

COURSE OUTLINE
HUMS-120
Medical Aspects of Chemical Dependency
3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to identify concepts relevant to alcoholism and the medical aspects of addiction. In addition, the course will include the pharmacology of alcohol and other addictive substances. (3 hours weekly) NOTE: Also listed as HEED-120

Overall Courses Objectives

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

1. List by classification drugs of abuse.
2. Describe the effects of drugs on the body.
3. Identify the effects, withdrawal characteristics, and treatment implications of Narcotics.
4. Identify the effects, withdrawal characteristics, and treatment implications of central nervous system depressants: sedative-hypnotics.
5. Identify the effects, withdrawal characteristics, and treatment implications of alcohol.
6. Identify the effects, withdrawal characteristics, and treatment implications of marijuana, hashish and other hallucinogenic/psychedelic drugs.
7. Identify the effects, withdrawal, characteristics, and treatment implications of nicotine.
8. Summarize the research supporting biological and genetic link for addiction.
9. Analyze the psychosocial and sociocultural explanations for addiction.
10. Describe other etiological theories of addiction.

Major Topics

- I. Classification of drugs
 - Stimulants
 - Depressants/Alcohol
 - Opiates
 - Hallucinogens
 - Psychotherapeutic drugs

- II. Pharmacology and physiological effects
 - Routes of admission
 - Toxicity, tolerance and dependence
 - Withdrawal characteristics
- III. Theories of etiology
 - Biological and genetic explanations
 - Psychosocial and sociocultural explanations
 - Other etiological theories of addiction

Course Requirements

Grading/exams:

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Final grades will be calculated on the basis of exams, a term paper, oral presentation and class participation.

The course includes a comprehensive final exam.

Writing:

A writing assignment will be determined by the individual faculty member

Other Course Information

This course is an Arts and Sciences elective.