



# Course Syllabus

**Course title:** Substance Use and Interventions

**Class section:** IMHA - 530 - BX01

**Term:** 2025W

**Course credits:** 3

**Total hours:** 45

**Delivery method:** Blended

## Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Łək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

## Instructor Details

**Name:** Jody Watson

**Email:** watsonj@camosun.ca

## Instructor Statement

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## Instructor Office Hours

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**Office:****Hours:**

OFFICE: CHW  
312 - door by  
north windows

Hours: As posted and/or arranged

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## Course Description

**Course Description:**

Students will explore current theoretical frameworks such as trauma informed practice, and harm reduction for working with individuals, families, and communities impacted by substance use and substance use disorders. Students will examine the continuum of substance use issues, the role of pharmacology, addiction processes, substance properties and effects, and recovery to enable them to effectively work with diverse populations.

**Prerequisites:**

All of:

- B- in IMHA 522

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## Course Learning Outcomes / Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, learners will be able to

1. Critically analyze multiple theoretical frameworks in the etiology of substance use, misuse, and abuse
2. Create culturally appropriate treatment plans on the continuum from substance use to recovery
3. Critically analyze current theoretical models and frameworks of addiction, substance use, and co-occurring disorders
4. Select and apply evidence-informed models such as motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioural therapy, harm reduction, and the transtheoretical model of change to meet client needs and preferences

5. Assess the sociocultural implications of addiction and other substance-related issues on individuals, families, and communities
6. Critically examine the impacts of colonization and systemic racism on substance use and addiction in assessment and treatment planning
7. Develop effective client-directed, ethical and culturally-appropriate responses to facilitate recovery
8. Apply and trauma-informed and culturally-responsive treatment in practice

## Course Materials - Required

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*Csiernik, Rick. Substance Use and Misuse (3rd Edition).* **Required**

## Course Schedule, Topics, and Associated Preparation / Activity

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**The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.**

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Readings	Assignments
Week 1 Jan 6-12	Introduction and Definitions	Text Ch. 1 & 3  In the Realm Part I & II	Reflection Due January 10th 11pm
Week 2-3 Jan 13-26	Etiological models of addiction and cultural considerations	Text Ch. 4,5,6 & 7  In the Realm Part III	Reflection Due  Jan 23rd 11pm
Week 4 & 5 Jan 27- Feb 9	Substance Properties and Effects	Text Ch 8-12  In the Realm Part IV	Reflection Due  February 6th 11pm

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Readings	Assignments
Week 6 Feb 10-16	Trauma and the Brain  Process addictions?	Ch. 23  In the Realm Part VI	Reflection Due February 13th 11pm
Week 7 Feb 17-23  Reading break	Diagnosis and Assessment	In the Realm Part VII	No assignments Due
Week 8 & 9 Feb 24-March 9   In person Feb 28th  9:00am-11:50 Portable A  103	Treatment, Recovery and Treatment Considerations	Text, 17, 18, 20 & 24	In the Realm of the Hungry Ghost Assignment Due  March 6th, 11pm
Week 10 March 10-16	Pharmacology	Text Ch. 2 & 16	Reflection Due  March 13th 11pm
Week 11 March 17-23	Harm Reduction	Text Ch 21	Reflection Due  March 20th 11pm

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Readings	Assignments
Week 12 March 24-30 In Person	Motivational Interviewing	Text Ch 22	No assignments due
Week 13 March 31-April 6	Relapse Prevention		Case Study Assignment Due  April 4th, 11pm
Week 14 April 7-13	Families	Text Ch 15	Reflection Due  April 3rd 11pm

### Evaluation of Learning: Weighted

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DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Case study	30%
In the Realm	30%
Reflections	30%
In class participation (including post class reflection)	10% (5% each)
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>

**NOTE: Students must achieve a minimum of 70% (B-) in this course to graduate the program.**

## Grade Reviews and Appeals

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the **Grade Review and Appeals policy** for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

**The Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) is part of Camosun's Student Affairs unit.** CAL coordinates academic accommodations and provides related programs and services to students with documented disabilities.

Students who require academic accommodations are expected to request and arrange accommodations through CAL in a timely fashion. While we understand that not all accommodation needs are known to students at the beginning of a course, accommodations cannot be provided unless the proper process is followed through CAL and an accommodation letter has been released to the instructor. Students are responsible for providing CAL with the proper documentation prior to the beginning of a course.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required.

**Deadlines can be reviewed on the CAL exams page**

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

**Please consult the CAL webpage for more information:**

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning>

## Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

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**Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)** is an evolving technology that brings potential benefits but also substantial risks. While GenAI tools have the ability to transform how we work and learn, it is essential for the college community to adapt to these changes in a thoughtful and secure way.

**When using GenAI tools, students should ensure proper citation and attribution guidelines are followed.** This includes acknowledging AI assistance in reports, presentations, or any external communications. Clear citation helps build trust, ensures ethical use, and reduces the risk of misinformation or copyright issues.

**For citation support visit the college's citation style guide.**

<https://camosun.libguides.com/cite>

## Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Visit the following website to learn about AI use in academic settings.

## Course Guidelines & Expectations

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### Participation

- Attendance at labs and seminars is mandatory.
- Punctual arrival for seminar/lab and posting assignments/reflections before due time
- Active involvement in discussion, group work, seminar, assignments, role-play, and online activities
- Respectful listening, constructive and appropriate comments in all learning environments

### Missed Campus and Synchronous Sessions:

- If a student is absent from all or part of a scheduled lab/seminar, they are expected to complete learning activities to demonstrate outcomes for missed content. Activities reflect knowledge and skills aligned with the course. Instructors must be confident that skills and knowledge meet competencies for the field.
- All missed content activities must be submitted for a final grade to be posted on Camlink; delay may impact a student's ability to continue in subsequent courses (e.g., IMHA 540 Practicum). Repeated absence from class without the instructor's permission may jeopardize a student's completion of the course.

### Technology

While seminar/lab is in-session, cellphones and other electronic devices are to be out-of-sight with alerts/ringers silenced with exception of technology for purposes of pre-arranged Center for Accessible Learning (CAL) accommodations

- For online synchronous sessions, cameras are to be on unless instructor indicates otherwise.
- Please mute microphones at start of sessions; instructors will guide the use of technology as the class progresses. Apps (e.g., WhatsApp, Skype), phones, and webpages other than D2L are to be closed.
- Students are strongly discouraged from starting pages or communicating on social media platforms (e.g., Instagram, Facebook, Group chats) due to their exclusionary nature. D2L includes tools for student- to-student communication; at times, demonstration of course outcomes include group work and communication in D2L Discussion forums.
- The IMHA Program includes learning outcomes that focus on critical thinking, conceptualization, and application skills. Using AI tools to bypass necessary knowledge and skill development may save time in the short term but will invariably lead to a poor

understanding of client support practices and may result in unsafe circumstances in the field. Therefore, use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT and Bing AI is prohibited for assignment work and submissions. Use of Grammarly is acceptable for sentence structure, spelling, and grammar only; students are responsible for accuracy of software application. AI tools may be used with instructor permission for designated learning activities. Please contact your instructor if you have questions.

### **Due Dates – see Schedule and D2L Assignments/Dropbox**

- Assignments are to be uploaded electronically to the designated area (e.g., Assignments/Dropbox) by 11pm on the due date, unless otherwise specified. This ensures that work is completed as a foundation for content in the following class.

