PSYC 5804 A – CLINICAL APPROACHES TO THE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Instructor	Dr. Kim Lassiter
Term	Late Summer 2025 (July-August)
Course Delivery	Online combined synchronous / asynchronous
Email Address	Kim.Lassiter@carleton.ca
Office Location	N/A
Office Hours	By appointment over Zoom

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

This course is designed to provide 4th-year undergraduates and graduate students with an introduction to contemporary best practices in the clinical assessment and psychological treatment of substance use disorders, with a specific focus on the problematic use of alcohol and other drugs. Delivered online through synchronous class meetings (attendance required) and asynchronous online lecture components, this experience will provide students with a realistic overview of the responsibilities and interventions involved in the **psychosocial** treatment of substance use disorders. Topics include screening and assessment instruments and practices, intervention approaches, and relapse management. The course is designed to be highly interactive and participatory: active student involvement is required. Discussion about and practice in role-plays and clinical scenarios at selected points in the course will aid the initial development of basic clinical and counselling skills. As noted above, attendance at twice-weekly synchronous class meetings is required. Note: this course uses a psychosocial perspective. It is **not** a neuropsychology or psychopharmacology course.

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- Presentations (2) 10%
- Clinical case study: assessment 25%
- Report: Harm Reduction 25%
- Clinical case study: treatment 25%
- Class engagement (including role-play, group activities, and self-assessment) 15%

TEXT

Herie, Marilyn & Skinner, W.J. Wayne (Eds.)(2014). Fundamentals of Addiction: A practical guide for counsellors, 4th Edition. Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). ISBN 978-1-77114-147-5. Note: there are many used copies of this text available.