



## Course Syllabus

Title of Course: ***Medical & Psychosocial Aspects of Substance Use Disorders***  
(3 credits)

Course N. **COU 658/HRE 318**  
Class Dates: May – August 2014

**Instructor:** Kate Speck, PhD, MAC, LADC  
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### I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

This course provides an understanding of basic pharmacology and physiology, as well as medical and psychosocial characteristics of substance use disorders and will examine the physical, psychological, and sociological aspects of alcohol and drug use, abuse, and dependence. A basic understanding of alcohol, cocaine, opiates, hallucinogens, barbiturates, amphetamines, designer drugs, marijuana, and inhalants and their effect on the human system is provided. The course exposes students to the etiological, behavioral, cultural, and demographic aspects of alcohol and drug use, abuse, and addiction. Students will examine their belief system about drug and alcohol use and will review the processes of addiction/dependence, including the signs, symptoms, and behavior patterns. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to differentiate and describe the different categories, of drugs and will be able to identify the signs, symptoms, and behavior patterns of addiction. (3)

### II. Prerequisite(s):

Permission of the Instructor

### III. Course Integrated into Focus area:

Mental Health Focus	Addictions Focus	School Counseling Focus
Elective	Required	Elective

### IV. Course as Relates to External Requirements

LMHP	LADC	NDE Endorsement
	Required	

MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING

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## **V. Course as Relates to External Standards**

### **CACREP Standards (2009)**

#### **FOUNDATIONS A. Knowledge**

1. Understands the history, philosophy, and trends in addiction counseling.
2. Understands ethical and legal considerations specifically related to the practice of addiction counseling.
3. Knows the roles, functions, and settings of addiction counselors, as well as the relationship between addiction counselors and other mental health professionals.
4. Knows the professional organizations, competencies, preparation standards, and state credentials relevant to the practice of addiction counseling.
5. Understands a variety of models and theories of addiction related to substance use and other addictions.
6. Knows the behavioral, psychological, physical health, and social effects of psychoactive substances and addictive disorders on the user and significant others.
7. Recognizes the potential for addictive disorders to mimic a variety of medical and psychological disorders and the potential for medical and psychological disorders to coexist with addiction and substance abuse.
8. Understands factors that increase the likelihood for a person, community, or group to be at risk for or resilient to psychoactive substance use disorders.
9. Understands the impact of crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events on persons with addictions.
10. Understands the operation of an emergency management system within addiction agencies and in the community.

#### **B. Skills and Practice**

1. Demonstrates the ability to apply and adhere to ethical and legal standards in addiction counseling.
2. Applies knowledge of substance abuse policy, financing, and regulatory processes to improve service delivery opportunities in addictions counseling.

#### **COUNSELING, PREVENTION, AND INTERVENTION C. Knowledge**

1. Knows the principles of addiction education, prevention, intervention, and consultation.
2. Knows the models of treatment, prevention, recovery, relapse prevention, and continuing care for addictive disorders and related problems.
3. Recognizes the importance of family, social networks, and community systems in the treatment and recovery process.
4. Understands the role of spirituality in the addiction recovery process.
5. Knows a variety of helping strategies for reducing the negative effects of substance use, abuse, dependence, and addictive disorders.
6. Understands the principles and philosophies of addiction-related self-help programs.
7. Understands professional issues relevant to the practice of addiction counseling, including recognition, reimbursement, and right to practice.
8. Understands the principles of intervention for persons with addictions during times of

crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events.

**D. Skills and Practices**

1. Uses principles and practices of diagnosis, treatment, and referral of addiction and other mental and emotional disorders to initiate, maintain, and terminate counseling.
2. Individualizes helping strategies and treatment modalities to each client's stage of dependence, change, or recovery.
3. Provides appropriate counseling strategies when working with clients with addiction and co-occurring disorders.

**Nebraska Department of Education Standards: Rule 20**

**NA**

**American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model**

**NA**

**NCATE**

**NA**

**VI. Purposes and Learning Objectives of the Course**

1. The student will explore personal belief systems about drug/alcohol use, abuse, and dependence.
2. The student will examine the physical and psychological aspects of substance use disorders and how drugs affect basic functions of the body and human behavior.
3. The student will identify and describe the six classifications of drugs and the basic pharmacology of various drugs of abuse.
4. The student will review the process of substance abuse and dependency including the symptoms and behavioral aspects of tolerance and withdrawal in the human body in relation to substances.
5. The student will assess the cultural and demographic aspects of alcohol and drug use, abuse, and dependence.

