

## Health Programs

# Community Mental Health Worker

(subject to enrolment)

### 20-week Certificate Program

**Fee Category: VII**

## The Program

The program is based on the principles of psychosocial rehabilitation and provides students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes essential to promote and support individual rights and responsibilities; communicate effectively; contribute to the development and implementation of personalized plans; promote the health, safety and well-being of individuals in the community; practice professional effectiveness, and develop 'self' to meet current and future practice needs. The program is offered full time and, periodically, on a part-time basis.

***A free information session for prospective students is usually held in February. Check with the Advising Centre for more details, 250-740-6410, or visit [viu.ca/infosessions](http://viu.ca/infosessions).***

## Career Opportunities

The program prepares for entry-level employment in client-focused community mental health care and rehabilitation, working as part of a team in settings ranging from large care facilities to residential facilities.

## Admission Requirements

- General admission requirements apply.
- English 12, with min. "C" grade, or equivalent.
- Current Standard First Aid with Level "C" CPR.
- Negative TB Screening.
- Standard criminal record check.

## Notes on Admission

- Attendance at an Information Session is highly recommended.
- A satisfactory criminal record check is required prior to the first day of placement in the practicum.
- Foodsafe Level I Certificate may be required by some practicum sites and will be the responsibility of the student.
- Evidence of a negative tuberculin test, taken no more than six months prior to the date of application is required. If tuberculin test is positive, evidence of an appropriate follow-up is required for first day of practicum.
- Current Standard First Aid with Level "C" CPR certificate is required for the first day of practicum.

- Enrolment in this program is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.

## **Start Date and Application Deadline**

Specific start dates for Spring 2009 to be determined. Students interested in this program should contact Janet Hebron, Chair, at 250-740-6266 for further information.

## **Special Expenses**

Students will be required to pay for travel expenses to practicum agencies. There are charges for printed materials.

*All fees are subject to change without prior notice*

## **Program Outline**

- CMHW 110 (Community Mental Health Worker I)
- CMHW 111 (Community Mental Health Worker II)
- CMHW 115 (Communications)
- CMHW 120 (Support Strategies)
- CMHW 125 (Professional Issues)
- CMHW 130 (Health Care Basics)
- CMHW 135 (Substance Use and Mental Health)
- CMHW 140 (Practicum)

## **Graduation Requirements**

- In order to successfully complete the program and be awarded the Certificate, students must achieve a passing grade for each Community Mental Health Worker course. In addition, students must successfully complete a practicum including field reports and assignments.

## **Other Mental Health Certificates**

Malaspina's Centre for Continuing Studies offers short-term non-credit certificate programs designed for caregivers who work with people with mental health issues.

For further information, please contact Janet Hebron, Chair, at 250-740-6266.

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