

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

**College of Education
Department of Counseling, Special Education, and Child Development**

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COURSE NUMBER CSLG 6161 **CREDIT HOURS** (3)

COURSE TITLE Chemical Dependence: Assessment and Diagnosis

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Rationale, process, and procedures for professional biopsychosocial assessment and diagnosis of substance abuse and dependence in adolescents and adults are studied. Implications of chemical dependence for clients and their families are addressed.

COURSE PREREQUISITES Post-bac or graduate status

COURSE COREQUISITES None

COURSE RATIONALE AND RELATIONSHIP TO CURRENT PROGRAMS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

UNC Charlotte offers students the opportunity to meet requirements for certification as Substance Abuse Counselors as established by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Certification Board and by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). This instruction also is offered to those students who do not plan to become substance abuse counselors but who will benefit from having knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, and professional response to substance dependence in adolescents and adults whom they encounter. The use of standard screening and diagnosis tools and application of results of related research are taught.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course, the successful student will be able to:

- evaluate, for the purposes of treating or referring, clients who may abuse or be dependent on alcohol and/or other drugs.
- screen clients for appropriateness for admission to substance abuse treatment programs.
- identify and evaluate clients' strengths, limitations, problems, and needs for use in substance abuse treatment plans.
- exhibit knowledge of the fundamentals of report and record keeping, including being able to chart assessment data related to substance abuse.
- interact with other professionals to assure immediate care for substance abuse clients.
- demonstrate awareness of the implications of sociocultural, demographic, and lifestyle diversity relevant to substance abuse counseling.

- demonstrate knowledge of client characteristics of individuals served by institutions, agencies, and programs offering substance abuse counseling services.

COURSE CONTENT

- Overview of biopsychosocial theories of etiology of chemical dependence
- DSM-IV (1994) descriptions and discussions of substance-related disorders
- Differential diagnoses
- DSM-IV Case Book (1994) studies
- Screening and assessment instruments
- Dual diagnoses
- Assessing and diagnosing special populations

ILLUSTRATIVE COURSE ACTIVITIES

- required readings
- guest speakers
- group projects
- interviews with practicing professional substance abuse counselor
- computerized screening and assessment

ILLUSTRATIVE METHODS FOR EVALUATING STUDENT PERFORMANCE

- midterm exam
- final exam
- group project
- interview typescript and reaction
- computer project