

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.

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.

Print Application Form

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.

Archived: August 18, 2008