



Certificate of Higher Education Courses 2014-15 Course Information Document

In this document you will find key information regarding the course's aims and learning outcomes, when the course takes place, the assessment involved, minimum course requirements for assessment and possible prerequisites and suggested preliminary reading.

You will also find information about which Certificates this course's credits count towards.

Course Name: Psychology Of Addictions

Course Tutor(s): Dr Iain Brown MBE MA Med AFBPsS CPsychol

Credits and Level: 20 credits at level 1

These credits can be counted towards any of the following 120 Credit, Certificates in Higher Education:

- Social Sciences
- Psychology

See our website for further details: www.gla.ac.uk/courses/openstudies/certhe/

Introduction

The course will focus on understanding what addictions are; how they are different from obsessions, compulsions and mere bad habits; how they develop and are overcome with reference to alcohol, drugs, sex, gambling, eating and other excessive behaviours in which people can become trapped

Aims

To examine a range of excessive activities linked to concepts of addiction (and, sometimes, to that of compulsion and attachment), including both substance - centred (e.g., drinking alcohol) and behavioural (e.g., sex or gambling). To review the theoretical systems devised to account for their development, the psychological and social problems arising from them and the theory, practice and outcomes of some of the "treatments" applied to them.

Intended learning outcomes

Describe the core features of an addiction and identify its boundaries and differentiate it from other closely related motivational phenomena such as obsession/compulsions, habits and attachments.

Delineate and discuss the core features of alcohol abuse "Alcoholism", alcohol related problems and problem-drinking and the various models (e.g. moral, disease, social learning) that are used as frameworks for understanding it.

Describe and critically appreciate the traditional medically dominant 'Classical Disease Model' of alcoholism and its modern varieties and derivatives such as the Alcohol Dependence Syndrome.

Present, understand and take personal view on the scientific and ethical controversies in the recent past surrounding controlled drinking.

Be well-informed of the short and long term effects and personal (and, to a lesser extent, social) problems surrounding the use of, abuse of and addiction to the full range of drugs (mostly illegal) currently available for "blowing your mind".

Know and be able to review with critical appreciation a range of theories of drug abuse and the treatment methods associated with them.

Understand the social and clinical aspects of policies of harm reduction in the illegal drugs field, be able to review the outcomes of their implementation and possibly take a well-argued view of their own on the issues surrounding the legalisation of various substances.

Understand the independence of the concept of addiction from the narrower phenomena of substance abuse and dependence and identify the commonalities in a range of behavioural addictions including gambling, sex, eating and criminal offending.

Describe, identify and understand commonalities in the theories explaining relapses and guiding their prevention and treatment.

Understand and critically appreciate commonalities in the old and new methods of treatment of addictions.

Work towards a general theory of addictions, including their development and treatment.

Prerequisites: None

What will I be expected to do to complete the course successfully?

You will be expected to attend the 17 meetings held at the main university campus on **Monday** from **18:00 - 21:00**, starting on **22/09/2014** and finishing on **23/02/2015**.

The course is designed for students who want to undertake assessment to gain credit to use either as part of the Certificate of Higher Education, or another higher education qualification (see the brochure for more information on this). Students who choose not to undertake all or some of the assessment are welcome to attend, but should be aware that assessment forms a key part of the course.

In order to achieve credits, students must complete at least 75% of the course summative assessment listed below:

	Assessment Type	Percentage of final grade	Assessment Due:
1	Essay 1 (1500 words)	25%	TBC
2	Essay 2 (1500 words)	25%	TBC
3	Essay 3 (3000 words)	50%	TBC

Minimum course requirements for the award of credit: You must attend a minimum of 75% of the meetings

Some suggested preliminary reading: **Full list will be provided in class.**

How much will the course cost? What concessions are available?

The full fee for the course includes tuition and membership of the University Library. For this session's fees, please see the 2014-2015 CertHE catalogue.

If you are on a low income, you may qualify for the Scottish Government's Individual Learning Accounts scheme, which can be used as part-payment for all Certificate of Higher Education (and language) courses (typically £200). For more details, and to open an account, please telephone 0808 100 1090, or see their website www.myworldofwork.co.uk/content/ila-scotland-funding-for-you. Note that you must have set up your ILA before you can enrol on a course, and before the course start date.

If you plan to study CertHE courses totaling 30 credits or more in year 2014-15, you may be eligible to apply for the part-time fee grant (PTFG) which can contribute towards course fees. Students in receipt of certain state benefits or those who are earning £25,000 or less per year including any private and state pensions may be eligible. For further information visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/services/centreforopenstudies/ and to download an application pack with completion guidelines please visit the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) website: www.saas.gov.uk/part_time/ug/index.htm Or telephone: 0300 300 3137

Please note you may have a balance to pay once the PTFG has been applied

Prior credit

It is possible to transfer credit from courses at higher education level studied elsewhere, such as those from the Open University, into the CertHE programme. For further advice on this, please contact the Guidance Officer, Irene Vezza.

Irene can be contacted at 0141 330 1823 or via email at irene.vezza@glasgow.ac.uk.

Note for undergraduate students

Please be aware that Centre for Open Studies CertHE classes may be rather different in style to the classes you are used to in the full-time University programme. Our classes are typically small and mostly consist of part-time and mature students. Traditionally they are discussion-based classes rather than lectures, in which students are encouraged to contribute their own observations and questions under the guidance of the tutor. Undergraduate students are nonetheless very welcome to join.

Note for visually impaired students

This course information sheet can be provided in larger type (please telephone 0141 330 1835 to request it). The information it contains can also be found on our website:

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/centreforopenstudies/>

Additional support for students

The Centre for Open Studies welcomes applications from students with particular study needs. In conjunction with the University's Disability Service, we will provide suitable help and support for students wherever practicable. Please let us know about your situation so that we can do all we can to help. You can take the opportunity to advise us of your requirements when you submit your enrolment form to us, but later notification is also invited. A first point of contact is our disability coordinator Irene Vezza (0141 330 1823 or irene.vezza@glasgow.ac.uk).