

Chemical Dependency Counseling Certificate Advisement Tip Sheet 2010-2011

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PURPOSE OF PROGRAM

This certificate program will provide 350 clock hours of New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) approved specific coursework that is needed to obtain a NYS Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) credential. In addition to the 350 clock hours of education, a student must complete one to three years (depends on the highest degree completed) of specific work experience in the chemical dependency field. The certificate program is not meant to replace or compete with the existing A.A.S. degree program. It is intended to provide options for individuals who are seeking career paths in the chemical dependency field. All of the required courses will count toward the A.A.S. degree in Chemical Dependency Counseling.

PRIORITY COURSES

Although ENGL100 and 101 are not required courses in the certificate program, students who do not have prior college coursework may need to complete these courses as prerequisites for other coursework. In addition, first semester students should take PSYC103, HLTH207 and HLTH208.

Students who begin the program in the Spring semester should take CDSC101.

COURSE SEQUENCING DETAILS

CDSC101 (the intro course) is only offered in the Spring semester. Students should complete ENGL100 (if needed), PSYC103, and HLTH207 or HLTH208 prior to taking CDSC101. Exceptions have been made in some cases depending upon the student's background and abilities.

CDSC201 is only offered in the Fall semester. Prerequisite: CDSC101

CDSC200 is only offered in the Fall semester. Students must successfully complete CDSC101 and acquire a field placement through an interview process in the semester prior to the placement. Course consists of 1 hour per week classroom meeting, web course assignments, and 8–10 hrs per week in an approved field site.

CDSC220 is only offered in the Spring semester. Students must successfully complete CDSC200 and acquire a field placement through an interview process in the semester prior to the placement. Course consists of 1 hour per week classroom meeting, web course assignments, and 8–10 hrs per week in an approved field site.

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Students are not allowed to complete both Field placements in the same semester. Students are also not allowed to do a Field placement over the summer.

CDSC225 is only offered in the Spring semester, and is offered exclusively online. Prerequisite: CDSC101

All program requirements in the CDSC certificate program are available online.

GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING COURSES

A strong student can sometimes take CDSC201 in the first fall semester with permission of the program chair.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Students should be advised that this certificate program provides the educational requirements to make them eligible for NYS credentialing as a counselor. Please specify that the educational requirements are only a portion of their eligibility. In addition, they must acquire and complete paid work experiences in this field prior to taking the state credentialing exam. This work experience period is 1-3 years, depending on highest level of education.

Students may obtain and secure employment with the certificate and begin the credentialing process as a Counselor in Training. This is another entry-level classification of eligibility for those in training for their credential.

A good resource for students to review to determine the specific requirements in NYS for credentialing as a Counselor or as a Prevention Specialist is:

<http://www.oasas.state.ny.us/sqa/credentialing/index.cfm>

TRANSFER INFORMATION

N/A

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

N/A