. Johnson, Chapter 11
2. McNeece and DiNitto, Chapters 11 and 14

Week 14  Substance Abuse and Gender
Reading: McNeece & DiNitto, Chapter 15

Finals Week – Final Exam