

ADDICTIONS COUNSELOR PREPARATION

Addictions Counselor Preparation

Professional Certification Program

Certificate

Contact:

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- You cannot major or minor in addictions counseling.
- You may receive credit-by examination for the following courses: PSYC 386, 387, 388, 389, 417.

Addictions Counselor Preparation

The Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists oversees the following regulations for Addictions Counselors in Maryland. There are three levels of certification, two of which are relevant to the undergraduate student and are briefly described below. For complete requirements for certification, please contact:

Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299
(410) 764-4732

Certified Supervised Counselor – Alcohol and Drug (CSC-AD):

15 credit hours of alcohol and drug counselor training required and an associate's degree in a health or a human service counseling field.

Certified Associate Counselor – Alcohol and Drug (CAC-AD):

20 credit hours of alcohol and drug counselor training required and a bachelor's degree in a health or human services counseling field.

At FSU, students majoring in psychology or social work are automatically eligible, while majors in law and society or sociology will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Completing one of these degree programs AND taking the required alcohol and drug counselor training courses, are the first steps in meeting certification requirements. At the bachelor's degree level you must also have at least three years or 3000 hours of supervised experience and two years of the experience must have been completed after the award of the degree. You will also have to pass an examination selected by the Board.

The credit hour requirement must be satisfied from the following content areas. Each area is followed by the appropriate FSU course(s); all are 3 credit courses except Ethics. Please be aware that although bachelor's degree counselors need only 20 credit hours from the following list to satisfy the course requirement, **your examination will cover ALL CONTENT AREAS.**

1. Pharmacology of Psychoactive Drugs	PSYC 386
2. Individual Counseling Techniques	PSYC 410, SOWK 379
3. Group Therapy Techniques	PSYC 385, SOWK 473
4. Abnormal Psychology	PSYC 417
5. Addictions Treatment Delivery	PSYC 387
6. Treatment Issues and Theory in Addictions	PSYC 388
7. Family Counseling*	no undergraduate course offered
8. Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy	no undergraduate course offered
9. Human Life Span Development	PSYC 210 and 212, SOWK 375
10. Ethics for the Addiction Counselor (1 credit hour)	PSYC 389

* Although FSU does not currently offer an undergraduate course in family counseling, SOWK majors taking SOWK 470, Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families, will find this course helpful in their preparation for family counseling issues covered on the examination.

Addictions Counseling Certificate

If you would like to get a head start on professional certification for addictions counselors, you may complete the following undergraduate certificate as a degree-seeking or non degree-seeking student. You still must complete a bachelor's degree in one of the human services fields noted above as well as complete additional course work in order to sit for the state exam.

Required Courses: (16 hours)

PSYC 150	General Psychology
PSYC 386	Drugs and Human Behavior
PSYC 387	Addictions Treatment Delivery
PSYC 388	Treatment Issues and Theory in Addictions
PSYC 389	Ethics for the Addiction Counselor

ONE of the following:

SOWK 379 or PSYC 410 Foundations for Generalist Practice OR Introduction to Counseling
SOWK 473 or PSYC 385 Generalist Practice with Groups OR Group Processes

- Since the Addictions Counseling program is a regional collaboration with Allegany College of Maryland, with shared courses and faculty, you may count enrollments at either Frostburg State University or Allegany College of Maryland to meet the requirement that at least one-half of the credit hours required in the certificate be completed in residence. In addition, grades from courses completed while enrolled through Allegany will count in determining whether you meet the 2.0 minimum grade point average in certificate courses.