



COUN 581: Assessment and Treatment of Chemical Dependency

Summer 2026

Course Syllabus:

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Delarious O. Stewart, EdD, LPC-S, LSSP, ACS, NCC, NCSC, NCSP

Office Location: Via zoom.

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Office Phone: TBD

Office Fax: TBD

University Email Address: delarious.stewart@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: 24 hours, excluding weekends

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

Van Wormer, K., & Davis, D. R. (2012). *Addiction treatment: A strengths perspective*, (CURRENT EDITION). Brooks/Cole.

Textbook ISBN-10: 0-8400-2916-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalogue Description of the Course

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.

General Course Information

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

Measurement 1 (Knowledge):

I. Final Exam. This multiple-choice exam is based on material covered via texts, outside links,



and lecture notes.

II. Substance Abuse Paper. Using information from readings, course lectures, and other scholarly research, students will explain the effects, implications, and history of a substance use related topic of their choosing.

Measurement 2 (Skills):

I. Substance Abuse Paper. Students will connect the effects, implications, and history of their topic to substance use treatment and client conceptualization.

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

CACREP Standards Addressed in COUN 581 PLOs

CACREP Standards	Learning Activity	Assignment	Assessment Rubric	Benchmark
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture (Weeks 2-3, 10-13) Readings (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 9] 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Article Abstracts Exam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Rubric Article Abstracts Rubric Exam Rubric 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation ≥ 80% will score ≥ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture (Weeks 1, 4-5) Readings (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 3, 6-8] 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Exam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Rubric Exam Rubric 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation ≥ 80% will score ≥ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture (Weeks 4-5, 8-9) Readings (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 5, 7-8] 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Exam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Rubric Exam Rubric 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation ≥ 80% will score ≥ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture (Weeks 10-13) Readings (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 11] 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Article Abstracts Exam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Abuse Paper Rubric Article Abstracts Rubric 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will



			3.Exam Rubric	either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 3. ≥ 80% will score ≥ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture, (Weeks 6-7) Readings (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. ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 3. ≥ 80% will score ≥ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture (Weeks 1, 4-5) Readings (van Wormer & Davis, 2012) [Ch. 3, 6-8] 	1.Substance Abuse Paper 2.Exam	1.Substance Abuse Paper Rubric 2.Exam Rubric	1. ≥ 80% of average rubric scores will either meet (2) or exceed (3) expectation 2. ≥ 80% will score ≥ 80% on exam

Content Areas include but are not limited to, the following:

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, submitting assignments, participating 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 display professionalism at all times. Be respectful of your professor and peers. Be open to feedback, as you will receive this throughout the program.

Syllabus/Schedule are subject to change.



2. Prepare for classes. Complete any and all readings prior to class time.
3. Complete all assignments by the deadline.
4. Adhere to the university student code of conduct.
5. Participate.
6. All writing assignments must be done according to APA 6th edition.
7. Regularly check your University email. My suggestion is to check this 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.

Assignments/Assessments

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 work and meet all APA guidelines.

(DUE DATES: June 7 AND June 14)

2. Substance Abuse Paper (100 points)

This paper will demonstrate your proficiency and understanding of a 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 12 pages, but no more than 15 pages of written work. It must have at least 10 sources and meet all APA guidelines.

Article Review and Substance Abuse Paper

	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 but omits one or two points from small error.	Demonstrates exceptional knowledge on how to appropriately write with citations and length.



Student clearly addresses topics (25 points)	Students do not clearly address topics	Critique writes about a topic with some obviousness.	Demonstrates exceptional knowledge with an evident topic.
Student reviews/ Summarizes the Articles (25 points)	Student does not provide enough information to summarize the articles	Students provides minimal information regarding the articles	Student demonstrates exceptional knowledge summarizing the articles
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 errors). Exceptional quality indicative of graduate level work.

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 is a multiple-choice exam that covers material from week eight until week fifteen.

Exam 1 & 2 Rubric

	1 – Does Not Meet Expectation (0-43 points)	2 – Meets Expectation (40-44 points)	3 – Exceeds Expectation (45-50 points)
Grade Percentage on Quiz	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

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- 90%-100% A
- 80%-89% B
- 70%-79% C
- 60%-69% D
- < 59% F

Article Abstracts (100 points)

Syllabus/Schedule are subject to change.



Substance Abuse Paper	(100 points)
Exam 1	(100 points)
Exam 2	(100 points)

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 point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point 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. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
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.

Syllabus/Schedule are subject to change.



- 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) <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/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\)](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <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 (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or 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, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on



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

System Maintenance

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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Communication with your professors is key to your professional growth. I am here to support and guide you along your academic journey. With that being said, I cannot help you if you do not communicate with me. Please make an appointment if you have any concerns or questions. Email is the best way to reach me. I will attempt to answer all emails within 24 hours, Monday-Friday, but at times will need up to 72 hours to do so. 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 changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Syllabus/Schedule are subject to change.



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 of 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

Syllabus/Schedule are subject to change.



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

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

Date	Topic	CACREP Standard(s)	Readings	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling Drugs and Their Effects Basic Theories on Alcoholism/Addiction	A.1; a, b, c, d, e, f	Chapters 1-3 (Van Wormer & Davis, 2012) & Course Lecture	Article Abstract #1 Due
Week 2	Treatment Approaches Dealing with Anger Issues Group Work	A, 3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	Chapters 4-6 (Van Wormer & Davis, 2012) & Course Lecture	Article Abstract #2 Due Exam 1 Due
Week 3	Working with Families Relapse Prevention	A, 2; a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j, k, l, m	Chapters 7-9 (Van Wormer & Davis, 2012) & Course Lecture	
Week 4	Program Evaluation	A, 3; a, b, c, d, e, g, h	Chapters 10-13 (Van Wormer & Davis, 2012) & Course Lecture	Research Paper Due!
Week 5	Final Exam		Final Exam	Final Exam Due!