Alexandria Technical and Community College

PSYC 2436: Psychology of Addictions

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: *.*
OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: This course requires any of these three prerequisites
   READ 0900 - College Prep Reading (Minimum grade: 2.0 GPA Equivalent and Number of Years Valid: 5)
   Reading College Level
   A score of 2 on test Reading

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal area 5. The course will focus on the addictive personality and the process of addictive disorders. To understand its complicated nature as a disease, the course will focus on popular models of addiction as developed by current experts. We will examine up to date research on several disorders including chemical and substance addictions (alcohol, drugs, food) and other behavioral addictions (gambling and sex). Specific topics to be covered include the stages and characteristics of addiction, its course, prevalence, and familial patterns, and symptoms of addictive disorders. We will also examine various treatment approaches including effective strategies. Prerequisite: College level reading score on a placement test or a minimum grade of "C" in College Prep Reading (READ0900).

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/27/2007 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Describe factors that contribute to the development of an addictive personality.
2. Describe the concept and process of relapse.
3. Discuss the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions of addiction.
4. Discuss various prevention methods.
5. Identify obstacles to treatment along with plausible solutions.
6. Identify the major approaches used in the treatment of addiction.
7. Identify the various types of interventions that precede entry into treatment programs.
8. List key constructs in treating the addictive personality.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. The learner will pass assessment tests and assignments related to the prevention and treatment of addictive behaviors.
2. The learner will pass assessment tests and assignments related to the causes and processes of addiction.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
2. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted