



v c c . c a

CNSK 2506: Addiction and Human Behaviour Across the Lifespan

EFFECTIVE DATE

January 2021

DEPARTMENT

Counselling Skills

DESCRIPTION

This course provides students with an overview of addictive substances and behaviours and the physiological and psychological effects on the body and the mind across the lifespan. The course will examine unique considerations of addictive problems among adolescents, young adults, those in mid-life, and the elderly.

CREDITS

3.0

YEAR OF STUDY

2nd Year Post-secondary

PREREQUISITES

None

COREQUISITES

None

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Identify the biological, psychological and social factors that contribute to the occurrence of substance misuse and other addictive behaviours
- Use a classification system for grouping psychoactive drugs according to their effects
- Define key concepts used in pharmacology to explain the action of psychoactive drugs
- Explain the psychological and physiological effects of substance use at specific developmental points across the lifespan
- Describe the structure and function of the brain as it relates to substance mis-use and other addictive behaviours

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT & RECOGNITION (PLAR)

PLAR will be assessed by the Department according to standardized practice and using one or more of the following components: Challenge Exam, Demonstration, Interview, or External Evaluation.

HOURS

Lecture: 45

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Lecture, videos, small/large group discussion/work, reflective exercises, reflective writing, case studies, readings, guest speakers

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade (A-F)

PASSING GRADE

C (60%)

EVALUATION PLAN

Type	Percentage	Assessment activity
Assignments	20	Research paper
Assignments	20	Resource review
Quizzes/Tests	25	
Final Exam	25	
Participation	10	Participation and professionalism

COURSE TOPICS

- Overview and historical context of substance use
- Overview of lifespan development
- Heredity and biology
- Stimulants
- Sedatives
- Alcohol
- Psychedelics

- Anabolic steroids and Nicotine
- Process addictions
- Eating disorders
- Pre-natal development and infancy and substance use
- Adolescence and substance use
- Middle adulthood and Elder substance use
- Mental health and addictions

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>.

Broadway campus

1155 East Broadway
Vancouver, B.C. Canada
V5T 4V5

Downtown campus

250 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. Canada
V6B 1S9

Annacis Island campus

1608 Cliveden Avenue
Delta, B.C. Canada
V3M 6P1

604.871.7000

VCC.ca

Generated at: 3:37 pm on Apr. 11, 2021