



Degree Guide:

Addiction Studies, Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree

Program

[Addiction Studies \(HSSA/HSSA&\)](#)

Degree Type

Professional Technical Degree

Program Coordinator

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Program Description

Complete your Addiction Studies, Associate in Applied Science (AAS). This program competencies can be attained through an extensive array of educational courses offered. The program contains classes suggested to begin internships in chemical dependency agencies in the public and private sectors and fulfill chemical dependency professional status in accordance with current certification requirements. Course content includes counseling, case management, psychology, sociology, ethics, law, and physiology as well as internships in a variety of work environments. Students are encouraged to begin the program in either fall or winter quarter.

Program Length: 6 Quarters

Program Code: SAAASAPT

Career Opportunities and Earnings

Clallam and Jefferson counties offer internships in inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities for students to gain experience as they transition to a chemical dependency professional. There continues to be a strong need for addiction professionals throughout the state.

- Case manager at emergency shelter
- Case worker for state agencies (i.e., Department of Social and Health Service, mental health agencies, etc.)
- Chemical dependency counselor
- Intervention specialist

For current employment and wage estimates, please visit and search for the relevant occupational term: [bls.gov/oes/](https://www.bls.gov/oes/).

Program Outcomes

- Identify basic facts on addiction and effect on individual, family, and society; chemical dependency theory and therapy models; dynamics of teenage substance abuse
- Maintain accurate case management records
- Utilize knowledge of state laws and court procedures regarding alcohol/drug offenses
- Apply basic counseling skills in a therapeutic setting
- Explore dynamics of chemically dependent family
- Recognize the relapse process and its impact on recovery and family-of-origin issues
- Examine ethical principles and rules of conduct for the chemical dependency counselor
- Address cultural awareness as it relates to working with others
- Apply basic computer skills to practical applications



- Communicate in writing for a variety of purposes and audiences
- Demonstrate competencies to succeed in the selected career pathway workplace
- Interpret human interaction with others
- Recognize and formulate an information need
- Report the actions of drugs on the body
- Identify AIDS and Hepatitis C as diseases
- Summarize assessment and treatment issues specific to individuals with co-occurring disorders

Special Features

- This program offers a special 14-credit certificate for persons interested in enhancing their potential entry into training positions. Coursework includes Introduction to Addiction Studies, Physiology of Drugs, and Counseling I.
- The Addiction Studies program offers the student a unique opportunity to develop self-awareness regarding valuable choices for a healthy lifestyle.
- Students interested in pursuing both an Addiction Studies AAS degree and an Associate in Arts, Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) degree simultaneously should contact the program advisor.
- Students can continue their academic studies at Peninsula College in the Bachelor of Applied Science in Behavioral Healthcare degree (BHAV). Students interested in this option should complete [MATH&107](#) or above instead of [AMATH121](#). Please contact the program advisor for additional prerequisite requirements at BAS@pencol.edu.

Approximate Additional Costs

- Books, supplies and miscellaneous fees (per quarter): \$250 - \$300
- Application for Chemical Dependency Professional: \$250
- Initial Chemical Dependency Professional Certificate: \$275
- Chemical dependency counselor trainee application: \$110

Sample Schedule

This sample schedule is provided as a guide for a full-time student starting in fall quarter whose goal is to earn the AAS. The typical student schedule is based on entering the program during the fall quarter, however some programs allow students to enter in the winter or spring as well. Since not all do, please confirm with an advisor whether this program must be started during a specific quarter or not.

First Quarter (Fall)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ENGL& 101	English Composition I	5
HSSA& 101	Introduction to Addictive Drugs	5
HSSA 105	Phys/Pharm of Alcohol and Drugs	5
HSSA 190	DBHR HIV/AIDS; Brief Risk, Airborne Pathogens	1



Second Quarter (Winter)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
FA 100 or FA 180		1
HSSA 115	Counseling I	4
HSSA 150	Case Management	3
HSSA 172	Cultural Diversity	3
PSYC& 100	General Psychology	5

Third Quarter (Spring)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
HSSA 135	Family Treatment/CD I	3
HSSA 140	Group Counseling	5
HSSA 155	Youth CD Counseling and Assessment	3
PSYC& 200	Lifespan Psychology	5

Fourth Quarter (Fall)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
AMATH 121	Applied Math for Professional & Tech Programs I	5
AOS 102, AOS 103, AOS 104 or AOS 109		2
HSSA 116	Intervention in Chemical Dependency	2
HSSA 165	Chemical Dependency Counseling & Ethics	3
HSSA 232	Mental Health Issues-CDP	3

If planning to pursue a Bachelor of Applied Science in Behavioral Healthcare degree (BHAV), take [MATH& 107](#) or above instead of [AMATH 121](#).

Fifth Quarter (Winter)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
HSSA 160	Chemical Dependency and the Law	3
HSSA 201	Pathological Gambling & Other Addictions	3
HSSA 215	Counseling II	3
HSSA 280	Peer Counseling	5



Sixth Quarter (Spring)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
HSSA 136	Relapse Prevention	3
HSSA 250	Case Management for Professionals	3
HSSA 290	Medical Aspects of Addiction	5
HSSA Internship or Social Sciences		5

Your personal educational plan will vary based on many factors including:

- The quarter you begin
- How many classes/credits you plan to take in each quarter
- Your math and English placement; Learn more about placement options by visiting the [Assessment and Placement website](#).
- If you start in our [Transitional Studies](#) program

Total Credits **93**