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CNSK 1410: Assessment Practices-Community

EFFECTIVE DATE

January 2021

DEPARTMENT

Counselling Skills

DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the basics of conducting a clinical assessment and using the information gathered to respond appropriately to client issues and needs. Explores treatment planning, including referrals in the general community counselling field. Topics include community resources; legal, ethical, confidentiality, and record-keeping issues; risk assessment and management; and major mental disorders including substance misuse, concurrent disorders, suicide, domestic violence, and trauma. Prerequisites: Individual Counselling Skills-Community (CNSK 1405); Foundations of Counselling (CNSK 1402); and (completed or taken concurrently) Diversity, Culture and Counselling (CNSK 1407).

CREDITS

3.0

YEAR OF STUDY

PREREQUISITES

None

COREQUISITES

None

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the role of assessment in the counselling process
- Explain the purposes and goals of assessment
- Distinguish between counselling and assessment interviews
- Summarize how the counselling and assessment processes are integrated
- Distinguish between assessment and diagnosis
- Demonstrate an ability to recognize and manage risk
- Collect information from an individual relevant to the purpose of assessment
- Identify client basic needs, readiness for change, strengths

- Explain the factors involved in assessing for clinical issues such as suicide risk, psychiatric/emotional problems, child abuse/ family violence and substance misuse
- Apply the knowledge of addiction and mental health disorders to the assessment and referral process
- Demonstrate the skills needed to conduct a variety of assessments, e.g. intake, mental disorders and substance mis-use screening
- Describe the dynamics of a crisis situation and be familiar with appropriate intervention
- Explain and demonstrate when and how to make an appropriate referral
- Recognize the major clinical issues often seen in community agency clients: psychosis, depression, anxiety, suicide, domestic violence, & trauma.
- Explain the systemic, legal and ethical issues that arise in the assessment/referral process, including labelling, confidentiality, consent and counsellor competence
- Identify appropriate resources for a client based on a counselling assessment
- Demonstrate client information management skills

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT & RECOGNITION (PLAR)

VCC - Assessment and Referral and Community Resources (CNSK 1108) -taken during or after the September, 2008 term Justice Institute - Assessment Practices AD403 and Concurrent Disorders Planning Level One AD410 plus Challenge Assignment At the discretion of the program coordinator

HOURS

Lecture: 39

Other: 6

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade (A-F)

PASSING GRADE

60%

EVALUATION PLAN

Type	Percentage	Assessment activity
Assignments	60	Assessment interview. Community Resources Presentation
Project	20	Case Analysis
Participation	5	

Other	15	Instructor Student Interview
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COURSE TOPICS

- General Issues in Assessment
- Framework for Case Conceptualization
- Disease & Recovery Model
- Assessment versus Counselling
- Diagnosis versus Counselling
- Goal Setting and its role in the assessment interview
- Types & Tools of assessment
- Risk & Crisis Management
- Classification of Mental Disorders
- Intake Screening
- BPSS Assessment of Depression
- Substance Misuse Disorders
- Trans-theoretical Model of Change
- Post-Acute Withdrawal Syndrome
- Overview of Concurrent Disorders
- Understanding Depression, Anxiety Disorders, Suicide
- Domestic Violence
- Making referrals
- Treatment Readiness
- Community Resources
- Legal & Ethical Issues
- Record Keeping
- Special Populations – Eating Disorders, FASD, Personality Disorders, PTSD

LEARNING RESOURCES

None

Notes:

- Course contents and descriptions, offerings and schedules are subject to change without notice.
- Students are required to follow all College policies including ones that govern their educational experience at VCC. Policies are available on the VCC website at:
<https://www.vcc.ca/about/governance--policies/policies/>.

- To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at <https://www.bctransferguide.ca>.

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