

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**HMNS 105 INTRODUCTION TO ADDICTION**

**I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

**A. Course Number and Title:** HMNS 105–INTRODUCTION TO ADDICTION

**B. New or Modified Course:** Modified

**C. Date of Proposal:** Semester: Fall Year: 2017

**D. Effective Term:** Fall 2022

**E. Sponsoring Department:** Humanities, Social Science & Education

**F. Semester Credit Hours:** 3

**G. Weekly Contact Hours:** Lecture: 3  
Laboratory: 0  
Out of class student work per week: 6

**H. Prerequisites/Corequisites:** None

**I. Laboratory Fees:** None

**J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at the time of approval:** Isabel Gutierrez-Bergman, Dept. Chair:  
[Isabel.gutierrez@raritanval.edu](mailto:Isabel.gutierrez@raritanval.edu); Patrice Marks, Division Dean, Liberal and Fine Arts:  
[Patrice.marks@raritanval.edu](mailto:Patrice.marks@raritanval.edu)

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will enable students to understand the various historical and cultural perspectives on drug use, abuse and dependency. It will allow students to examine drug use in society from a broad variety of perspectives including biological, psychological and social theories and research, and changing societal attitudes. The course will introduce students to the nature of chemical abuse phenomena and various risks from within a broad range of social and cultural context. It will introduce student to categories and broad range of effects of mind and mood altering substances. This course will emphasis critical thinking and problem solving, and the use of code of ethics and use of ongoing clinical supervision. Students will gain knowledge necessary to provide important information on the psychological, biological, and social aspects of drug abuse and addiction for clients, families, as well as, for human, health and criminal justice service providers.

### III. STATEMENT OF COURSE NEED

The field of addiction and substance abuse treatment is expected to grow far faster than most other areas of mental health and human services. Service providers in the Somerset and Hunterdon County area, as well as the NJ Board of Examiners for Addiction Professionals report a growing need for programs approved to provide the coursework required for certification and licensure as an alcohol and drug counselor (CADC/LCADC). As many as 1/3 of currently enrolled students in the Human Service/Pre-Social Work program express a specific desire to enter into the substance abuse treatment field and/or co-occurring disorder services. Hence, the development of a specific option in addiction studies within the degree program is compelling in response to both the local labor market and our student population.

### IV. PLACE OF COURSE IN COLLEGE CURRICULUM

- A. Free elective
- B. This course meets a specialized human service elective option for the A.A in Human Services/Pre-Social Work, Certificate in Human Services, the Certificate of Completion in Human Services, and Certificate in Chemical Dependency.
- C. Course transferability; for New Jersey schools go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org). For all other colleges and universities go to their individual websites.

### V. OUTLINE OF COURSE CONTENT

- A. Short History of Drugs
- B. Explaining Drugs of Abuse
  - 1. Biological Impact
  - 2. Psychological Impact
  - 3. Sociological Impact
  - 4. Cultural Impact
- C. Drug Use and the Law
  - 1. Sociocultural attitudes towards drugs
  - 2. Regulations and FDA
  - 3. Legal deterrence
  - 4. Controversy: legalization, drug testing
- D. Basic Psychopharmacology
- E. Drug Categories
  - 1. Sedative Hypnotic Drugs – types, history, patterns of abuse
  - 2. Alcohol – Pharmacology, physical effects, BAC, Fetal Alcohol syndrome Culture and Society
  - 3. Opiates & Stimulants-types, history, patterns of abuse, pharmacology
  - 4. Narcotics - types, history, patterns of abuse, pharmacology
  - 5. Tobacco - types, history, patterns of abuse, pharmacology
  - 6. Hallucinogens - types, history, patterns of abuse, pharmacology
- F. Addictive behavior and drug dependency
  - 1. Defining addiction
  - 2. Models of addiction
  - 3. Risk factors for addiction

4. Stages and phases of addiction
- G. Special Populations
  1. Gender
  2. Age
  3. Ethnicity
  4. Students and Athletes
  5. Sexual Orientation
- H. Treatment
  1. History of treatment
  2. Types of treatment
  3. Modalities for treatment
  4. Principles of effective treatment/evidence based treatment
- I. Legal Standards
  1. Confidentiality Regulations and HIPPA/NAADAC
  2. Substance Abuse and the Law
- J. Wellness and Recovery – WRAP for Co-Occurring Disorders
- K. Personal Development
  1. 12 CORE Functions
  2. Professional Organizations
  3. Using Clinical Supervision

## **VI. General EDUCATIONAL AND Course LEARNING OUTCOMES**

### **A. General 1Education Learning Outcomes**

**Students will be able to:**

1. analyze and discuss the dynamics of addiction as a social phenomenon. (GE 5)
2. identify different drugs and mind-altering substances by their classification, pharmacology and effects orally and in writing. (GE 1)
3. use technology to gather social science data to understand the social and economic impact of addiction and substance abuse. (GE 4)
4. comply with legal and ethical guidelines to exercise professional judgement. (GE—ER)

### **B. Course Learning Outcomes**

**Students will be able to:**

1. Demonstrate a basic biological, psychological and sociological knowledge of the causes and effects of addictions on individuals, families and society.
2. Describe the pharmacology of addictive substances such as opiates, stimulants, sedatives, alcohol, etc.
3. Identify treatment approaches appropriate to specific addictions and client circumstances.
4. Critically discuss social policy implications in the treatment of addiction.
5. Identify populations at risk of substance abuse.
6. Utilize Clinical Supervision to guide professional judgment and behavior.
7. Understand the levels of care within the profession and an ability to apply.

### **C. ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS**

1. Quizzes (short answer)
2. Reflection papers
3. Written exams

### **VII. Grade Determinants**

- A. term paper
- B. exams
- C. short written assignments

**Given the goals and outcomes described above, LIST the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in this course:**

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small group work
- C. student collaboration
- D. Independent research
- E. Case studies
- F. Self-reflection exercises
- G. Guest speakers

### **VIII. TEXT and MATERIALS**

- A. Doweiko, H. E., Concepts of Chemical Dependency, Ninth (or most current) Edition

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

### **IX. RESOURCES**

- A. text
- B. library databases
- C. computer access
- D. guest speakers

### **X. Honors Option**

N/A

Approved by dept: 1/21/21