

Maynooth University
Level 7 Certificate in Addiction Studies
Tutor: Derek Byrne M.Sc.
Course Outline 2024/2025

Semester 1

Week 1 – Orientation and Introduction to Addiction Studies

Week 2 – Addiction - What is it? 1/**Perspective Essay**

Week 3 – Addiction – What is it? 2

Week 4 – Attitudes to Addiction/**Perspective Essay due**

Bank holiday break

Artane = 28th October

Week 5 – Theories of Addiction – Introduction & Disease Concept – E.M. Jellinek/**Creative Group Project**

Bluebell = 6th November

Week 6 – Theories of Addiction – Moral Concept – Thombs/**Article Critique**

Week 7 – Theories of Addiction – Biopsychosocial Concept – Stanton Peele & Gabor Maté

Week 8 – Summary of Theories/**Article Critique Review**

Week 9 – Introduction to Academic Writing 1/Discussion on Emerging Trends in Addiction

Week 10 – Common themes in addiction/The Process and the Object of Addiction

Week 11 – Course Review/**Article Critique due**

Christmas Break

Artane = last class 16th December – 6th January

Bluebell = 18th December – 8th January

Week 12 – Non-substance Addiction 1 – Introduction to Contemporary Issues & Emerging Trends

Week 13 – Non-substance Addiction 2 – Online Gaming/The impact of Covid & Lockdown

Week 14 – Non-substance Addiction 3 – E-Cigarettes & Vaping

Assignment 1: Article Critique completed before Christmas

Assignment 2: Creative Group Project presented & completed last week in January

Semester 2

Artane = 27th January

Bluebell = 29th January

Date for Maynooth day to be announced – Usually mid-March

Week 1 – Introduction to Semester 2/**Theory Essay**

Week 2 – Intervention Skills 1 - Cognitive Behavioural Therapy CBT

Week 3 – Intervention Skills 2 – Motivational Interviewing MI

Week 4 – Intervention Skills 3 – Community Reinforcement Approach CRA

Week 5 – Prevention & Education in Addiction/ **Agency Review Preparation**

Week 6 – Introduction to social Theory/Presentation Skills

Week 7 – Social Theory and Addiction – Marks, Durkheim & Others

Mid-term break – St. Patrick's Day

Artane – 17th March

Bluebell – 19th March

Week 8 – National Drugs Strategy/Academic Writing Skills 2

Week 9 – Community Development – 4 Pillars/What now?

Week 10 – Alcohol Policy in Contemporary Ireland: an introduction

Week 11 – Drug Policy in Contemporary Ireland: an introduction/Agency visit progress updates

Easter Break

Artane – 21st April

Bluebell – 23rd April

Week 12 – **Agency Visit Presentations**

Week 13 – Academic Writing Skills 3 & Assignment update

Week 14 – Addiction Studies – A reflection (**Reflective essay questions**)

Week 15 – Creative Group Project Presentations

Note: Due to bank holidays in February and May, the Artane schedule may differ from above

Course ends

Artane – 19th May

Bluebell – 21st May

Assignments Semester 2:

Assignment 3: Agency Review Presentations and Essay

Assignment 4: Theory Essay

Assignment 5: Essays based on Learning Journal

NOTE: All assignments must be uploaded to Turn-it-in by Friday the 23rd of May