



## **COUN 581: Assessment and Treatment of Chemical Dependency**

Course Syllabus: Fall 2025

**Web Based Course**

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Kimberley Toynes, PhD, LPC, LCDC

**University Email Address:** [Toynes.kimberley@tamuc.edu](mailto:Toynes.kimberley@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Text, or call (214) 886-5009

**Communication Response Time:** 24 hours on Monday – Friday

**Main Office Location:** Online

**Office Hours:** Virtual; Email or text for an appointment

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### **Required Textbook**

Van Wormer, K., & Davis, D. R. (2012). *Addiction treatment: A strengths perspective*, (CURRENT EDITION). Brooks/Cole. Textbook ISBN-10: 0-8400-2916-0

#### **Required Supplemental Readings**

American Counseling Association. (2014). *ACA Codes of Ethics*. Author.

[Ethics - Tools to Ensure Ethical Standards Compliance](#)

\*\*Other readings as assigned

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

#### **Catalogue Course Description**

Provides in-depth information regarding the assessment and treatment of chemical dependency. Topics include coping skills; motivation for change; management of stress, anxiety, and anger; screening for chemical dependency in health care settings; various chemical dependency interventions; and planning specific treatments to match individual clients.

### Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

<b>CACREP Standards</b>	<b>Learning Activity</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Assessment Rubric</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
5.A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f 5.A.2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m 5.A.3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	<b>Lecture</b> (Weeks 2-3, 10-13) <b>Readings</b> (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch.9]	1. Substance Abuse Paper 2. Article Abstracts 3.Exam	1.Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2.Article Abstracts Rubric 3. Exam Rubric	1. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 3. $\geq 80\%$ will score $\geq 80\%$ on exam
5.A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f 5.A.2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m 5.A.3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	<b>Lecture</b> (Weeks 1, 4- 5) <b>Readings</b> (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 3, 6-8]	1.Substance Abuse Paper 2. Exam	1.Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2. Exam Rubric	1. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. $\geq 80\%$ will score $\geq 80\%$ on exam
5.A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f 5.A.2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m 5.A.3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	<b>Lecture</b> (Weeks 4-5, 8-9) <b>Readings</b> (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 5, 7-8]	1. Substance Abuse Paper 2. Exam	1.Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2. Exam Rubric	1. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. $\geq 80\%$ will score $\geq 80\%$ on exam
5.A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f 5.A.2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m 5.A.3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	<b>Lecture</b> (Weeks 10- 13) <b>Readings</b> (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 11]	1. Substance Abuse Paper 2.Article Abstracts 3.Exam	1. Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2. Article Abstracts Rubric 3. Exam Rubric	1. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 3. $\geq 80\%$ will score $\geq 80\%$ on exam
5.A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f 5.A.2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m 5.A.3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	<b>Lecture</b> (Weeks 6-7) <b>Readings</b> (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch.1, 9]	1.Substance Abuse Paper 2.Article Abstracts 3.Exam	1. Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2. Article Abstracts Rubric 3. Exam Rubric	1. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 3. $\geq 80\%$ will score $\geq 80\%$ on exam
5.A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f 5.A.2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m 5.A.3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	<b>Lecture</b> (Weeks 1, 4- 5) <b>Readings</b> (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 3, 6-8]	1.Substance Abuse Paper 2.Exam	1. Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2. Exam Rubric	1. $\geq 80\%$ of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. $\geq 80\%$ will score $\geq 80\%$ on exam

\*All SLOs address the respective CACREP Standards evident in the syllabus.

**CONTENT AREAS include, but are not limited to the following:**

- I. Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling
- II. Drugs and Their Effects
- III. Basic Theories on Alcoholism / Addiction
- IV. Assessment of Alcoholism / Addiction
- V. Treatment Approaches
- VI. Dealing with Anger Issues
- VII. Group Work
- VIII. Working with Families
- IX. Relapse Prevention
- X. Program Evaluation

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

In this class, you will utilize the Learning Management System (LMS) entitled D2L for portions of instructional and learning methods and submitting assignments, participation in online discussions, and completing quizzes. You will need to utilize other technologies such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, etc. If you have issues with this system, it is your responsibility to contact the help desk immediately.

### **Instructional Methods**

All work will be done through lecture on D2L.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

As a student in this course, you are responsible for the active learning process. Expectations of this course include the following:

- 1. You are expected to always display professionalism. Be respectful to your professor and peers. Be open to feedback, as you will receive this throughout the program.
- 2. Prepare for classes. Complete all readings prior to class time.
- 3. Complete all assignments by the deadline.
- 4. Adhere to the university student code of conduct.
- 5. Participate and if there is any online class meeting, you are expected to have your camera on.
- 6. All writing assignments must be done according to APA 7<sup>th</sup> edition.
- 7. Regularly check your University email. My suggestion is to check it at least once a day as your instructors and others from the department and University may contact you.
- 8. Begin your readings ASAP. Sometimes it may take more than one attempt to digest the material.
- 9. Deadlines are the last possible moment something is due—not the first moment to start. Work ahead. I realize this may not always be possible; however, when you can do so.
- 10. Be open to the process. This degree takes time, work, effort, and growth.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers.

