

ADDICTION SYLLABI
PSYCH 219
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a basic introductory course on addictions. Students will be introduced to the various types of addictions; the value of support groups and programs such as Al-Anon; explore the causes and effects of addiction; learn about different treatment approaches, recovery and relapse; study the history of Alcoholics Anonymous and the significance of the twelve steps; learn intervention strategies; and understand the impact addiction has on family and society.

TEXT: “The Addictive Personality” by Craig Nakken

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will learn and understand various theories that may explain the causes of addiction through lecture, text, speakers, tours, tape and test.
- Students will learn and understand the implications addiction has from a cultural, gender and family genetic perspective through lecture, text, speakers, tours, tape and examination.
- Students will gain an awareness and understanding of how addictive behavior impacts family, business, community, and society through lecture, text, speakers, tours, tape and examination.
- Students will gain an awareness and understanding of treatment, recovery and relapse through lecture, text, speakers, tours, tape and examination.
- Students will gain an awareness and understanding of support groups, the history of Alcoholics Anonymous, and the significance of the 12 Steps of AA through lecture, speakers, tours, text, tapes and examination.
- Students will learn the various types of addiction through lecture, speakers, text, tours, tape and examination.
- Students will learn the types of legal and illegal drugs and their chemical implications on the brain and body through lecture, speakers, text, tours, tape and examination.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

- Prior to class, students need to have the text read and be prepared to discuss it. It will be an important resource for the class and final exam.
- Students will work in groups and examine an addiction of their choice, and present their findings the seventh week of class through PowerPoint. Students will discuss why they chose that addiction and give a historical perspective of it; detail the causes and effects on the individual, family and society; discuss effective intervention and treatment strategies; and share some ideas on the process of recovery and prevention of relapse.
- Students will do 7 journals. They need to be a minimum of 1-page. They can be handwritten and no points will be lost for grammar. 5 points will be lost if the 1-page minimum is not met. Journals are to be a reflection of what the student learned that was helpful and meaningful to the student's learning experience.
- Students will take a 35-point final exam the last class session. The exam will be over the information learned from the text, lecture, speakers and tapes. No notes.

GRADING:

A 100-point grading system will be used. The point totals are as follows: 35 points for the final exam, 20 points for the research project and PowerPoint presentation, 10 points for the learning journals, and 35 points for attendance, participation and taking of notes. The following scale will be used: 93-100=A; 91-92=A-; 89-90=B+; 85-88=B; 83-84=B-; 81-82=C+; 77-80=C; 75-76=C-; 73-74=D+; 71-72=D; 70=D-; and below 70=F.

Work not turned in on time will result in a 6-point loss unless there is an extraordinary circumstance approved by the instructor. If an assignment is not turned in by the last class session, it will not be accepted and 0 points will be assessed to the student's grade.

ATTENDANCE:

The majority of the learning for any course occurs during the class sessions. Therefore, attendance is critical if a student is to take full advantage of all learning experiences. Much of the learning is participatory. Class participation by students is encouraged and valued. It enhances the learning experience. It is understood that there are times when a student will miss a class. Here is how it will be dealt with. For the first absence, the student can read an article from the newspaper, journal or magazine. An interview of a recovery addict or alcoholic can also be done for an absence make-up. Students must do a three-page summary that is typed and double spaced, grammatically correct summary of what the article or interview is about in their own words and how it relates to the course objectives. The source must be cited. It is due by the last class session. If the student chooses not to make up the absence, there will be a loss of 5 points. The second absence will result in a loss of one letter grade. The student will not receive credit for the course if there are three absences.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Students are expected to comply with Doane's academic integrity policy in its entirety.