

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

PSYC 4233 Psychology of Addictions

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: PSYC 2613 Research Methods in Psychology and three hours upper-level psychology courses or consent of department head.

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Theories and empirical research of both historical and current issues with respect to addictions in general are studied. Special emphasis on stages and characteristics of addiction, its course, prevalence; familial patterns and specific symptoms of addiction; and the examination of various treatment effects including effective intervention strategies.

B. Additional Information

This course is an elective.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Employ terms relevant to theories concerning addictions and addictive behaviors.
2. Apply and critically assess theories relevant to case study scenarios and data from behavioral databases.
3. Evaluate statistical software and other relevant assessment tools for learning and analyses of addictions and addictive behaviors.
4. Critically assess relevant theories of the psychology of addiction both as a construct of theory and biology.
5. Critically assess relevant policies with respect to addictions and addictive behaviors.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Ethical Decision Making

Students will recognize and analyze ethical dilemmas.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting.

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will draw conclusions and solve problems.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Addiction
- B. Addictive Behavior
- C. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual
- D. Substance Abuse
- E. Eating Disorders
- F. Physical Addiction
- G. Psychological Dependence
- H. Sociocultural Response to Addictive Behaviors
- I. Public Policy