



Online Graduate Certificate *in*  
Addiction and Recovery  
College of Medicine

**TRAIN**

**WITH**

**ADDICTION EXPERTS**

[addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu](http://addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu)

**P**osition yourself for success with specialized training in addiction evaluation, counseling and treatment from a top addiction program and university. The University of Florida College of Medicine's online Graduate Certificate in Addiction and Recovery gives current and aspiring addiction professionals the chance to train with UF addiction experts

in a flexible and engaging distance learning environment. The certificate covers all the federally recommended knowledge and competency areas required for addiction professionals, serving as excellent preparation for local, state and national certification exams.

The program is a perfect fit for social workers, counselors, physicians, nurses and others with a bachelor's or higher degree who wish to pursue specialized training in addiction and recovery. Whether you want to enhance your career as an addiction professional, explore new career opportunities through continued education, or simply develop a specialized, in-demand skillset, this program can help you reach your goals.



## Meet the Need for Specially Trained Addiction Professionals

A marked expansion of health insurance coverage for addiction and substance use disorders treatment under the Affordable Care Act means that more and more people will now seek help from addiction professionals. That, in turn, means many more well-trained addiction professionals will be needed to provide proper care.

More than 20 million Americans who needed treatment for drug or alcohol abuse in 2012 did not receive treatment, most citing a lack of insurance or inability to pay, according to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. But the Affordable Care Act has eased that concern, requiring that insurers offer mental health and substance use disorder coverage comparable to what they offer for general medical care and surgery.

The increased access to health insurance for millions of Americans has thrown a stark light on the need for better training and preparation of the addiction professional workforce. Most who provide addiction treatment do not have the knowledge, skills, and credentials needed to administer effective, evidence-based treatment, according to a landmark 2012 study by Columbia University's National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA).

Already, there's strong evidence of increased demand for well-trained addiction and substance use disorder counselors — the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that employment in the field will grow by 22% over the next decade. Substance use disorder counselors with focused training and experience will have particularly favorable job prospects. Online training is a flexible, convenient way for working professionals to advance their careers and improve the quality of care they provide.

## Learn Current Research-Based Clinical Practice Standards

The UF online Graduate Certificate in Addiction and Recovery curriculum reflects current research and clinical practice standards. It spans a broad range of topics, from the basic science of addiction and substance use disorders, to methods and theories of substance use evaluation and treatment, to the establishment and financing of treatment programs:

By completing the program, graduates will be able to, among other things:

- **Outline models of addiction, treatment, and recovery**
- **Describe how addiction affects the brain**
- **Discuss current trends in substance use and addiction**
- **Apply proven, research-based methods to abuse prevention diagnosis, and treatment**
- **Devise appropriate and effective treatment plans for individuals and groups**
- **Tailor treatment to suit individual patients**
- **Tailor treatment based on factors such as age, gender and culture**
- **Monitor patient progress and evaluate treatment outcomes**
- **Work as part of a multidisciplinary treatment team**
- **Cultivate professional and cultural awareness**
- **Engage communities and government agencies**

For a full list of program objectives, visit our website at: [addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu](http://addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu)

## Prepare for Certification

Certification as an addiction professional or drug and alcohol abuse counselor can help professionals demonstrate their competency in the field and position them for career advancement.

The UF Graduate Certificate in Addiction and Recovery is designed to equip students with the knowledge and competencies needed for success on the Certified Addiction Professional (CAP) and Certified Addiction Counselor (CAC) exams administered by the Florida Certification Board (FCB), and other national and international certification exams.



In addition, for students who plan to seek professional certification, the program will help put students in contact with addiction practices where they may gain clinical experience. As much as possible, we will help facilitate connections between students and addiction specialists near them. Students and practitioners will then communicate with each other directly to decide the details of their specific clinical experience, and any associated payments. Clinical experience is not a required component of the certificate, but it is a valuable way to enhance critical skills, regardless of whether students go on to pursue certification.

To be eligible for this opportunity, students must be enrolled in the certificate and must have completed all the required courses.

## Curriculum

To earn the UF College of Medicine's **online Graduate Certificate in Addiction and Recovery**, students must complete 18 credit hours of required coursework (six 3-credit courses). Students taking two courses per semester can **complete the program in one year**.

