



Ashton

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS SUPPORT WORKER

DO YOU FEEL A STRONG
SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY
TO HELP THOSE STRUGGLING
IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

ASHTONCOLLEGE.CA



OVERVIEW

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**EXPLORE A BROAD RANGE OF PERSPECTIVES ON MENTAL ILLNESS,
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND ADDICTION**

**IDENTIFY THE PREVALENCE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MENTAL ILLNESS
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE WITHIN CANADA**

EXPLAIN COMMON RISK FACTORS AND METHODS TO REDUCE RISK

IDENTIFY KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND TREATMENT OPTIONS

ANALYZE HEALTH PROMOTION, PREVENTION AND HARM REDUCTION

**UNDERSTAND SERVICE DELIVERY FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITIES**

WHY APPLY?

There is an increasing demand for mental health and addictions support workers. This program aims to prepare students to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team focusing on client treatment and rehabilitation.

Graduates of the program can choose to work in a variety of settings including institutional, community and residential.

"NO SOCIETY CAN UNDERSTAND ITSELF WITHOUT LOOKING AT ITS SHADOW SIDE."

— GABOR MATÉ, AUTHOR OF *IN THE REALM OF HUNGRY GHOSTS*



GRADUATES CAN APPLY TO BE A CANADIAN CERTIFIED ADDICTION COUNSELLOR OR A CERTIFIED ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELLOR THROUGH THE CACCF.

CLASS STUDIES COUNT TOWARDS 120 HOURS OF CLINICAL SUPERVISION.

ACCREDITED BY:





PROGRAM

COURSES &
APPLICATION FEES

Build on your potential by gaining the necessary skills to thrive in your role as a mental health and addictions support worker.

Courses include:

MHASW 01: Introduction to Mental Health

MHASW 02: Mental Illness and Interventions

MHASW 03: Concurrent Disorders and More Complex Casework

MHASW 04: Health Promotion, Prevention and Harm Reduction

MHASW 05: Practicum

Application Fee: \$40 (Domestic) or \$140 (International)

Tuition Fee: \$5,400 (Domestic) or \$6,750 (International)

PROGRAM INSTRUCTORS



BRIAN COMER

Brian Comer has worked in inpatient acute psychiatry and inpatient withdrawal management for a number of years. Currently, he is an elected Member of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia, determined to improve mental health and addictions policies in his province. His key areas of focus are reducing stigma, increasing access, and creating mental health parity.



JESSICA GILL

Jessica Gill (she/her) is currently pursuing her Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology while also working as a Substance Use Prevention and Health Promotion Worker. Jessica has been working in the mental health and substance use field for 10+ years, with experience in Alberta and British Columbia. Her experience includes working in both inpatient and outpatient substance use programs.



VANESSA KINCH

Vanessa Kinch is a Registered Psychiatric Nurse who has worked in mental health and addictions for the last 10 years. She has experience with both inpatient and outpatient programs. In the last few years, she has worked as an instructor to help teach and guide new nursing students, specifically on mental health and addictions.

PROGRAM INSTRUCTORS



ANNICK PARIZEAU

Annick has an undergrad in Human Services and has been working with vulnerable populations across the mental health and social services field for 20+ years. She believes in a person-centred lens, where individuals are the experts in their recovery, and honours that everyone has a story. Currently, Annick is a contractor providing Prevention, Outreach and Community Engagement for Gambling Support BC.



AMRIT SAMRA

Amrit pursued graduate studies in developmental psychology and has many years of experience in the mental health and addictions field. She has worked with diverse populations such as human trafficking survivors and women in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. Her current position is in healthcare, working to improve the quality of processes and systems. Amrit is excited to bring her experiences and knowledge from the field into the classroom.

PROGRAM INSTRUCTORS



MELISSA TOEWS

Melissa Toews (she/her) has been a Registered Psychiatric Nurse for over eight years and has worked in various frontline and health care leadership/management roles in the Interior BC, Northern BC, Northern Alberta, Nunavut, and Vancouver. She is currently working in Executive Health Care Regional Management while volunteering as a crisis responder for the National Crisis Text Line (powered by Kids Help Phone).



JEREMY WILLIAMS

Jeremy Williams is a Registered Therapeutic Counsellor and Canadian Certified Addictions Counsellor who has worked in the field as a Mental Health Worker, Addiction Support Worker, Youth Detox Worker and Community Liaison Worker. Jeremy works part-time in a small private practice and he is the former Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Association of Cooperative Counselling Therapists of Canada.



ABOUT US

THE ASHTON
ADVANTAGE

ashtoncollege.ca

FOUNDED IN 1998, Ashton College is a leader in education, delivering innovative learning experiences. Our personalized, comprehensive programs and courses provide domestic and international students with career-focused education.

