

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

COURSE TITLE: Topics in Behavioral Sciences: Addictive Behavior

COURSE NUMBER: PSY 463

I. RATIONALE:

Chemical Dependency invades the very fabric of our society and affects all walks of life. With the national average of incidence of alcoholism being 1 out of 10 persons, there is a great chance the student's life has or will be affected by substance abuse. This course will reflect current research, statistics of abuse and dependence, pharmacological side effects and current treatment trends in the alcohol and drug abuse counseling field.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:

The student will understand clinical concepts central to substances-abuse and dependence problems.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- A-1 Define drug abuse and dependence.
- A-2 Discuss epidemiology.
- A-3 Discuss overview of CNS depressants, stimulants, opiate analgesics, cannabis, hallucinogens, glues, solvents, etc.
- A-4 Discuss withdrawal, psychosis, and flashbacks in general terms.

GOAL B:

Students will understand the effect of the following categories: central nervous system depressants, stimulants, opiates, cannabis, hallucinogens, PCP, glues, solvents aerosols, over the counter and prescription drugs, caffeine, nicotine, and multi-drug use.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- B-1 Discuss pharmacology of each category.
- B-2 Discuss epidemiology of each category.
- B-3 Discuss toxic reactions of each category.
- B-4 Discuss drug withdrawal syndrome of each category.

GOAL C:

The student will understand drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- C-1 Discuss some general rules of rehabilitation, i.e. inpatient treatment vs. intensive outpatient programs.
- C-2 Discuss confrontation.
- C-3 Discuss enhancing motivation
- C-4 Discuss 12 step programs, behavioral approaches, and pharmacological approaches.

GOAL D:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of prevention approaches.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- D-1 Describe primary prevention.
- D-2 Describe secondary prevention.
- D-3 Describe tertiary prevention.
- D-4 Give examples of each.

GOAL E:

The student will use appropriate written and oral communications skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- E-1 Communicating information orally in a logical and grammatical manner.
- E-2 Present written information using standard APA style.