## Required Courses:

### **GMS 6780 Addiction: Neuroscience and Trends (3 credits)**

This course presents findings from leading-edge neuroscience research on how different drugs act on the brain, and how differences in age, gender and other factors influence those effects. The course introduces different types of drugs, and describes global trends in addiction and substance use disorders.

### **GMS 6781 Foundations in Addiction and Substance Use Disorders (3 credits)**

This course covers cross-disciplinary areas underlying the work of addiction professionals: understanding addiction, treatment knowledge, application to practice and professional readiness. It presents models and theories of addiction, treatment, and recovery: research-based diagnosis, treatment, and outcome-measurement methods, sociocultural and other factors that influence substance use and treatment, and practice setting differences.

### **GMS 6782 Addiction: Clinical Evaluation and Treatment Planning (3 credits)**

This course covers screening and assessment of people thought to have addiction or who are being considered for treatment, and the interpretation and use of resulting data. It explores individualized treatment planning that accounts for drug type, mental health disorders and other medical conditions, as well as family, employment, social and legal concerns.

### **GMS 6783 Addiction: Counseling and Treatment Methods (3 credits)**

This course looks in-depth at collaboration between counselor and client in establishing treatment and recovery goals, promoting beneficial behaviors and discouraging harmful behaviors that put clients at risk for infectious diseases and other issues. It covers individual and group counseling, and counseling for families, couples and significant others.

### **GMS 6784 Addiction: Referral and Service Coordination (3 credits)**

This course teaches counselors how to work as part of a multidisciplinary treatment team and carry out

administrative, clinical, and evaluative activities that help clients gain access to a range of services and resources. The focus includes case management, client advocacy and coordination of treatment.

### **GMS 6785 Addiction: Professional and Ethical Responsibilities (3 credits)**

This course covers counselor adherence to ethical and behavioral standards, and professional development. It details accountability standards through proper documentation procedures from patient screening through to discharge. The course also covers engagement in public awareness efforts and partnerships that give clients, families, and communities important information about addiction, prevention, and treatment.

## Electives:

Students may take one or both of these electives at any time during the program.

### **GMS 6873 Introduction to Medical Bioethics (3 credits)**

This course intensively reviews the impact of bioethics in medical practice and research. It delves into topics such as stem cell research, reproductive rights, privacy laws, humans as research subjects, cultural and religious considerations in medical decision-making, and the role of government vs. the rights of individuals.

### **GMS 6874 Introduction to Medicine and The Law (3 credits)**

This course provides students with insight into some of the many interactions between the medical and legal professions. This course will be helpful for those pursuing a career in health or law. Online lectures are presented by practicing attorneys and physicians. Directed readings give students the opportunity to explore the fields. This course focuses on the United States.

For detailed information on the program's courses, faculty, and learning outcomes visit: <http://addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu>.

## Tuition:

\$590/Credit Hour x 18 Required Credits = \$10,620

Additional fees apply. Visit [addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu](http://addiction-certificate.psychiatry.ufl.edu) to learn more. This estimate does not include the cost for the optional clinical experience opportunity.

This program is approved by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Students can apply their GI benefits toward the cost of tuition.



## Learning Online with UF

The University of Florida continues to be a leader in distance learning, offering its online students a supportive learning environment. Adhering to the best practices in distance learning, UF's online academic programs provide a convenient way for professionals to pursue continued education.

The College of Medicine's online Graduate Certificate in Addiction and Recovery delivers easily accessible, engaging, academically rigorous course content without strict class schedules or a commute to campus.

Students also have online access to registration, tuition payment, **career planning services, the UF library, the UF bookstore**, a strong alumni network and dedicated tech support.

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- *U.S. News & World Report* “Best Medical Schools: Research” (2016) (#43)
- *U.S. News & World Report* “Top Public Universities” (2016) (#14)
- *U.S. News & World Report* “Most Innovative Schools” (2016) (#18)
- *Kiplinger's* “Best Values in Public Colleges” (2015) (#3)
- *Fiske* Guide to Colleges list of “Best Buys Among Publics” (2016) (#2)
- *Forbes* list of “Best Public Colleges” (2016) (#13)

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## Next Steps

We encourage you to take the next step in your career as an addiction professional by enrolling in the UF College of Medicine's online Graduate Certificate in Addiction and Recovery. Contact an Academic Assistant today to request more information and begin the application process.

 (352) 294-5565

 [addiction-certificate@ufl.edu](mailto:addiction-certificate@ufl.edu)

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