



ADDS 4575 Current Issues in Substance Use

3-hours

Tuesday/Thursday

12:30 – 1:50 PM

Chilton Hall 245

Pre-requisite: None

May be repeated 1 time for credit as topics vary.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Current issues in substance use disorders are explored using various types of research reports and other professional literature. These sources are used to help students understand the role of research in developing programs, formulating policies and evaluating one's practice. Students become critical consumers of professional literature as they develop specialized expertise on specific problems, groups or practices used in treating addictions and substance use disorders.

This semester the course will explore Crisis Intervention, Employment Readiness, Employment Opportunities in Addiction, Certifications and Licensure in Texas, Professional Associations & Networking, Professional Presentations, and current trends and topics for substance use and the addiction profession.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, students mastering content will be able to:

1. Understand crisis cycle, steps for de-escalation, signs of potential crisis, reasons for aggression, and therapeutic de-briefing tools.
2. Explore and strengthen readiness for employment in addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery profession.
3. Assess employment, certifications, and licensure opportunities.
4. Identify professional associations in addiction and evaluate networking opportunities.
5. Examine understanding of elements and demonstrate ability to create and deliver effective professional presentations. This objective includes the ability to evaluate the work of peers.
6. Describe importance of issue, trend, or topic in substance use.

Collaborative Learning & Active Workspaces (CLAW)

This course is held in one of rooms designated CLAW Tier 3, which are purposefully designed to promote group work in smaller classes.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Materials will be provided on Canvas.

CANVAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Much information about this course will be conveyed through Canvas Course Announcements. You are expected to read those announcements. It is advisable to turn on the notifications for Canvas.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Attendance and participation is required. Activities in class cannot be replicated outside of the classroom. Throughout the semester, students will work in groups. Assignments will be individual and group. Opinions about working in groups vary. It is important to keep in mind the intent of working in groups focusing on the replication of the future professional roles, these interactions will parallel the “Treatment Team” addiction professionals work in daily.

SIDE CONVERSATIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

Please be respectful in the classroom. Everyone in the course has the right to learn, hear what is being discussed, and ask questions. When the class begins, please give your attention to the instructor. When structured and planned interactions end, please conclude your conversations. When you have a question, please hold it until an opportunity presents. Should you have an immediate need to have a side conversation, leave the classroom and hold your conversation in the hallway.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment due dates are found on the Course Schedule on Canvas and details for each assignment can be found on Canvas within each module. Follow directions carefully to ensure fulfillment of assignment criteria. Following the directions for assignment criteria, is a demonstration of professional readiness. Format and content are equally as important and weighted in value in course assignments.

WRITING QUALITY

Writing submissions should reflect that of a college senior. Format of a formal paper is as important as the content. The same is true for meeting length requirements. Combat senseless point deductions by reading assignment directions carefully. The [UNT Writing Center](#) is available to all students wishing to improve their writing. Other resources will be provided within the Canvas classroom.

GRADING PERCENTAGES

30% - Professional Presentation
25% - Current Issues
25% - Employment Readiness
20% - Application Exercises, Attendance & Participation

GRADING BREAKDOWN

A: 90-100% (Outstanding, excellent work. The student performs well above the minimum criteria.)

B: 80-89% (Good, impressive work. The student performs above the minimum criteria.)

C: 70-79% (Solid, college-level work. The student meets the criteria of the assignment.)

D: 60-69% (Below average work. The student fails to meet the minimum criteria.)

F: 59 and below (Sub-par work. The student fails to complete the assignment.)

ROUNDING UP FINAL GRADE

.5 and above are rounded up on final grade.

.04 and below are not rounded up on final grade.

GRADE DISPUTES

Email instructor within 7-days of receiving a grade you desire to dispute. A meeting will be arranged between you and the instructor. Please provide rationale and plan to provide evidence that your assignment submission met the assignment requirements.

7-days after a grade has posted, it is assumed you have no dispute, and the grade will stand.

LATE WORK / EXTRA CREDIT / MAKE UP WORK

Late work is not accepted in this course. Work turned in after the due date and time is considered late, unless the student has an absence meeting university excused absence policies.

There are **no** extra credit opportunities or make up work in this course. *Please do not ask for an exception.*

UNT STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND AUTHORIZED ABSENCES POLICY

Please review [UNT Policy Number 06.039](#) to determine if missed class or assignment submission meets UNT policy standards before emailing the instructor to ask for this modification.

TURNAROUND TIME

Grading - I aim to return graded work to you within one week of the due date. When this is not possible, I will send an announcement to the class.

Email Response - Email sent Monday – Friday, during normal business hours will be returned within 48-hours. Email sent on weekends, holidays, or after normal business hours will be returned within 48-hours of normal business hours resuming.

COLLABORATIVE WORK

Collaborative work is only allowed when indicated by an assignment. Please do your own work. Do not post course content on study sites, such as Quizlet or in student-initiated Group Me

Chats. Action will be taken through the university if cheating is brought to the attention of the instructor.

WORKING AHEAD

When modules and assignments are open early, you are welcome to work ahead. This does not, however, afford you the opportunity to re-do or re-submit assignments if the score is less than you desire.

CITIZENSHIP

Interaction and exchange of ideas with people dissimilar to us is paramount to growth. Student interaction throughout this course is encouraged. However, there will be no tolerance for name-calling, condemnation, or other forms of aggression. *Please reach out to me if you have any issues in this area. I can only assist when I am aware.*

MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS

This is an online course, therefore, you must have minimum technical skills and the ability to reach out to technical support, when needed.

Students in this course must:

- Have ongoing access to internet
- Have familiarity with or be willing to become familiar with Canvas
- Be able to create and attach Word Documents
- Be able to create and attach PowerPoint presentations
- Be able to create original Discussions in Canvas
- Be able to respond to Discussion in Canvas

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Professor Heller Garland has worked in treatment and education as an addiction professional for over 30-years. She served as President of the Dallas Chapter and Texas state board for the Texas Association of Addiction Professionals (TAAP), and on the board for NAADAC, the National Association for Addiction Professionals. She provides training and support to others in the helping profession, a passion she has nurtured since she was an intern. Heller Garland is an inductee of the Texas Counselor Hall of Fame, an award recognizing extended years of significant contributions to the addiction profession and TAAP.

Heller Garland is currently a Senior Lecturer at The University of North Texas in the Department of Rehabilitation and Health Service in the College of Health and Public Service and serves as Coordinator of the Addiction Studies program. She devotes time to the UNT Recovery to Practice initiative and serves as Faculty Advisor to Eagle Peer Recovery at UNT. Paula co-hosts *Life, Lived Better*, a lifestyle podcast about living well - body, mind, and spirit.

In her free time, she enjoys traveling, cooking, writing, spending time with her family and their dachshund.

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL: Paula.Heller-Garland@unt.edu

OFFICE HOURS

Appointments are available virtually and on campus.

Walk-in hours are held Wednesday, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Other options are available Monday through Friday, by appointment.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Help Desk: <http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>

The University of North Texas provides student technical support. The student help desk may be reached by emailing helpdesk@unt.edu or by calling 940.565-2324

Canvas technical requirements: <https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>

Contact tech support immediately if you encounter issues submitting an assignment or taking a quiz. Follow up with an email to the instructor that includes the ticket number from tech support.

COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

It is a violation of Copyright to reproduce information from this course, as well as upload the contents to a website that is not university sponsored. Should information be found online that originated in this course, cease and desist will be filed, followed by all legal options.

This includes posting material from the course onto “study” websites, such as Quizlet.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Code of Student Conduct: provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links

Office of Disability Access: exists to prevent discrimination based on disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence

Counseling and Testing Services: provides counseling services to the UNT community, as well as testing services, such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing, and other tests

UNT Libraries

UNT Learning Center: provides a variety of services, including tutoring, to enhance the student academic experience

UNT Writing Center: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate and graduate, including online tutoring

Succeed at UNT: information regarding how to be a successful student at UNT

UNT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

UNT ADA POLICY

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

UNT RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR POLICY

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION - EAGLE CONNECT

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

STUDENT EVALUATION ADMINISTRATION DATES

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey, they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at <http://spot.unt.edu/> or email spot@unt.edu.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. The instructor has the right to adjust the syllabus and course schedule at any time during the semester.