

## Post-Graduate Employment

Graduates learn to develop and implement individual treatment plans, lead effective group counseling, counsel clients with substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders, understand current research on the psychopharmacology of addiction, and work with families and community agencies to implement behavior change and develop effective prevention programs. M.S. in Addiction Studies graduates will be prepared to apply for jobs as counselors, supervisors, team leaders, inpatient managers, outpatient coordinators and other careers in the substance use disorders field. The degree is also a complement to those interested in careers that intersect with addiction issues in law enforcement, nursing, social work, counseling, business and education.

## Certification

The WCSU M.S. in Addiction Studies trains students for the certification of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) in Connecticut. The LADC requires a Master's degree in a Behavioral Science (such as Psychology). Complete licensure information can be found at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing-Investigations/Alcohol-Drug-Counselor/Alcohol-and-Drug-Counselor-Licensure-Requirements>

## Application

Applicants must submit an application to the Office of Graduate Admissions specifying the M.S. in Addiction Studies:

Online application: <http://www.wcsu.edu/graduate/application.asp>

Applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education at time of entry into the program. An interview with the Psychology department admissions committee is required upon formal application.



## Information

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## Program Overview

The M.S. in Addiction Studies is a 37-credit graduate degree program for those who wish to specialize in substance-use disorder (SUD) treatment, education, research, and prevention. The full-time track is a one-year program: students typically begin in the fall semester and can graduate the following summer. There is also a 2-year track for part-time students. Courses are held in the evenings, on Saturdays, or online. The M.S. includes a six-month internship (10-20 hours/week) required for graduation. We have a wide range of partner sites for our internships, including residential, outpatient, and community outreach programs. Our special strengths are:

- Preparing graduates to effectively work with underserved populations
- Providing training in diverse settings, with diverse populations
- A focus on integrated behavioral health services
- Training leaders who can become effective advocates in their local and state community for evidence-based treatment and prevention of substance use disorders such as alcohol and opioid use disorder
- Training our graduates in a non-stigmatizing, harm reduction, biopsychosocial approach to the treatment of SUDs in the context of overall health and well-being

## Mission

Our core objectives are to:

- Provide the highest quality training in evidence-based interventions.
- Increase the number and diversity of professionals in the addiction prevention and therapy field.
- Provide community-based outreach education in prevention and treatment of problems associated with alcohol, opioids, cannabis, tobacco and other drugs.
- Prepare our graduates to obtain Connecticut licensure as alcohol and drug counselors (LADC).

## Faculty

Full-time clinical faculty in the M.S. in Addiction Studies are:



### Nicholas Gallucci, Ph.D.

As a clinical psychologist, Dr. Gallucci is a generalist with a particular interest in the training of addiction counselors. He received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at University of Louisville. His research includes the study of patterns of addiction with the MMPI-2 and MMPI-A; and applications of the Social Ecology Model in the prevention of substance abuse among collegian student-athletes. He is the author of a best-selling textbook in sport psychology.



### Lindsay Oberleitner, Ph.D.

Dr. Oberleitner's clinical and research expertise is in addiction. She received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Wayne State University. Dr. Oberleitner has provided direct client care in addiction since 2006, when she first worked in a methadone clinic. Most recently, Dr. Oberleitner was the Associate Director for a Forensic Drug Diversion Clinic at the Yale University School of Medicine, and served as faculty there from 2013 to 2018. She has published multiple research studies in the addiction and health care field.



### Shane Murphy, Ph.D.

Dr. Murphy's clinical and research expertise is in health and sport psychology. He received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Rutgers University, specializing in cognitive-behavioral therapy. After completing his post-doc at the Medical University of South Carolina he became the first full-time sport psychologist for the US Olympic Committee (USOC) from 1986 to 1993. He has published widely in the field of sport psychology.

## Required Courses in the M.S. in Addiction Studies

PSY 592 Substance Use Counseling: Assessment and Counseling (4 Cr)

PSY 593 Substance Use Counseling: Drugs and Behavior (4 Cr)

PSY 594 Substance Use Counseling: Counseling Techniques (4 Cr)

PSY 595 Substance Use Counseling: Applied Individual and Group Counseling (4 Cr)

PSY 581 Program evaluation and data analysis (3 Cr)

PSY 582 Professional Development and Ethics for Treatment Providers (3 Cr)

PSY 583 The Psychopharmacology of Addiction and Medication Assisted Treatment (3 Cr)

PSY 584 Advanced Assessment, Prevention and Therapy of Substance Use Disorders & Co-Occurring Disorders (3 Cr)

PSY 585 Current Topics in Substance Use Disorders Assessment and Treatment (3 Cr)

PSY 530 Internship in Addiction Studies (3 Cr)

PSY 590 Masters Project (3 Cr)

**TOTAL 37 credits**

