Course – Syllabus

CVC 413: Drugs of Abuse

Professor:

Outline:

• The Addictive Process
• Routes of Administration
  o Inhaled Drugs
  o Snorting and Mucosal absorbed drugs
  o Injected Drugs
  o Oral Drugs
  o Tran-dermal Administered Drugs
• Drug Distribution
  o Blood Brain Barrier
  o Central Nervous System
  o Autonomic Nervous System
• Theories of Origins of Abuse
• Tolerance and Withdrawal
• Schedule of Drugs
• Uppers – Stimulants
• Downers - Depressants
• All Arounder – Psychedelics
• Other Addictions
  o Marijuana
  o Inhalants
  o Steroids

• Prevention, Treatment and Prevention of Relapse
Course Description:
This course serves as an overview of the chemicals that are commonly being abused in our current society. It will address the classes of drug and the effect of each class of drug. It will discuss the common methods of administration, the speed of transmission to the brain and the neurological impact on the brain. There will also be a brief look at the treatment continuum of care.

Overall Outcomes:
The student will have an enhanced understanding what chemicals are commonly abused; they will understand the effects of chemicals on the body, current trends and the addictive nature of chemicals.

Specified Outcomes:
While completing Drugs of Abuse, the student will be able to:
- Define psychoactive chemicals
- Understand the routes that drugs take to the brain and the ways in which they affect brain chemistry
- Understand the system for classifying these psychoactive substances.
- Identify the physiological effects of uppers, downers and other commonly abused drugs
- Outline the principles of effective prevention and treatment

Textbooks:

Supplementary Materials:
Specific Course Requirements: Completion and Submission of all assignments as indicated

Class Participation: Postings on discussion board as indicated

Grading procedure and grading scale: