

ADDICTIONS COUNSELOR PREPARATION

Addictions Counselor Preparation

Certificate

Professional Certification Program

Coordinator:

Dr. Megan Bradley, Professor,
Department of Psychology

- You cannot major or minor in addictions counseling.
- You may receive credit-by examination for the following courses: PSYC 317, 386, 387, 388, 389.
- 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. However, degree-seeking FSU students cannot register for any of these courses at ACM.
- For transfer students: 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.

Frostburg State University offers a certificate program in Addictions Counseling to help prepare you to be a licensed addiction counselor. The University also offers additional courses you can take to prepare for state certification. Below is information on FSU's certificate program followed by information on Maryland state certification.

Addictions Counseling Certificate Program at Frostburg State University

(with joint program at Allegany College of Maryland)

Complete a minimum of 16 credit hours distributed as follows:

a. Required Courses: (13 hours)

ALL of the following:

- PSYC 150/151 General Psychology (GEP Group D)
- 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

b. Elective: (3 hours)

Select ONE of the following:

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

Additional Maryland State Certification Information

The Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists oversees the following regulations for Addictions Counselors in Maryland. There are two levels of Maryland state certification relevant to the undergraduate student, which are briefly described below. These levels pertain to those who want to apply for and take the state exam above and beyond any requirements for the undergraduate major. For complete requirements, contact:

Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists
4201 Patterson Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299
410.764.4732

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

- Associate degree in a health or a human service counseling field
- 15 credit hours of alcohol and drug counselor training with at least 1 credit hour in ethics of alcohol and drug counseling and the remaining credits from the list of topics areas (see below).

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

- 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, sociology or other areas will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 20 credit hours of alcohol and drug counselor training with at least 1 credit hour in ethics of alcohol and drug counseling and the remaining credits from the list of topics areas (see below).

*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 3,000 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.

List of Topic Areas

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. 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.**

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| 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 317 |
| 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 208 or 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.*