

COUN 6902 - Theory and Foundation of Addictions Counseling

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40032,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Meghan Fawcett

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Meghan Fawcett, LPCC-S, LICDC-CS, BSP

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Psychological Sciences and Counseling

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

M.S.Ed., Counseling, Youngstown State University (2006)

B.A., Psychology, Youngstown State University (2002)

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Course Description

6902 . Theory and Foundation of Addictions Counseling . This course provides a comprehensive overview of chemical dependency and process addictions. There will be an emphasis on all aspects of addiction, including etiology, classification, physiological effects of substances, theory, assessment, interventions, and recovery models. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	A Contemporary Approach to Substance Use Disorders and Addiction Counseling	Brooks, F., & McHenry, B.	9781394222742
Required	Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior	Hart, C. L., & Ksir, C. J.	9781260711059
Optional	Publication manual of the American Psychological Association	American Psychological Association	9781433832161

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	B&MC Chapters 1, 13 DS&HB None	Introductions, Syllabus review Overview of Substance Use Disorder Counseling, Training and certification. CACREP. AC A 6	
8/31	B&MC Chapter 3 DS&HB Chapters 1 - 5	Etiology and statistics of SUDs Terminology, definitions, and drug classifications. Physiological and neurological impacts of substance use Abstinence Assignment (begins today after class). CACREP. AC A 1, AC A 3	Identify item for abstaining - see abstinence journal
9/7		NO CLASS, LABOR DAY	

9/14	B & Mc: N/A DS&HB: ch. 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16	Tolerance, routes of administration, Overview of substance classes and types, Case study discussion CACREP: AC A 1, AC A 3	Abstinence Journal 1
9/21	B & Mc: ch 5 DS&HB: N/A	Overview of process addictions, Theoretical models of substance use disorders, Case study discussion CACREP: AC A 2, AC A 5, AC A 6	Abstinence Journal 2
9/28	B & Mc: ch 4 DS&HB: ch. 10, 11, 12	Screening, assessment, and diagnosis of substance use disorders: A biopsychosocial-spiritual approach, CACREP: AC A1, AC A 2, AC A 3	Abstinence Journal 3
10/5	B & Mc: ch 6 DS&HB: ch. 8, 17	Screening, assessment, and diagnosis part two, Co-occurring disorders, Treatment planning and placement criteria, Case study discussion, CACREP: AC A 1, AC A 2, AC A 3, AC A 6	Abstinence Journal 4
10/12	B & Mc: ch 7 DS&HB: N/A	Treatment approaches and working with clients-a biopsychosocial-spiritual approach, Working with self-protective clients Counseling skills, Case study discussion CACREP: AC A 5, AC A 6	Abstinence Journal 5 AA/NA Support Group Meeting Paper Due via BB
10/19	B & Mc: ch 10 DS&HB: N/A	Counseling skills part two, Group counseling, Managed care issues, Case study discussion CACREP: AC A4	Abstinence Journal 6
10/26	B & Mc: ch 11, 12 DS&HB: N/A	Relapse and relapse prevention, Recovery and Support Systems, Spirituality and Recovery, Case study discussion CACREP: AC A 4, AC A 5, AC A 6	Abstinence Journal 7
11/2	B & Mc: ch 8, DS&HB: N/A	Working with families impacted by substance use disorders Family recovery perspectives, Case study discussion, CACREP: AC A 1, AC A 2	Abstinence Journal 8
11/9	B & Mc: ch 2 & 9 DS&HB: N/A	Risk factors and prevention of substance use disorders, Grief and loss in addiction, Special populations and substance use disorders, Case study discussion, CACREP: AC A 2, AC A 4	Abstinence Journal 9
11/16	B & Mc: ch 14 DS&HB: ch. 18	Self-care for addiction counselors, Ethical issues in substance use disorder counseling Advocacy, Case study discussion CACREP: AC A 1	Abstinence Journal 10 Substance Use and Film Paper due by class time on BB
11/23		Group Presentations	
11/30		Group Presentations	All Presentations due - everyone must provide a submission on BB
12/7		Final	Online - submit by end of class time on BB

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.