

Course Description

PSB2442 | Psychology of Addiction | 3.00 Credits

This course explores the multifaceted nature of addiction and substance use, examining psychological, medical, pharmacological, legal, economic, and sociological perspectives, and includes works from the Western canon. Students will engage in an in-depth analysis of various substances, including narcotics, sedatives, and stimulants such as alcohol, cocaine, heroin, cannabis, caffeine, and tobacco. Through critical examination of research and case studies, learners will develop a comprehensive understanding of the complex interplay between individual behavior and broader social, political, and economic factors that influence substance use and addiction in society.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills by:

- 1. Creating strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities.
- 2. Using quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data.

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate skills in observation, interviewing, and recording by:

- 1. Creating strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities.
- 2. Solving problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning.
- 3. Applying knowledge of diverse cultures, including global and historical perspectives.
- 4. Communicating effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- 5. Using quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data.

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate through communication assignments the response skills of restatement, paraphrasing, clarifying questions, summarizing, and reflection of feelings by:

- 1. Formulating strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information.
- 2. Providing suitable support and organization.

Course Competency 4: Use response skills in helping clients clarify and resolve problems by:

- 1. Demonstrating an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities
- 2. Using computers and emerging technologies effectively.
- 3. Demonstrating logical reasoning

Course Competency 5: The student will Identify problem-solving techniques related to client characteristics by:

- 1. Using and emerging technologies effectively.
- 2. Demonstrating knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to societal issues.
- 3. Identifying components of performance evaluations,

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information.
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning.
- Use computers and emerging technologies effectively.
- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities.

Updated: Fall 2025