SALEM STATE COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SWK 862R: Substance Abuse

Fall 2006

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COURSE RATIONALE

The treatment continuum for those clients and families affected by the disease of addiction has had many shifts and changes both in theory and in practical applications over recent years. An understanding of the progressive nature of addiction and its devastation, and the impact, on not only an individual’s functioning, but that of a family system, are crucial pieces of information for informed, clear, and non-judgmental interventions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to encourage and provide an understanding of the assessment and intervention process with addicted clients and their families. With the use of readings and case studies, the focus will be on the systemic view of addiction and how that relates to social work practice. An examination of assessment tools and various treatment modalities can be instructive in maintaining a flexible and varied approach to the treatment of addicts. Issues of family functioning, including ACOA and children of addict’s issues, will continue the study of addiction as a “system” issue as compared to an individual pathology. Included will be an examination of both our personal and cultural attitudes about addiction and how that impacts treatment. Included in this examination is the issue of self care for therapists and the experience of the “impaired professional.”

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Salem State College is committed to providing equal access to the educational experience for all students in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act and to providing all reasonable academic accommodations, aids, and adjustments. Any student who has a documented disability requiring an accommodation, aid, or adjustment should speak with the instructor immediately. Students with Disabilities who have not previously done so should provide
documentation to and schedule an appointment with the Office of Students with Disabilities and obtain appropriate services.

METHODS USED

The course objectives will be accomplished through the use of readings, class lecture, discussion, role-playing, and discussion of case material, group exercises, student presentations and field trips.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Attendance is required for this course. The nature and substance of the course cannot be gained just from reading the texts. Class discussion, role plays, and group exercises are an integral part of the course material. Attendance and participation are a substantive part of your grade.

MISSED WORK

The only circumstances in which I will accept late or missed work is if the work is accompanied by a doctors note and/or a note from a funeral home stating that a loved one has died.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY & INCOMPLETES

Students are responsible for completing all course requirements and for keeping up with all that goes on in the course whether or not the students are present. Failure to do this will result in a grade of I (Incomplete) which turns into an F after a given period of time. Incompletes will be considered in the course under the following circumstances: 1) a substantial portion (usually at least 80%) of the course work has been completed; 2) the student’s record in the course is such that a passing grade can still be earned; 3) the student has made arrangement with the instructor prior to the time that final grades will be assigned; and 4) the instructor is satisfied that circumstances beyond her/his control prevented her or him from completing the required work. I very rarely give incompletes.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Salem State College assumes that all students come to the College with serious educational intent and expects them to be mature, responsible individuals who will exhibit high standards of honesty and personal conduct in their academic life. All forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, are considered to be serious offenses against the College Community. Definition of Academic Dishonesty: Submitting another person’s work as one’s own. This includes, for example, copying another person’s work
during examinations; purchasing papers; copying papers, reports, journal articles or portions thereof; copying material from a website; copying laboratory or computer results; and presenting material from another course or paper without proper acknowledgment, citations and references. Penalties for Academic Dishonesty: Penalties for plagiarism and academic dishonesty can include an automatic grade of F for the course as well as being reported to the Vice President, Academic Affairs, and can lead to suspension or expulsion from the College. See the current Salem State Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogues for complete descriptions of College policies on academic dishonesty and the appeals procedures.

TEXT & OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES


ASSIGNMENTS

1. Group Project 15%
2. Substance Self-Monitoring Record and Report 15%
3. Midterm Examination 15%
4. Self-Help Group Meeting Reaction Paper 15%
5. Attendance & Participation 15%
6. Group Quizzes 10%
7. Final Exam 15%

Group Project: Students will choose a group in which to prepare an in-depth study regarding a particular issue or population. Students will be required to prepare a presentation for the class that will include an outline of salient points. Topics are to be approved in advance by the instructor and an outline of the presentation is to be handed in with a bibliography of resources (You can use PowerPoint slides if you would like). Group will hand this outline/slides and bib to the class. Each group will have 20 minutes to present their topic and 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

Suggested Topics
The History of Substance Abuse, Addiction and Treatment in America
Intervention and Treatment Techniques
Substance Abuse and Families
Substance Abuse in the Workplace
Substance Abuse in Special Populations:
Adult Children of Alcoholics
Women’s’ Issues
Substance Abuse and Minority Populations (Black, Hispanic, Native American)
Substance Abuse and the Elderly
Substance Abuse and the Criminal Justice System
Needle exchange programs
Any special population or topic, with the permission of the Instructor

**Substance Self-monitoring Record & Report:** For two weeks during the semester students will choose one substance (or food) they currently use (alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, chocolate, sugar, etc.) and keep a comprehensive *daily* record of the substance(s) use, using the monitoring sheets (attached). The substance chosen should ideally one which the student believes he/she would be better off without. (A behavior *may* be substituted for a substance with the permission of the instructor).

**Self-Help Group Meeting and Reaction Paper:** The student will attend THREE self-help meetings (AA, NA, OA, SLA, SOS, GA, SMART, or Recovery, Rational Recovery, etc.) for the purpose of observation. If all the meetings are from the same organization, different meetings must be attended. (Do not attend the same meeting 3 times). The student will submit a written paper (three pages, double spaced, type written) describing the history and philosophy of the group(s) they observed, the similarities and differences, who might be appropriate participants/referrals to such a group, as well as their own reactions to the experience.

**Quizzes:** A 10-item group quiz will be given at the beginning of each class.

**Final Exam:** The final exam is required for all students.
## COURSE OUTLINE

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<th>Week of</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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| 9/12    | First Day of Class  
Chapter 1 (M & D): Epidemiology of SA  
Frey, pp. 1-45 | Orientation to the course |
| 9/19    | Chapter 2 (M & D): The Etiology of Addiction  
Frey, pp. 46-109 | Group Quiz  
Start Daily substance use record |
| 9/26    | Chapter 3 (M & D): The Brain Biology of Drug Abuse and Addiction  
Frey, pp. 110-143 | Group Quiz |
| 10/3    | Chapter 4 (M & D): Consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
Frey, pp. 144-215 | Group Quiz  
End daily substance record |
| 10/10   | Chapter 5 (M & D): Screening, Diagnosis, Assessment & Referral  
Frey, pp. 239-277 | Group Quiz  
Self-Monitoring Report Due (with daily logs) |
| 10/17   | Chapter 6 (M & D): Treatment: The System of Care  
Frey, pp. 278-358 | Group Quiz |
| 10/24   | Chapter 7 (M & D): Prevention  
Frey, pp. 361-381 | Group Quiz |
| 10/31   | Chapter 8 (M & D): Regulating Drugs and Their Consequences  
Frey, pp. 382-398 | Group Quiz  
Midterm Examination |
| 11/7    | Chapter 9 (M & D): Substance Abusing Youth  
Frey, pp. 399 – end. | Group Quiz |
| 11/14   | Chapter 10 (M & D): Family Systems | Group Quiz |
| 11/21   | Chapter 11 (M & D): Ethnicity, Culture & S.A.  
Chapter 12 (M & D): Sexual Minorities & SA | Group Quiz  
Group presentations given in class and outlines and bibliography turned in |
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<tr>
<td>11/28</td>
<td>Group Quiz</td>
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<td>12/5</td>
<td>Chapter 15 (M &amp; D): Gender &amp; SA</td>
<td>Group Quiz</td>
<td>Self-Help Reaction Paper Due</td>
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<td>12/12</td>
<td>Chapter 16 (M &amp; D): Current Issues &amp; Future Prospects</td>
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<td>12/19</td>
<td>Last Class</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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