Course Description:
This graduate course presents substance abuse studies, individual and group counseling and family systems approaches to prevention and intervention. The course provides an overview of 1) models, 2) assessment instruments to identify addictive behavior, 3) methods and 4) skills for treating addictions and 4) collaborating with other health professionals. The course presents clinical models (developmental, solution-focused, biopsychosocial, motivational interviewing, stages of change, self-help) from which interventions are drawn. Emphasis is on building community and preventing relapse.

Instructor's Statement: This course will involve the study of current information and decision-making skills related to the substance abuse field. In teaching this course, I have two primary objectives: (a) to help you develop an understanding and awareness of the specific knowledge and skills related to working with this specialty area, (b) to develop decision-making skills related to techniques and interventions used to deal with substance abuse issues. The format of the class requires your active participation in all aspects of the class including readings, discussions, and activities. Please contact me as soon as possible if you have special needs or problems with an assignment.

Textbook

Methods of Instruction
Online format

Objectives:

Course objectives are derived from CACREP standards so that at completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the following:

- Theories (including the disease concept) and etiology of addictions.
- Substance use disorders and process addiction, and recovery processes.
- Biopsychosocial approach to assessment and counseling.
- Screening/assessment instruments for substance use disorders and process addictions.
- Application of stage of dependence, change, recovery to determine appropriate treatment modality and placement criteria within the continuum of care.
- Appropriate counseling strategies when working with co-occurring disorders.
- Appropriate use of culturally responsive systems modalities for counseling.
- Commonly prescribed psychopharmacological medications and side effects.
- Importance of family, social networks and community systems in treatment.
### Student learning outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard #</th>
<th>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Learning Activities &amp; Experiences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMHC-I-1</td>
<td>Research &amp; Evaluation – Knowledge</td>
<td>Understands how to critically evaluate research relevant to the practice of clinical mental health counseling</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Analyzing quantitative research articles assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>II-G-3-g</td>
<td>Human Growth &amp; Development</td>
<td>Knows theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors, including strategies for prevention, intervention, and treatment</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Take Home Exams/Role Plays/Assignments/Projects/Experiential activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMHC-C-4</td>
<td>Counseling, Prevention &amp; Intervention – Knowledge</td>
<td>Knows the disease concept and etiology of addiction and co-occurring disorders</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Assignments/Take Home Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMHC-C-8</td>
<td>Counseling, Prevention &amp; Intervention – Knowledge</td>
<td>Recognizes the importance of family, social networks, and community systems in the treatment of mental and emotional disorders</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Role Plays/Assignments/Experiential activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMHC-D-5</td>
<td>Counseling, Prevention &amp; Intervention – Knowledge</td>
<td>Demonstrates appropriate use of culturally responsive individual, couple, family, group, and systems modalities for initiating, maintaining, and terminating counseling</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Assignments/Experiential activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMHC-D-8</td>
<td>Counseling, Prevention &amp; Intervention – Knowledge</td>
<td>Provides appropriate counseling strategies when working with clients with addiction and co-occurring disorders</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Assignments/Role Plays/Experiential activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMHC-G-3</td>
<td>Assessment - Knowledge</td>
<td>Understands basic classifications, indications, and contraindications of commonly prescribed psychopharmacological medications so that appropriate referrals can be made for medication evaluations and so that the side effects of such medications can be identified</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Assignments/Experiential activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMHC-G-4</td>
<td>Assessment - Knowledge</td>
<td>Identifies standard screening and assessment instruments for substance use disorders and process addictions</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Assignments/ Take Home Exams/Experiential activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMHC-H-4</td>
<td>Assessment – Skills &amp; Practices</td>
<td>Applies the assessment of a client’s stage of dependence, change, or recovery to determine the appropriate treatment modality and placement criteria within the continuum of care</td>
<td>Lectures, discussions &amp; course readings; Assignments/ Take Home Exams/Experiential activities</td>
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### Evaluation

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation/Weekly Assignments</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstinence Experience and Journal</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance of a 12-Step Meeting &amp; Report</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment Facility Site Visit/Interview</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Reading Journal</td>
<td>100</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS

1. Examination (500 points)

2. Participation/Weekly Assignments (300 points)
   - Assignments
   - Discussion Board

3. Abstinence Experience and Journal (100 points):

4. Attendance of a 12-Step Meeting & Report (100 points):

5. Treatment Facility Site Visit/Interview (100 points)

6. Online Journal (100 points)

Other Policies

Academic Honesty

It is expected that all work you complete for this course is your own. You are expected to include appropriate citations (when applicable) in all of your work for this course. The University policy for academic misconduct will be followed. Academic misconduct includes the following behaviors: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating any such act. The following definitions apply:

- **Plagiarism** – the adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one’s own without proper acknowledgement.
- **Cheating** – using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.
- **Fabrication** – unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **Facilitation** – helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic misconduct.

Confidentiality
Being involved in class discussion and small groups usually entails some amount of personal self-disclosure. Because of the nature of vulnerability, trust, and openness needed to learn about counseling, it is extremely important that confidentiality be maintained. Revealing personal information others have shared is a breach of confidentiality and is unethical. If you would like to share with others regarding your experiences, please reveal only your own reactions and understandings, and avoid using names or identifying features of your classmates. It is expected that any person participating in a demonstration, role-play, or group activity will have their confidentiality respected.

**Professional Organizations**

The MTSU Professional Counseling Program strongly recommends that you obtain membership in the American Counseling Association (ACA), American School Counselor Association (ASCA), the Tennessee Licensed Professional Counselors Association (TLPCA), and/or the Tennessee Counseling Association (TCA). Student memberships are available at a reduced rate, and allow you to become actively involved in local, state, and national activities, which serve to enhance your professional repertoire.

**MTSU Professional Counseling Program Dispositions**

Students in the Professional Counseling Program are required to demonstrate program Dispositions (being collaborative, ethical, professional, reflective, self-directed, and critical-thinking students) in this class and in all other academic and professional endeavors. Information regarding demonstration of these dispositions may be communicated to program faculty to be used as a component of the faculty’s continuous evaluation of student progress. (See Professional Counseling Program Handbook at [http://www.mtsu.edu/~psych/counsel.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~psych/counsel.htm) for details).

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If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodations, or if you have any questions related to any accommodation for testing, note taking, reading, etc., please speak with me as soon as possible. You may also contact the Office of Disabled Services (615.898.2783) with any questions about such services.