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FACULTY OF
HEALTH SCIENCE

School of
Nursing and Midwifery

Graduate Certificate in Addiction Studies for Health Professionals



FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCE



CRICOS Provider: 00586B
Please note: this course is not CRICOS approved.

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

Introduction

Welcome to the Graduate Certificate in Addiction Studies for Health Professionals. The units in this course are designed to provide students with the knowledge, awareness and skills to work sensitively with clients and families affected by addictive disorders and behaviours.

Students must hold an undergraduate degree in a health field or (in the case of nurses) its equivalent and be employed in the field of addiction.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

- provide students with a broad theoretical understanding of dependency, maladaptive behaviours and epidemiological indicators;
- create an educational environment that values critical reflective thinking, life-long learning and professional development at the postgraduate level;
- prepare students to practise in partnership with clients and their families;
- develop students' communication skills in working with people from a wide range of age groups, backgrounds and cultures; and
- encourage students to be aware of issues of social responsibility in providing for the health of others.

Course Delivery

The Graduate Certificate in Addiction Studies for Health Professionals is delivered over one year of part-time study. Students undertake two units per semester. All units are offered in flexible mode and are fully online.

Course Structure

Semester One	Semester Two
CNA547 Contexts of Addiction (12.5%)	CNA549 Approaches to Intervention (12.5%)
CNA548 Assessment and Management of Addictive Disorders (12.5%)	CNA550 Self Directed Project in Addiction Studies (12.5%)

Unit Descriptors

CNA547 Contexts of Addiction

This unit examines the complex needs of the person requiring Addiction Services. Students will explore epidemiological theories of substance abuse and identify principles of dependence within a range of maladaptive behaviours. In addition, students will extend their knowledge and understanding of treatment approaches, withdrawal management and toxicology.

CNA548 Assessment and Management of Addictive Disorders

In this unit students will develop the evidence-based assessment and planning skills within a public health framework which they require in their work with alcohol and other drug dependant clients. This includes clinical assessment of alcohol and drug issues and identification of co-occurring disorders. Students will demonstrate understanding of current legislative requirements. A range of case studies will be used to explore risk assessment and risk management perspectives.

CNA549 Approaches to Intervention

In this unit students will further develop their knowledge and skills in the delivery of alcohol and other drug interventions. This unit will focus on current contemporary treatment approaches including psychosocial interventions and pharmacological treatments. This includes the range of alcohol and drug interventions and specialist programs such as substitution therapies.

CNA550 Self Directed Project in Addiction Studies

This unit is experiential and practice focussed. Students will use contracted learning to extend and demonstrate application of their knowledge and skills in the area of addiction through the development of an extensive portfolio of evidence. The portfolio should reveal enhanced understandings of the complex health needs of individuals and families across a range of settings.