



CNSK 1411: Assessment Practices-Addiction

EFFECTIVE DATE

January 2021

DEPARTMENT

Counselling Skills

DESCRIPTION

Introduces students to the basic skills of conducting proper clinical assessments and using the information gathered to respond appropriately to client issues and needs. Explores treatment planning, including referrals in the addiction community counselling field. Topics include addiction community resources; legal, ethical, confidentiality, and record-keeping issues; risk assessment and management; major mental disorders including substance misuse; concurrent disorders; suicide; domestic violence; and trauma. Prerequisite: Individual Counselling Skills-Addiction (CNSK 1406), Foundations of Counselling (CNSK 1402); and (completed or taken concurrently) Diversity, Culture and Counselling CNSK (1407) and Addiction and Human Behaviour (CNSK 1415).

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 to self and others
- Collect information from an individual relevant to the purpose of assessment and referral
- 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
- Explain the dynamics of a crisis situation and be familiar with appropriate intervention
- Explain and demonstrate when and how to make an appropriate referral
- Identify where to research for appropriate referral resources
- Explain the current alcohol and drug system of care; its components, referral procedures and services provided.
- Recognize the major clinical issues often seen in community agency clients: medical concerns, 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, conflict of interest, 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 for Substance Abuse (SUAB 1106) if taken during or after the April 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	
Project	20	

Other	15	
Participation	5	

COURSE TOPICS

- General Issues in Assessment: Assessment versus Counselling
- Framework for Case Conceptualization
- Disease & Recovery Model
- 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
- Advocacy
- Treatment Readiness
- Community Resources
- Legal & Ethical Issues
- Record Keeping

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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