

NURS6028: Health and Substance Misuse

Online

Trimester 2 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description	Prepares students to assess and manage people with substance misuse problems particularly those with a co-morbidity of mental illness. The course uses comprehensive assessment and brief interventions and appropriate therapies. Domains of learning include pharmacotherapy, and prevention strategies, the pathophysiology of substance misuse and a sociological perspective on substance misuse.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Assumed Knowledge	An understanding of contemporary healthcare issues. Academic reading and writing skills, ability to access and evaluate information from a variety of sources, skills in critical analysis, critical judgement, synthesis and evaluation.
Contact Hours	Online Online Activity Online 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1 Self-Directed Learning Self-Directed 8 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Online Dr Anna Treloar Anna.Treloar@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: via email and Canvas
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Nursing and Midwifery Richardson Wing University of Newcastle University Drive CALLAGHAN NSW 2308 (+61) 2 4921 6304 Web: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/nursing-midwifery
General Enquiries	AskUoN@newcastle.edu.au (+61) 2 4921 5000
Program & Enrolment Advice	ProgramAdvice@newcastle.edu.au
Student Support	For academic and personal support services for students, visit https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/support

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief overview of classes of illicit and prescribed drugs of abuse and their pharmacology;• Conducting a comprehensive Alcohol and Other Drug Assessment;• Management of intoxication and withdrawal;• Stages of change and brief interventions;• Motivational Interviewing and other psychotherapies;• Pharmacotherapies;• Relapse prevention and harm minimisation;• Other general prevention strategies;• Policy and Prevention;• Pathophysiology of substance misuse;• Sociological perspective on substance misuse;
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. conduct a comprehensive Alcohol and Other Drugs assessment2. assess readiness for change based on Stages of Change model3. describe and deliver appropriate brief interventions4. critically evaluate and provide appropriate psychotherapies5. critically evaluate current pharmacotherapies used in the treatment of substance misuse6. advise on harm-minimisation and prevention strategies7. examine and criticise the multi-factorial determinants for substance misuse

Course Materials

Recommended Text:

- Darke, S., Lappin, J., & Farrell, M. (2021). *The Pocket Guide to Drugs and Health*. Silverback Publishing.
- Haber, P., Day, C., & Farrell, M. (2015). *Addiction medicine: principles and practice*. IP Communications.
- Teesson, M., Hall, W., Proudfoot, H., & Degenhardt, L. (2012). *Addictions* (2nd ed.). Psychology Press.

Required Reading:

Available on Canvas course site

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Written Assessment: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 2 - Written Assessment: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 3 - Quiz: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Assessment Due
1	13 May	Module one: Brief overview of classes of illicit and prescribed drugs and their pharmacology	
2	20 May	Conducting a comprehensive Alcohol and Other Drug assessment: screening, management of intoxication and withdrawal	
3	27 May	Harms caused by substance misuse	
4	3 Jun	Module two: Stages of change, trauma, motivational interviewing, and brief interventions	
5	10 Jun	Treatment of substance use disorders: Pharmacotherapies	
6	17 Jun	Treatment of substance use disorders: Psychotherapies	Assessment 1 Due Sunday 23 June 2024 at 23:00 AEST
7	24 Jun	Module three: Pathophysiology of substance misuse	
8	1 Jul	Harm minimisation and relapse prevention	
9	8 Jul	Critical issues in providing care for a person living with a substance use disorder - Comorbidity	Assessment 2 Due Sunday 14 July 2024 at 23:00 AEST

10	15 Jul	Critical issues in providing care for a person living with a substance use disorder (continued) – Stigma and inequity	
11	22 Jul	Module four: Sociological perspective on substance misuse	
12	29 Jul	Policy and Prevention	
Exams			Assessment 3 - Quiz Opens Monday 5 August 2024 9:00 AEST Closes Sunday 11 August 2024 at 23:00 AEST

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Assessment 1 - Written Assessment*	Sunday 23 June 2024 at 23:00 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)	Individual	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
2	Assessment 2 - Written Assessment*	Sunday 14 July 2024 at 23:00 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)	Individual	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
3	Assessment 3 - Quiz*	Opens Monday 5 August 2024 at 9:00 and closes Sunday 11 August 2024 at 23:00 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)	Individual	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

* This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

POSTGRADUATE COURSES ASSESSMENT AND REFERENCING ADVICE

ASSESSMENTS

If you need to apply for an extension for an assessment, you should follow the process described in your Course Outline under the heading 'Adverse Circumstances'. Please note you will be required to submit documents to support your application.

Please do not email your tutor or course coordinator to request an extension because they cannot approve applications for extensions unless they have been submitted using the Adverse Circumstances process.

Formatting your assessments

General advice - Use standard (default) margins, double line spacing with a line in between paragraphs and 12-point font in your assessments. Please do not use justified text, use left alignment.

If you have additional instructions about using headings or an essay format or other formats (such as blogs) - please follow instructions provided for individual assessments.

Word count

The length of the assessment is an indication of the number of words needed to address the assessment task. This is a guide, however some students have difficulty keeping their writing within the specified word count. If your assessment exceeds the word count by 10%, the assessment will be marked but Tutors may stop marking at the point the word count exceeds by more than 10%.

Please note the following information from the UON Course Management and Assessment Procedure Manual (Item 250 and 251):

"Word limits include headings, sub-headings, in-text citations, quotes and referencing but does NOT include the list of references, appendices and footnotes. The Course Co-ordinator will allow a tolerance of at least 10% of the word limit".
<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=183>

Referencing

Your assessments must be appropriately referenced. Assessments that are not correctly referenced may have lower marks awarded.

