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CNSK 2511: Practicum

EFFECTIVE DATE

January 2021

DEPARTMENT

Counselling Skills

DESCRIPTION

This course provides students the opportunity to put the skills and theories they have learned into practice in social service settings. With a focus on empathy, ethical practice, and self-awareness, students engage directly with clients to solidify their learning. The practicum includes two components; a practicum placement in a community agency and a classroom component on campus.

CREDITS

5.0

YEAR OF STUDY

2nd Year Post-secondary

PREREQUISITES

CNSK 2502 Foundations of Addiction Counselling Skills CNSK 2503 Introduction to Trauma Informed Practice
CNSK 2504 Introduction to Concurrent Disorders CNSK 2506 Addiction and Human Behaviour Across the
Lifespan CNSK 2507 Addiction and Public Policy CNSK 2508 Addiction Assessment Skills CNSK 2509 Group
Facilitation Skills CNSK 2510 Indigenous Perspectives and Addiction

COREQUISITES

None

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Use empathetic approaches when working with individuals struggling with problematic substance use
- Demonstrate emotional awareness and self-regulation when working in an addiction's based setting
- Demonstrate ethical behaviour and practice in an addiction's based setting
- Apply the values of inclusion and social justice in an addiction's based setting
- Engage in a support role with clients in individual, family, and group settings
- Demonstrate trauma-informed practice in a professional support role

- Communicate effectively with a client-centred approach
- Apply evidence-based tools learned throughout the program when working with individuals struggling with problematic substance use
- Support Indigenous health models and cultural safety, particularly as these apply to addictions

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT & RECOGNITION (PLAR)

None

HOURS

Lecture: 16

Practicum: 135

Other: 135

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

At an approved workplace/agency setting, students work under direct supervision of an approved agency supervisor. Once they are familiar with the practicum placement's policies and procedures, students participate in direct client support in individual or groups settings. Students may also attend agency case conferences and perform other related duties to support their learning. In seminars, instructional strategies include: presentations, group discussion/work, reflective practice, videos, and peer and instructor feedback.

GRADING SYSTEM

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

PASSING GRADE

S

EVALUATION PLAN

Type	Percentage	Assessment activity
Practicum		Midterm practicum assessment (S if complete, U if incomplete)
Practicum		Final practicum assessment (students must achieve at least 3/4 on all competencies to receive an S)
Assignments		Ethical dilemma (S/U based on 60% passing grade)
Assignments		Case study (S/U based on 60% passing grade)\n\n
Assignments		Video presentation (S/U based on rubric)

		Students must achieve a satisfactory grade on all evaluations in order to be successful in the course
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COURSE TOPICS

- Preparation for a support position in an addiction setting (including choice of placement site, letters of application, phone and face-to-face interview techniques, etc.)
- Workplace/agency policies, guidelines, norms, and culture
- Exploration of ethical dilemmas
- Student-led case study discussions
- Practicum experience debriefing
- “In the field” vs in the program
- Self-care, self-regulation, and self-awareness
- Professional boundaries
- Group dynamics
- Feedback and group discussions arising from teachable moments

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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