

MA IN ADDICTION COUNSELING

AP 6021 PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN COUNSELING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

2 US CREDITS

The course cultivates professional awareness and introduces issues related to reflective practice. It covers such areas as professionalism, legal issues, statutes, administrative rules, and standards for practitioners in counseling and applied developmental psychology. It stresses the importance of recognizing one's professional limitations, making referrals in any area(s) considered outside the boundaries of one's professional capabilities.

AP 6045 ADVANCED PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

3 US CREDITS

The purpose of this course is to review and comprehensively examine the scientific evidence related to issues of description, classification and academic study of human mental distress. The course explores various theoretical approaches and evidence-based information about the cause and course of the various disorders.

The course reviews major clinical conditions of adulthood. After defining the term of psychopathology, as well as exploring the differentiation between normality and abnormality, all psychopathological syndromes will be reviewed. The course explores current theoretical, etiological, and therapeutic viewpoints. The clinical diagnostic criteria as these are stressed in the diagnostic manuals DSM-IV-TR and ICD-10 will be elaborated, as well as the criteria for a meaningful differential diagnosis.

AP 6046 PSYCHOLOGY OF ADDICTIONS

2 US CREDITS

This course introduces students to theories, techniques, and relevant research associated with the Psychology of Addiction. It surveys various aspects of addiction, namely substance abuse, eating disorders, gambling, self-injury, "love" addictions, and the Internet addiction encompassing both didactic and experiential approaches to addiction. It reviews DSM-IV diagnosis, assessment measures, treatment planning, and the application of empirically validated techniques to clinical situations focusing on addiction.

AP 6059 PRINCIPLES OF COUNSELING AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

3 US CREDITS

The course examines the philosophy, main theories, practices, and principles of counseling and psychotherapy. Topics include the counseling relationship, assessment and referral procedures, brief and long-term approaches, and legal, ethical, and diversity issues. The course involves both didactic and experiential learning modes and is designed to provide a bridge from theory to professional practice. An essential goal is to affect the awareness, knowledge base, and application of techniques, and to help the student determine career goals and assume professional ethical standards, roles, and responsibilities. Methods used include group interaction, self disclosure, case studies, and role-playing. All experiential techniques aim at increasing self-awareness and thus enhancing the prospective counselor's listening and guidance skills, as well as the ability for empathy and understanding.

AP 6062 PREVENTION THEORIES AND APPLICATIONS

2 US CREDITS

This course provides a comprehensive overview of substance abuse prevention theories and prevention programming applications, science-based prevention strategies and model programs, strategic planning and outcome evaluation from a multidisciplinary perspective. It introduces students to relevant research associated with primary, secondary and tertiary prevention and the role of counselor in preventive interventions in school, mental health services or community settings. It also focuses on relapse prevention by examining the triggers to relapse and the dynamics of recovery from substance abuse and other addictions. All topics regarding prevention are being analyzed from a cultural, social, clinical and individual point of view.

AP 6063 NEUROBIOLOGY OF ADDICTION**3 US CREDITS**

The course is designed to provide an overview of the physiological effects of psychoactive substances as well as basic information regarding different neurobiological theories of the etiology and nature of substance dependency. It includes the basic principles of drug action as well as comprehensive coverage of the major classes of drugs (opioids, stimulants, nicotine, alcohol, sedatives, cannabis, hallucinogens). Emphasis is also given to the mechanisms of action, effects and pharmacokinetics as well as tolerance and dependence for each of these drugs/drug classes. Physiological processes and reactions activated in behavioral addictions are also examined.

AP 6064 BEHAVIORAL ADDICTIONS**3 US CREDITS**

This course reviews the major theories, techniques, and research associated with the behavioral addictions (gambling, sexual and love addiction, food addiction and eating disorders, internet addiction, compulsive buying, compulsive productivity/workaholism). Furthermore, It investigates their relationship with substance and alcohol abuse from a neurobiological, psychosocial and clinical point of view. Diagnostic issues, deriving from the new classification of behavioral addictions which is proposed by the forthcoming fifth edition of the American Psychiatric Association Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM V), are also being discussed, while the controversies in the field of relevant research and an array of treatment approaches are presented, placing special emphasis on individual and group counseling techniques, preventive interventions and relapse prevention and recovery.

AP 6065 HISTORY OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MODELS OF TREATMENT**3 US CREDITS**

This course is designed to acquaint students with the concept that the use of consciousness altering substances is not new in our society. The way various substances have been used and the ways different societies have tried to regulate their use will be examined. The course will also review the main treatment models, their origins, development and effectiveness.

AP 6066 EVIDENCE BASED TREATMENT PROTOCOLS IN ADDICTION**3 US CREDITS**

This course will introduce students to evidence-based practice in the field of substance abuse treatment. The course will present current evidence-based treatment protocols for interventions with adolescent and adult clients.

AP 6067 FAMILY, GROUP COUNSELING AND SUPPORT GROUPS IN ADDICTION 3 US CREDITS

This course brings together addiction, substance abuse and family systems approaches. It identifies the addictive and intergenerational patterns within families and encourages students to reflect upon family and group dynamics and their influence in the addiction process.

AP 6568 COUNSELING FIELDWORK**4 US CREDITS****Prerequisites**

AP 6039 Principles of Counseling

AP 6045 Advanced Psychopathology

AP 6046 Psychology of Addictions

AP 6021 Professional and Ethical Issues

And

AP 6066 Evidence Based treatment Protocols in Addiction or

AP 6067 Family, Group Counseling and Support Groups in Addiction or

AP 6062 Prevention Theories and Applications

Students wishing to undertake fieldwork in counseling addiction have to complete all prerequisite courses and apply to the faculty for permission to register for fieldwork. In addition students wishing to begin their fieldwork have to complete at least 50% of the required personal therapy hours.

Fieldwork is designed much like a practicum and provides students with a structured opportunity to gain real-world, hands-on experience in an addiction counseling setting. It allows students to apply concepts and practices learned in coursework as they assist in professional-level work under the formal guidance from a qualified supervisor.

Students typically pursue tasks and projects that constitute entry-level professional work. In addition, since fieldwork is meant to be a learning opportunity for students, fieldwork tasks usually involve skills and knowledge that the student has already begun to develop through coursework but for which the student has not yet developed a high level of expertise.

Finally the taught component of the class helps students develop case conceptualization skills by integrating theoretical knowledge and applying it to real case material for treatment planning and evaluation. Topics examined through the consultation process include: case conceptualization, professional development, peer supervision, quality assurance, legal and ethical considerations, institutional dynamics.

AP 6569 CAPSTONE PROJECT

4 US CREDITS

Prerequisites

AP 6039 Principles of Counseling

AP 6021 Professional and Ethical Issues

AP 6046 Psychology of Addictions

AP 6066 Evidence Based Treatment Protocols in Addiction

And

AP 6023 Qualitative Research or

AP 6043 Analysis and Interpretation of Behavioral Data

From the graduate psychology area

Student must complete a capstone project after completing all coursework. The capstone project must convey scholarly and/or professional analysis informed by sustained and appropriate application of methodology. The capstone is a significant analytical piece of work: it represents work of a higher standard of what is normally expected from a term paper and provides an opportunity for students to draw on their methodological, analytical and substantive learning in a comprehensive written study.