

SADLT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MAKIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Addictions

CODE NO. HSC 204 SEMESTER: WINTER

PROGRAM: GENERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE

INSTRUCTOR Ed FINN 759-2554 Ext. 467 E2203

DATE: JANUARY 1997 PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: SEPTEMBER 1996

APPROVED: ^ff^tSH* "-f^cJp^^fX^XjZtrJc/ut^ DATE: J.)c*-^-
 D. Tremblay, DEAN, School of^J
 Human Sciences and Teacher
 Education

TOTAL CREDITS:

PREREQUISITES: NONE

LENGTH OF COURSE: 3 HOURS/WEEK FOR 1g WEEKS

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 4%

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course the student will be introduced to the study of addictions. The class will explore general information about substances, their effects and the development of dependency. The impact of addiction on individuals, their families, and society will be examined. Treatment approaches and availability of resources will be discussed.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the ability to:

- 1) Discuss the origins and history of drugs and drug-taking behaviour, and the personal and social danger of drug abuse.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Discuss the extent and social implications of drug abuse.
- Explain how definitions of drug abuse differ among people of diverse backgrounds.
- Discuss the historical context of the drug problem.
- Discuss drug abuse as a symptom of underlying social and medical pathology.
- Explain the personal and social dangers of drug abuse.
- Explain the distinction between physical and psychological dependence.

- 2) Describe the physiological, psychological and environmental factors that influence the use/abuse of, and effects of, drugs.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Discuss how the brain and the environment interact to produce inappropriate or maladaptive behaviours.
- Discuss the impact of social and personal stressors on brain function and behavioural responses.
- Explain how drugs influence brain chemistry to alter behaviour.
- Provide definitions for dependence, tolerance, addiction, withdrawal, and abuse, and discuss the controversial nature of these definitions.
- Discuss physiological, psychological, and environmental factors that influence how individuals uniquely respond to drugs.

- 3) Describe the nature of, effects of, and treatment modalities for, the use/abuse of stimulants.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Discuss the different forms of cocaine.
- Describe the mood-altering and physiological effects of cocaine.
- Discuss the negative physical and psychological side effects of chronic cocaine use.
- Describe the relationship between cocaine use and criminal behaviour and antisocial lifestyles.
- Discuss the effectiveness of treatment programs for cocaine abuse.
- Discuss the properties of amphetamines, including the process by which the body responds to them, their effects on brain function, and the development of dependence.
- Discuss the effects of amphetamines on mental state and performance and highlight the dangers involved.
- Discuss treatment modalities for amphetamine use/abuse.
- Discuss the various ways in which caffeine and nicotine alter physiological functions, mental abilities, and performance.
- Discuss the physiological, psychological and environmental factors that influence the use/abuse of, and effects of, stimulants.

- 4) Describe the nature of, effects of, and treatment modalities for, the use/abuse of depressants.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain how alcohol is processed by the body to exert an effect.
- Discuss the negative effects of alcohol on the brain, body, and psyche.
- Explain how alcohol becomes addictive and in what ways alcohol is abused.
- Identify the stages of, and diagnosis of, alcoholism.
- Identify genetic, biological, and psychological traits that may increase an individual's vulnerability to alcohol and other depressants.
- Discuss the unique problems facing the families of alcoholics and how they attempt to cope.
- Discuss various treatments for alcoholism and abuse of other depressants.

- 5) Describe the nature of, effects of, and treatment modalities for, the use/abuse of narcotics.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Differentiate the various types of narcotics.
- Explain how heroin and other opiates affect body and brain functions.
- Discuss traditional medical uses of narcotics.
- Explain the process of addiction to narcotics.
- Discuss the relationship between narcotic use and criminal or antisocial behaviour.
- Discuss the physiological, psychological, and environmental factors that influence the use/abuse of, and the effects of, heroin and other opiates.
- Discuss various treatment options for narcotic addicts.

- 6) Describe the nature of, effects of, and treatment modalities for, the use/abuse of hallucinogens.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Discuss the various forms of psychedelic drugs.
- Discuss the potential for dependence and tolerance by users of marijuana, hashish, LSD, PCP...
- Discuss the physiological, psychological and environmental factors the influence the use/abuse of, and effects of psychedelic drugs.
- Discuss treatments for hallucinogen abusers.

- 6) Describe the nature of, effects of, and treatment modalities for, the use/abuse of inhalants.

Potential Elements of the Performance.

- Identify the household products commonly inhaled.
- Discuss the physiological, psychological, and environmental factors that influence the use/abuse of, and the effects of glue, solvent, or aerosol spray inhalation.

III. TOPICS:

1. Drug use and abuse: past and present.
2. The physiological, psychological, and environmental effects of drugs.
3. Stimulants.
4. Depressants.
5. Narcotics.
6. Hallucinogens.
7. Inhalants.

IV. REQUIRED TEXT:

"Drugs, Behaviour, and Modern Society", by Charles F. Levinthal, Allyn S, Bacon, 1996.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

TESTS	50%
ASSIGNMENTS	<u>50%</u>
	100%

A variety of testing approaches may be utilized emphasizing the concept of mastery learning, and assignments may be chosen from journals, self-inventories, book/article/movie reviews, group or individual projects, peer evaluation activities, presentations...

Additional non-class hours may be necessary for participating in current or special community events relevant to the course.

A final grade will be awarded upon completion of all the course work, in accordance with the grading policy of Sault College:

- A+ = 90 to 100%
- A = 80 to 89%
- B = 70 to 79%
- C = 60 to 69%
- R = less than 60%

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Special Needs:

Students with special needs (eg. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss required accommodations confidentially with the instructor and to contact the Special Needs Office, Room E1204, 759-2554 Ext.493/717/491, to arrange for support services.

Retention of Course Outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the instructor and the program coordinator.