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# The Fundamentals of Addiction Counseling: A Primer

Scheel, Kevin R. DLC Publishing ISBN: 9781615399246; 6th Edition; 2009; Format: Softcover; Trimsize 8.5x11"; Pages 644; \$80.00



The Fundamentals of Addiction Counseling: A Primer provides students with a unique in-depth review of the dynamics and functions of addiction counseling. This 640+ page text contains essential need-to-know information for orienting entry-level addiction counseling students to the profession. It is a valuable stand-alone text that will assist counseling students in learning the content knowledge and skills necessary for becoming an effective addiction professional. This text is authored by Kevin Scheel - an experienced addiction professional, author, and trainer - to educate students in academic settings.

### Features

- A focus on addiction counseling topics relevant to all types of students and institutions. The author presents comprehensive information on every aspect of addiction counseling essential content and skills for a variety of student audiences. Relevant topics include Pharmacology of Psychoactive Substances; Counseling Functions; Theoretical Approaches to Care; and Professional Issues.
- A practical broad survey of the scope of practice necessary for becoming an effective addiction professional. The author's extensive practical experience as an addiction professional, trainer, researcher, and author positions him as uniquely qualified to write this text for addiction counseling students.
- Published on demand and updated. This is the sixth edition of this text and it will be updated annually to include all of the latest information and developments in the expanding dynamic field of addiction counseling.

### Overview

This text helps addiction counseling students learn much of the basic need-to-know information typically required to perform the skills needed to become an accomplished drug/alcohol professional, as well as to obtain a variety of basic knowledge that will be the foundation for required credentialing examinations. Ultimately, the application of this knowledge will be performed while obtaining in-field experience while serving as an intern or a counselor-in-training at a treatment program or facility.

This text is intended to provide an overview of the more important facts and knowledge used by current effective drug/ alcohol professionals. It is comprised of three sections.

Section one deals with information that is drug and alcohol specific. It looks at the field in general, reviews the commonly accepted theories of addiction, looks at specific drug and alcohol knowledge, and explores treatment approaches commonly used in the field.

**Section two** deals with the core functions of counseling. This section is largely presented in an outline format, reviewing such things as screening, assessment, intake, orientation, counseling (individual, group, and family), and other topics. The materials from this section were originally developed for use in the Project for Addiction Counselor Training (PACT) - a federally-funded program in the early 1990's whose purpose was to train minority counselors and assist them in obtaining credentials as drug/alcohol counselors. The information, therefore, has been tested and used successfully by a variety of individuals across the nation.

**Section three** deals with more specialized areas of training – for example psychological theories of change, ethics, HIV/AIDS, cooccurring disorders, cultural information, motivational interviewing, twelve-step programs, and special populations. While not an allinclusive set of specialized knowledge, it does represent a major portion of the knowledge base that will be included in the testing process used by both major credentialing bodies.

For more complete information about this publication visit our web site at <u>www.DLCPublishing.com</u>.

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## Kevin R. Scheel, MS, MAC, LMFT

Kevin R. Scheel is a Masters prepared chemical dependency counselor with more than thirty years of experience in the human service field. He has served as the director of programs in the public sector as well as in private care facilities, both in the profit and not-for-profit arenas. He served as an instructor at McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas, and as a private training consultant with Hazelden. Mr. Scheel is the author of "Alcohol: Chemistry & Culture," as well as a series of education videotapes on the various drugs of abuse, published and marketed by WRS Group, Inc. He has also created a credentialing preparation and review manual that is currently in use by a variety of colleges and universities across the nation which is designed to aid students

preparing for their addiction counseling examination. Kevin is one of the co-founders of the Distance Learning Center for Addiction Studies and ReadyToTest.com. He continues to be active as a writer/author of materials for this training service.



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