However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

### Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

### Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge Chrome Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- For YouSeeU Sync Meeting sessions 8 Mbps is required.** Additional system requirements found here:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones
  - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site  
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed  
 JavaScript is enabled  
 Cookies are enabled

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - Adobe Flash Player (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
  - Adobe Shockwave Player <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
  - Apple Quick Time <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CTE) at 903-469-600 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

#### Brightspace Support Need Help? Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the



please  
**Live Chat** or

click on the words “click here” to submit an issue via email.

#### System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm – 6am CST.

#### Interaction with Instructor Statement

Communication with your professor is key to your professional growth. I am here to support and guide you along your academic journey. I cannot help you if you do not communicate with me, please make an appointment if you have concerns or questions. I will answer all emails within 24 hours, Monday-Friday.



When emailing, please use your university email and address me with courtesy and respect.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Written assignments are due on the day noted in the syllabus. Late papers will have 10% deduction per day late from the final score.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester, any syllabus changes will be announced in advance.

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum; Netiquette: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

#### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

#### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>





## **ADA Statement**

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.



## Course Outline and Calendar

### 1. Article Abstracts (50 points each)

These two assignments will demonstrate your comprehension abilities while combing through research to find an article that adequately summarizes the journey of assessing and treating those with battling chemical dependency. The final product must be at least two pages of written content and meet all APA guidelines.

**(DUE DATES: Sept. 21, and Nov. 2, 2025)**

### 2. Substance Abuse Paper (100 points)

This paper will demonstrate your proficiency and understanding of specific topic pertaining to chemical dependency. Through this assignment, you will explain the effects, implications, history and more of your topic. This will be considered a method of connection as you take concepts discussed in class and address them in your paper. The paper must be at least twelve (12) pages of written content, but no more than fifteen pages of written content. It must have at least ten (10) sources and meet all APA guidelines. **(DUE DATE: Nov. 23, 2025)**

### 3. Exams (100 points each)

Exam 1 will be taken mid-semester and is a multiple-choice exam covering the material from the beginning of the course until week seven. Exam 2 (Final Exam) may be multiple-choice, true/false and/or essay and cover week one through week sixteen.

(Exam #1 DATE TBD and Exam #2 DATE TBD)

**\*\*Paper assignments, including article abstracts, must adhere to APA 7 guidelines and be submitted as a Microsoft Word or PDF document.**

## Topical Outline:

- Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling
- Drugs and Their Effects
- Basic Theories on Alcoholism/Addiction
- Assessment of Alcoholism/Addiction
- Treatment Approaches
- Dealing with Anger Issues
- Group Work
- Working with Families
- Relapse Prevention
- Program Evaluation

### Article Review, Substance Abuse Paper, Exam 2 Rubric

	1-Does Not Meet Expectation (0-15 points)	2 – Meets Expectation (17-20 points)	3 – Exceeds Expectation (22-25 points)
Meets length requirement and citations (25 points)	Demonstrates a lack of knowledge on how to appropriately cite and write basic information	Demonstrates knowledge on how to appropriately write and cite, omits one or two points from small error	Demonstrates exceptional knowledge on how to appropriately write with citations and length.
Clearly addresses topics (25 pts)	Does not clearly address topic	Writes about topic with some obviousness.	Demonstrates exceptional knowledge with an evident topic.
Student reviews/ summarizes the Articles/Treatment concepts/Skills/Techniques (25 points)	Does not provide enough information to summarize the article's treatment concepts, skills, techniques	Provides minimal information regarding the article's treatment concepts, skills, techniques	Student demonstrates exceptional knowledge summarizing the article's treatment concepts, skills, techniques
APA Style/Grammar (25 points)	Substantial APA errors (> 6 errors). Poor quality, not indicative of graduate level work.	Some APA errors (3-4 errors). Good quality indicative of graduate level work.	Little to no errors (1-2). Exceptional quality indicative of graduate level work.

### Exam 1 Rubric

	1—Does Not Meet Expectations	2—Meets Expectations	3—Exceeds Expectations
<b>Percentage Grade on Quiz</b>	Less than 80% correct on all quiz items	Between 80% and 89% correct on all quiz items	Greater than 89% correct on all quiz items

## Course Calendar

Class #	Topics	Readings	Assignments
Week 1	Welcome to Counseling 581 Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling and terms	Syllabus, Chapter 1 (Van Wormer & Davis) & PowerPoint	Become familiar with terms in PowerPoint
Week 2	Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling	Chapter 2 (Van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 1
Week 3	Principles of Effective Treatment	Chapter 3 (Van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 2 Article #1 due Sept. 9
Week 4	The Substance Abuser's Paraphernalia	Chapter 4 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 3
Week 5	Basic Theories on Alcoholism/Addiction	Chapter 5 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 4
Week 6	Treatment Approaches	Chapter 6 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 5
Week 7	Treatment Approaches	Chapter 7 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Exam 1 Oct. 20
Week 8	Treatment Approaches	Chapter 8 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Article #2 Due
Week 9	Group Work	Chapter 9 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 6
Week 10	Working with Families	Chapter 10 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 7
Week 11	Alcohol and Adolescents	Chapter 11 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 8
Week 12	Gender, Sexual, and Sexual Orientation Differences	Chapter 12 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Discussion Post 9
Week 13	Break		
Week 14	Public Policy	Chapter 13 (van Wormer & Davis) & Course Lecture	Substance Use Paper Due November 15, 2025
Week 15	Finals Week		Final Exam Due Dec. 5



## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

#### **Academic Integrity**

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

#### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services,



educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



<http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

### **AI Use Policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]**

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty