

**INSTRUCTOR HAS THE RIGHT TO CHANGE PRIOR TO CLASS—HOWEVER, I WILL NOT CHANGE TEXTBOOK**

Westfield State College

**COURSE SYLLABUS, WINTER 2011**

**COURSE NAME:** PSYC 0564 550, Drugs and Behavior

**INSTRUCTOR:** Amanda Costin, PhD

**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**E-MAIL** acostin@wsc.ma.edu

**TELEPHONE #** (413) 341.3035

**CLASS TIME/LOCATION** ONLINE plus one night on campus TBA

**TEXTS USED:**

Capuzzi, D., & Stauffer, M.D. (2008). *Foundations of addictions counseling*. Boston, Allyn and Bacon.

Note-Other required readings will be found in the on-line course

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Examine various models of addiction
2. Identify assessment measures and diagnostic tools
3. Recognize major classifications of psychotropic drugs of abuse and brief description of effects.
4. Demonstrate understanding of maintenance and relapse prevention programs
5. Identify treatment issues when working with diverse and special populations
6. Describe the impact of addiction on clients and families.
7. Assess professional issues related to substance abuse counseling (e.g., clinician wellness strategies, certification, and legal/ethical issues).

**Attendance and Participation**

You are expected to be an active participant in this online course which means you will be “seen” in the course either responding to others or posting your discussions and/or assignments at least three times per week. In addition, there will be one required in-class experience (date TBA) during which we will have a guest speaker.

**Late Assignments.**

Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been with the professor.

**Course Requirements**

**Discussion questions—discussion questions will be posted almost daily, but are due at the end of each week.**

Active participation in discussions is very important! Active participation requires that you develop a substantive initial posting for each of the discussion topics.

**In addition, you should also respond to the postings of at least two of your fellow students for each discussion question**—unless the discussion instructions state otherwise. These responses to other students need to be substantive posts that contribute to the conversation by asking questions, respectfully debating positions, and presenting supporting information relevant to the topic (saying good job is not a substantive post). Also, respond to any follow-up questions the instructor directs to you in the discussion area.

**Drug group PowerPoint**

Each class member will present on one of the below drug groups. Each person will have a different drug group. Since we are not spending any time during this course on these drug groups, these presentations are due on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> so each student has the opportunity to review all the drug groups and have the PowerPoint resources. Make sure you use a list of references and cite/reference as necessary. Journal articles are most valued, followed by books, and the Internet is of least value. More information provided on the first day of class.

**Abstinence Exercise and Paper**

This exercise is designed to help you experience some of the feelings/thoughts that addicted individuals experience when they quit their drug or behavior of choice. This exercise requires that you give up a substance (e.g., nicotine, caffeine, or alcohol) or a behavior (e.g., Internet use, eating sweets, playing video/computer games, watching television, cell-phone usage) for a period of **2 weeks (January 4-16)**. For those of you who have difficulty identifying a substance or behavior, please contact me so we can discuss what might be a challenge for you to give up for this time period. More information provided on the first day of class.

**GRADING:**

- Class participation (i.e. discussion requirements and responses to peers) = 35%
- Drug group powerpoint-25%
- Abstinence project-25%
- Final exam-15%

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = below 70