



Course Description

HUS1475 | Addiction Counseling and the Law | 3.00 credits

This course is designed to introduce addiction counseling students to the vocabulary, agencies and processes required to work with clients involved in both the criminal and civil justice systems. This course focuses on the relationship between the law and Human Services institutions, patterns of lawmaking and law-breaking, the legal structures and processes, and law as an instrument of public policy, social control and social change. The roles and functions of police, courts and correctional services will be surveyed. Common civil issues that affect clients in recovery will be explored. In addition, this course will enable students to explain the legal basis for alcohol and other drug services in Florida. State statutes pertaining to alcohol and drugs and their administrative rules will be reviewed. Confidentiality requirements, compliance standards, and professional ethics will be presented. Prerequisite: PSB2442.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will actively engage with the vocabulary, agencies, and processes necessary to work with clients involved in the criminal and civil justice systems, while understanding the relationship between the law and Human Services institutions by:

1. Familiarizing: Familiarizing themselves with the vocabulary and terminology specific to addiction counseling within the criminal and civil justice systems, enabling effective communication and understanding with clients and professionals
2. Exploring: Exploring the agencies and organizations involved in the criminal and civil justice systems, understanding their roles, functions, and procedures to navigate the complexities of working with clients in these contexts
3. Analyzing: Analyzing the relationship between the law and Human Services institutions, examining patterns of lawmaking and law-breaking, and understanding how the law serves as an instrument of public policy, social control, and social change

Competency 2: The student will gain knowledge and skills related to the legal structures, processes, and common civil issues that impact clients in recovery, as well as understanding the legal basis for alcohol and other drug services in Florida by:

1. Investigating: Investigating the legal structures and processes within the criminal and civil justice systems, exploring how laws are created, enforced, and adjudicated to provide a foundation for understanding the legal context of addiction counseling
2. Examining: Examining common civil issues that affect clients in recovery, such as family law, employment discrimination, and housing rights, in order to develop strategies for effectively addressing these issues within the scope of addiction counseling
3. Understanding: Understanding the legal basis for alcohol and other drug services in Florida, studying state statutes and administrative rules that govern and regulate these services, ensuring compliance with legal requirements and ethical standards

Competency 3: The student will gain an understanding of confidentiality requirements, compliance standards, and professional ethics in the context of addiction counseling within the criminal and civil justice systems by:

1. Explaining: Explaining the confidentiality requirements specific to addiction counseling, including legal obligations, exceptions, and ethical considerations to ensure the protection of client privacy and confidentiality
2. Assessing: Assessing compliance standards and regulations relevant to addiction counseling within the criminal and civil justice systems, understanding the importance of adhering to legal and ethical guidelines in professional practice
3. Integrating: Integrating professional ethics into addiction counseling practice within the criminal and civil justice systems, applying ethical principles and decision-making frameworks to ensure ethical conduct and promote the well-being of clients

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society