Assessments that contain information from other sources that have not been referenced and where it appears that the student is presenting another person's work or ideas as their own, will be referred to the SACO officer. This constitutes a potential breach of the university Student Academic Integrity Policy:
<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>

What should be referenced?

All sources of published information including textbooks, journal articles, course readings, websites, guidelines, policies government documents that have been used to prepare an assessment MUST be included in the assessment as an in-text citation AND on the reference list.

Any documents provided to you to use in the preparation of an assessment must be referenced.

Direct quotes MUST be referenced. However, please note direct quotes should be used sparingly and should not normally constitute more than 10% of an assessment.

Information that you have paraphrased in your assessment must also be referenced.

Correct citation of sources and referencing is expected in scholarly writing at Masters level.

Assessments that are not correctly referenced may be penalised (lower marks awarded).

Correct referencing style

You are required to use APA 7th Referencing Style in all of your assessments (unless otherwise stated). Check this link for details about using APA 7th Style: <https://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/apa-7th>

Making referencing easier

Referencing your assessments is easier if you use a Reference Management Program such as "Endnote".

There is information in Canvas that will assist you to access and use the Endnote referencing program.

Select: "Library Essentials" at the top right of your screen, then select "Referencing" from the list of options on the left side the screen, and then scroll down to select "Endnote". Or click on this link:

<http://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/endnote>

Academic Integrity

All new students must complete the [Academic Integrity Module](#) (AIM), which can be accessed via the Dashboard in Canvas.

Assessment 1 - Written Assessment

Assessment Type Written Assignment

Purpose	The purpose of this assessment is to determine students' knowledge on withdrawal management and to identify risks for a person living with a substance use disorder exiting residential treatment and to advise of harm minimisation and prevention strategies to reduce risks.
Description	<p>The Case study on Emily will be provided in Canvas Assessment 1 folder. The case study is modified from Marel et al. (2019, pp. 42, 161).</p> <p>In this assessment, you are required to consider Emily's case study and discuss withdrawal management as part of your alcohol and other drug assessment. Then in order to provide holistic healthcare, consider the physical, mental health and psychosocial-related problems which may affect Emily following successful detoxification and discharge from residential rehabilitation.</p> <p>You are also required to recommend appropriate harm minimisation strategies relevant to any potential harms identified.</p> <p>All sections need to use person-centred language as outlined in the marking rubric.</p> <p>Use the following headings:</p> <p>Introduction (approx. 100 words): Provide a logical succinct overview of the main points.</p> <p>Withdrawal management (approx. 500 words): Discuss withdrawal relevant to the main substances in the case study, including onset, signs, symptoms and problems related to poly-substance use. Critically evaluate withdrawal scales you would use to monitor withdrawal.</p> <p>Responding to and managing risks and needs (approx. 500 words): Considering the potential risks of 'recent release from hospital or residential health setting', identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• two (2) physical health-related risks,• two (2) mental health-related risks and• two (2) psychosocial-related risks related to AOD use that could affect Emily following discharge. <p>Interventions (approx. 300 words): Identify and describe relevant AOD-related or comorbidity-related strategies to manage two of the risks identified above. Justify your choice.</p> <p>Conclusion (approx. 100 words): Present a summary of the main points of the essay.</p> <p>References: Use APA 7th referencing style. NOTE: all sections of this assessment require supportive contemporary high-quality literature/evidence, except for the introduction.</p> <p>The Emily case study used for this assignment has been modified from: Marel, C., Mills K.L., Kingston, R., Gournay, K., Deady, M., Kay- Lambkin, F., Baker, A., & Teesson. M. (2016). <i>Guidelines on the management of co-occurring alcohol and other drug and mental health conditions in alcohol and other drug treatment settings</i> (2nd ed.). The third edition of these Guidelines was published in 2022.</p>
Weighting	40%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	1500 words
Due Date	Sunday 23 June 2024 at 23:00 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) End of Week 6
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 3 weeks of submission date
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

Assessment 2 - Written Assessment

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	The purpose of this assessment is to determine students' understanding of and ability to critically evaluate one of three therapies commonly used in AOD work.
Description	<p>Choose one of the three following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Alcoholics Anonymous2. Motivational Interviewing3. Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) <p>Discuss using the following headings and suggested word count:</p> <p>Introduction (approx. 100 words): Provide an overview of the main points of the essay.</p> <p>Description: Outline the origins or development of the therapy and describe its main features (approx. 500 words)</p> <p>Evaluation: Critically evaluate the evidence base and efficacy of the therapy (approx. 800 words).</p> <p>Conclusion (approx. 100 words): Present a summary of the main points of the essay.</p> <p>References: Use APA referencing. NOTE: all sections of this assessment require supportive contemporary high-quality literature/evidence, except the introduction.</p>
Weighting	50%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	1500 words
Due Date	Sunday 14 July 2024 at 23:00 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) End of Week 9
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 3 weeks from submission date
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

Assessment 3 - Quiz

Assessment Type	Quiz
Description	The online quiz consists of 20 multiple choice questions generated at random from a question bank, each worth 0.5%. Students will have half an hour (30 minutes) to complete this quiz.
Weighting	10%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	20 multiple choice questions generated at random
Due Date	Opens Monday 5 August 2024 at 9:00 and closes Sunday 11 August 2024 at 23:00 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) Examination week
Submission Method	Online. Canvas
Assessment Criteria	N/A
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	N/A

Opportunity to Reattempt

Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

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1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
 2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
 3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
 4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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