### **Late Assignments**

- We recognize that there are multiple factors that could affect a student's ability to complete an assignment on time. It is assumed that students work diligently and employ good time management skills to meet deadlines. Even with the best intentions and strategies, unexpected situations can arise.
- In fairness to all students, assignments 15 minutes or more past due time are deducted 5% per 24-hour period. Instructors hold no judgment of students who decide to take more time. The late deduction is often well worth the time to complete the assignment with better learning outcomes and decreased stress.
- If urgent and exceptional circumstances prevent a student from meeting the due date, students should contact the instructor and request an extension at least 48 hours prior to the due date. Emergency situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Being busy, pressured with outside work, or having competing academic commitments are not considered valid reasons to receive extensions. A student who receives an extension and abides by the agreement with the instructor is not subject to a late deduction.
- Students with a Letter of Accommodation from the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) must have identified arrangements negotiated with the instructor at least 48 hours before due time. Typically, an extra two calendar days will be granted.
- Without a Letter of Accommodation, the deduction is on the mark obtained. For example, work submitted up to 24 hours late and earns 18/20, deduction is .9 (18 x 5%). In extenuating circumstances, a student may contact the instructor to request an extension without late deduction.

### **School or Departmental Information**

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**Students are required to read and are accountable for the College policies (outlined below) and practicum guidelines as described in the School of Health and Human Services (HHS) and program handbooks.**

[IMHA Program Handbook](#)

#### **Clinical and Practice Placements in HHS**

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/hhs-programs/practicums>

#### **School of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#top>

#### **HHS Program Handbooks**

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#program>

## **Student Responsibility**

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## **College Policies**

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### **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to follow the college's [Academic Integrity policy](#), and be honest and ethical in all aspects of their studies. To help you understand these responsibilities review the online [Academic Integrity guide](#).

The college's [Academic Integrity policy and supporting documents](#) detail the process for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL). CAL will arrange the appropriate academic accommodations so you can participate in all academic activities. Visit the [CAL website](#) for more information

## **Academic Progress**

The [Academic Progress policy](#) details how the college monitors students' academic progress and what steps are taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the college's academic progress standards.

## **Acceptable Technology Use**

The [Acceptable Technology Use](#) policy outlines how students are expected to use college technology resources, this includes using your own devices on the college's network. The use of the college resources in a way that violates a person's right to study in an environment free of discrimination, harassment or sexual violation is prohibited.

## **Course Withdrawals Policy**

For details about course withdrawal see the [Course Withdrawals policy](#). Be aware of the [deadlines for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refunds](#).

## **Grading Policy**

To learn more about grading see the [Grading Policy](#).

## **Grade Review and Appeals**

The process to request a review of grades is outlined in the [Grade Review and Appeals policy](#).

## **Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals**

If you have experienced a serious health or personal issue, you may be eligible for a [medical/compassionate withdrawal](#). The [Medical / Compassionate Withdrawal Request form](#) outlines what is required.

## **Sexual Violence**

If you have experienced sexual violence on or off campus, you can get support from the Office of Student Support. The Office of Student Support is a safe and private place to talk about what supports are available and your options for next steps. Visit the [sexual violence support and education site](#) to learn more or email [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841.

## **Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)**

Camosun expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Review the [Student Misconduct Policy](#) to understand the college's expectations of conduct.

Looking for other policies? See [Camosun College Policies and Directives](#)

## Services and Supports

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Services are free and available to all students.

<b>Academic Supports</b> <a href="#">Centre for Accessible Learning</a> <a href="#">English, Math and Science Help Centres</a> <a href="#">Library</a> <a href="#">Writing Centre &amp; Learning Skills</a>	<b>Enrollment Supports</b> <a href="#">Academic Advising</a> <a href="#">Financial Aid and Awards</a> <a href="#">Registration</a> <a href="#">Tuition and Fees</a>
<b>Health and Wellness</b> <a href="#">Counseling</a> <a href="#">Fitness and Recreation</a> <a href="#">Office of Student Support</a>	<b>Applied learning</b> <a href="#">Co-operative Education and Career Services</a> <a href="#">Makerspace</a>

The [Centre for Indigenous Education Centre and Community Connections](#) provides cultural and academic supports for Indigenous students.

[Camosun International](#) provides supports to international students.

[The Ombudsperson](#) provides an impartial, independent service to ensure students are treated fairly. The service is a safe place for students to voice and clarify concerns and complaints.

If you have a mental health concern, contact Counselling. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## Changes to this Syllabus

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Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change the course content or schedule. When changes are necessary the instructor will give clear and timely notice.