**VII. Course Content or Outline:**

**Class Hours**

**45**

Counselors and Therapists must be prepared to effectively address a variety of substance abuse issues with their clients. Understanding basic pharmacology, and physiology, as well as medical and psychosocial characteristics of substance use disorders is essential to a comprehensive practice. Knowledge of alcohol, cocaine, opiates, hallucinogens, barbiturates, amphetamines, designer drugs, marijuana, and inhalants and their affect on the human system is fundamental in treating an array of presenting problems.

This course has been developed to examine the physical, psychological, and sociological aspects of alcohol and drug use, abuse, and dependence. The course will provide an opportunity for students to examine their belief system about drug and alcohol use and will review the processes of addiction/dependence including the

signs, symptoms, and behavior patterns. Further, the course will cover the basics of drug pharmacology including alcohol; examine the physiology and the effects of drugs and alcohol on the human body; alcohol and drug tolerance. The effects of alcohol and drugs on mechanisms of the brain will be discussed. The course exposes students to the etiological, behavioral, cultural, and demographic aspects of alcohol and drug use, abuse, and addiction.

### **VIII. Textbook(s):**

**Required Text:** Uppers Downers All Arounders - Physical & Mental Effects of Psychoactive Drugs (7<sup>th</sup> Ed.) ISBN: 0926544306 ISBN13: 9780926544307. Darryl S. Inaba & William E. Cohen

Various handouts to be provided by the instructor, Addiction Counseling Competencies: Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes of Professional Practice, and the Treatment Improvement Protocols from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

### **IX. Expectations of Students:**

- A. The student is expected to attend and actively participate in each class
- B. The student is expected to complete the required readings and assignments
- C. The student is expected to demonstrate satisfactory performance on course assignments - selected text readings; complete assigned worksheets; work within a team to develop a quality presentation on an assigned subject; research a local agency to feature the services offered; and complete an assignment on a personal philosophy of addiction.
- D. The student is expected to respond to a variety of skill assessment techniques.
- E. The student is expected to know about and use a variety of research methods to gather current information
- F. The student is expected to know about legal issues and ethical standards in counseling
- G. The student is expected to know about social/cultural contexts, basic theoretical content to be identified from other courses

### **X. Basis for Student Evaluation:**

- A. Course attendance (25%)
- B. Completion of Course assignments – selected readings, worksheets. (25%)
- C. Graduate quality course assignments (25%)
- D. Graduate quality class participation (25%)

Final letter grade:

95% to 100% = A  
85% to 94% = B  
75% to 84% = C  
0% to 74% = F

**[NOTE:** The section "Basis for Student Evaluation" is given as a general guideline. Course assignments and the exact final letter grade are at the discretion of the instructor. Each instructor will include assignment of information and grading procedure in this section in the specific course syllabus posted on the web site and handed out at the beginning of each semester.]

**XI. Methods of Instruction: A combination of:**

- A. Classroom lectures and discussion; presentations.
- B. Classroom experiential exercises and student involvement in course activities
- C. Web-assisted, Blackboard, instructions, assignments, worksheets
- D. This will be an interactive course that includes an elevated level of classroom participation, including lecture and instruction, guest speakers, videos, case studies, and student presentations

**XII. Academic Policy Statement** Doane College values academic integrity (honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility) and recognizes that individuals can achieve their maximum potential and contribute appropriately to the well-being of the larger community only if they recognize the ethical dimensions of decisions and actions. The college assumes all members of the academic community will exhibit academic integrity supporting student access, academic quality, academic rigor, innovation and collegiality. Plagiarism and cheating are examples of behaviors that do not meet this value.

**XIII. Students with Disabilities Statement** Any student who feels she/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact MAC Assistant Dean Jean Kilnoski, 402 466-4774 ext. 321 or [jean.kilnoski@doane.edu](mailto:jean.kilnoski@doane.edu) to confidentially discuss specific needs and to coordinate reasonable accommodations for documented disabilities.

**XIV. Civility, Respect and Classroom Etiquette:** Respect for presenters, other students and the instructor is required. **Cell Phones:** The class will discuss handling cell phone calls during class and come to consensus on a procedure. **Texting:** Please refrain from text messaging during class as it is unprofessional. Personal computers have limited application in this course.

**XV. Counselor Dispositions:** Under Development

**XVI. Knowledge Base References:** Course Text, NIDA, SAMSHA, National Addiction Technology Transfer Center, various websites and resource handouts.

**XVII. Course Schedule:** The course meetings will be held on Monday evenings 6:00 – 10:30 PM