WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE NUMBER: MCC 8020
COURSE TITLE: Addictions Counseling

I. RATIONALE:

Substance and process addictions have become ubiquitous in all phases of community counseling. Most counselors’ caseloads include a significant number of dual diagnosis clients. Public policy continues to consider addictions from the standpoint of criminality rather than treatment, with corrections facilities as primary points of contact. Counselors must be able to work with addictions as a primary or dual diagnosis, and be able to advocate for the treatment needs of this population.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A: Understand the role of Counselors in Prevention and Treatment

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Describe efforts at primary intervention in the community.
A-2 Self-assess attitudes and beliefs pertaining to addiction.

GOAL B: Demonstrate knowledge of the classification of substances of abuse.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Become familiar with classifications of different drugs.
B-2 Be able to describe the effects of drugs on the Central Nervous System.
B-3 Become familiar with the legal aspects of drugs of abuse.

GOAL C: Develop an awareness of the different Models of Addiction

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Describe the etiological considerations of addiction.
C-2 Begin to conceptualize treatment protocols given the different etiological models.

GOAL D: Utilize the principles of Assessment and Diagnosis of Substance Use Disorders
Learning Outcomes: The student will:

D-1 Learn different assessment techniques through diagnostic interviewing.
D-2 Learn different assessment techniques through psychological instruments.
D-3 Integrate multicultural considerations into the assessment process.

GOAL E: Understand treatment of Substance Use Disorders

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

E-1 Demonstrate client engagement skills.
E-2 Demonstrate Motivational Enhancement skills
E-3 Be able to conceptualize the role that various treatment modalities, including individual counseling, group counseling, detoxification units, and residential treatment play in the overall recovery of the addicted person.
E-4 Recognize appropriate relapse prevention strategies.
E-5 Become familiar with non-professional treatment strategies, especially the role of 12-step groups in recovery.

GOAL F: Understand the impact of Substance Use Disorders on the Family.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

F-1 Describe genetic and family system effects on development of addiction.
F-2 Understand intergenerational effects of substance use disorders.
F-3 Describe the effects of Substance Use Disorders on family functioning and well-being.

GOAL G: Understand the health risks associated with Substance Use Disorders.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

G-1 Develop knowledge concerning a variety of substance use-related medical problems including HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C.
G-2 Understand the long-term CNS risks of Substance Use Disorders.

GOAL H: Understand the Ethical Issues concerning Substance Use Disorders.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

H-1 Describe the effects of Federal Law on treatment of Substance Use Disorders (42CFR)
H-2 Be able to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
H-3 Be aware of the confidentiality regulations concerning treatment of Substance Use Disorders.