



Mental Health Services

Mental health technician training prepares students to care for mentally impaired or emotionally disturbed individuals following physician instructions and hospital procedures. Potential work opportunities include:

- Aides within inpatient/outpatient psychiatric facilities
- Day treatment centers
- Counseling centers
- Rehabilitation facilities

The mental health services program is designed to train mental health technicians and prepare individuals to meet the requirements for testing as a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (L.C.D.C.). Each program offers a practicum class which allows students to apply classroom skills in a treatment setting.

The Mental Health Technician (Psychiatric Aide/Technician) Certificate of Technology prepares students to work with disturbed individuals following physician instructions and hospital procedures. Psychiatric aides and technicians observe and record patient behavior and present findings to counselors, nurses and other professional staff. They intervene in crisis situations, actively moderate client behavior and assist with feeding, moving, dressing patients, personal hygiene and activities of daily living.

The Substance Abuse Counseling Certificate of Technology prepares individuals to enter the field of human services and provide specialized services to individuals and their families experiencing the effects of substance abuse. Graduates will be able to identify appropriate assessments, diagnosis and treatment of individuals who are, or have been, engaged in substance abuse. The program, plus 4,000 hours of paid work experience, provides individuals with the necessary educational and employment requirements to become eligible for testing as a L.C.D.C.

The combination of the certificates of technology and general education leads to an associate of applied science in mental health clinical and counseling psychology. Students who do not have an associate degree (or higher) in a behaviorally related field will not be eligible for full licensure in the State of Texas. An associate degree (or higher) is required for full licensure. A student can complete the certificate of technology course work, enter the workforce as a counseling intern and continue course work towards an associate degree before receiving their L.C.D.C.

In addition to the certificates listed above, we are now offering the Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist Occupational Certificate. This 20-hour certificate enables students to obtain a license as a Texas Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS), and the curriculum is approved by the Texas Department of Health Services. The coursework, combined with the capstone experience at a prevention approved training center enables students to work in the area of drug prevention in a variety of settings that include: community agencies, school districts, out-patient centers and various others in the greater Houston area. Once coursework is completed, students will need to enroll in the capstone prevention practicum (200 hours) and pass a state exam in order to obtain their license as a Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS).

TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Mental Health Clinical and Counseling Psychology (3MH-PSYC)

Associate of Applied Science Degree

North Campus

First Term	Credit
SOCW 2361 Introduction to Social Work	3
PSYC 2301 General Psychology	3
ENGL 1301 Composition I	3
PSYT 1371 Mental Health Legal and Ethical Issues	3
CMSW 1341 Behavior Modification and Cognitive Disorder	3
PHED Activity	1
Subtotal	16

Second Term	Credit
PHED Activity	1
PSYT 2331 Abnormal Psychology	3
SCWK 2301 Assessment and Case Management	3
PSYT 1471 Basic Nursing Skills for Mental Health/Psychiatric Technicians	4
PSYT 2301 Psychology of Group Dynamics	3
Subtotal	14

PostY1Summer	Credit
PMHS 2366 Practicum - Psychiatric/Mental Health Services Technician	3
Subtotal	3

Third Term	Credit
SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communications	3
DAAC 1304 Pharmacology of Addiction	3
DAAC 1311 Counseling Theories	3
MATH 1332 Contemporary Mathematics (Quantitative Reasoning) or MATH 1314 College Algebra or Higher	3
Subtotal	12

Fourth Term	Credit
*Humanities or Fine Arts	3
DAAC 2307 Addicted Family Intervention	3
DAAC 2341 Counseling Alcohol and Other Drug Addictions	3
ENGL 1302 Composition II or ENGL 2311 Technical and Business Writing	3
Subtotal	12

PostY2Summer	Credit
DAAC 2366 Practicum - Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling	3
Subtotal	3

Associate of Applied Science Degree Total 60

Capstone Experience: PMHS 2366 and DAAC 2366

* Courses that satisfy this requirement should be selected from Language, Philosophy, and Culture; and Creative Arts in the core curriculum.

NOTE: Students must pass each course listed in the degree or certificate for mental health services with a grade of C or higher to be eligible to receive a degree or certificate.