

Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor

What is a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor?

According to the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) the Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC) was created in 1981 and is the largest credential in the field of addiction-related behavioral healthcare with over 20,000 professionals worldwide. There are now more than 63 countries, U.S. states, and territories that offer a reciprocal ADC credential.

The CADC is recognized worldwide as the gold standard for competency in the field. It is written into U.S. state and national practice regulations and insurance legislation.

Similar to the CSAC, Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor's help clients overcome addiction to drugs, alcohol, or gambling. An evaluation of the patient's addiction type and severity should be carried out before other services are administered; then, counseling services can be provided. These counselors help their patients to understand why addiction exists and what can be done to overcome it.

Common tasks for Alcohol and Drug (CADC) and Substance Abuse Counselors (CSAC) include:

- Providing evaluations, interventions, and individual and group therapy to clients experiencing chemical abuse dependency.
- Maintaining case history and progress notes while observing their patients.
- Counseling individuals or groups and implements therapeutic treatment plans to resolve addictions to drugs or alcohol.

How Do I Become Certified as an Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC)?

Pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board, an applicant for certification as an alcohol and drug counselor shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has:

- Completed 300 hours of didactic substance abuse education** in the domains of **(1) Screening, Assessment, and Engagement ; (2) Treatment Planning, Collaboration, and Referral (3) Counseling (4) Professional & Ethical Responsibilities** from a program or programs recognized or approved by the Board and received a bachelor's degree from a college or university accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Board; and
- Accumulated 4,000 hours of experience** providing direct, primary alcohol and drug counseling to persons whose primary diagnosis is that of alcohol and/or drug addiction. An applicant must have primary responsibility for providing counseling in an individual and/or group setting, preparing treatment plans, documenting client progress and is clinically supervised by an individual who is knowledgeable in addiction
- Obtained 200 hours of Supervision** a minimum of 10 hours in specific domains. Applicant's supervisor must hold an active reciprocal certification with VCB or document another certification or license.
- The applicant shall also pass an examination as required by the Board.**

Note: *There is no pre-approval required in order to complete the supervision and experience requirements which means that internship hours will count toward the required 4,000 hours.*

While you will be required to complete your residency and examination requirements after graduation, The Virginia Certification Board has APPROVED the following Old Dominion University substance abuse track to fulfill the didactic requirements of this credential:

- HMSV 491: Family Guidance - 3 cr
- HMSV 341: Introduction to Human Services- 3 cr
- HMSV 444: Psychoeducational Groups- 3 cr
- HMSV 447: Introduction to Substance Abuse- 3cr
- HMSV 452: Substance Abuse Treatment and Research- 3 cr
- HMSV 368: Field Observation in Human Services- 3 cr
- HMSV 468: Internship in Human Services-12 cr ****

New for 2017- Recently Added Courses

- HMSV 449: Crisis Intervention, Prevention and Ethics (formerly Theories and practice of prevention) – 3cr
- HMSV 343: Human Service Methods- 3cr –

Comparison of CADC Requirements to ODU Substance Abuse Track

CADC requirements	Screening, Assessment and Engagement	# of hours Received	Treatment Planning, Collaboration and Referral	# of hours Received	Counseling (related to AOD)	# of hours Received	Professional and Ethical Responsibilities	# of hours Received
	HMSV 447: Intro to SA	22.5	HMSV 452: SA treatment and Research	22.5	HMSV 452: SA treatment and Research	22.5	1. HMSV 341: Introduction to HMSV	45
	HMSV 444: Psycho-educational Groups	45	HMSV 368: Field Observation	22.5	HMSV 368: Field Observation	22.5	HMSV 447: Introduction to SA	22.5
	HMSV 449: Crisis Intervention	22.5	HMSV 491: Family Guidance	45	HMSV 343 Human Service Methods	22.5	HMSV 449: Crisis Intervention	22.5
			HMSV 343 Human Service Methods	22.5				
Total Hours Received: 360 hours		90		112.5		67.5		90

******** *The Virginia Certification Board does not require an internship as part of the didactic education, however as internship is a major/minor requirement for degree completion, all internship hours will count toward the 4,000 residency hours if completed in a substance abuse setting.*

Didactic Course Descriptions and Prerequisites

HMSV 341. Introduction to Human Services. 3 Credits.

Students will learn about human services, the helping process, and the role and function of the human service worker. Students will be exposed to local and state human services facilities. A grade of C or better is required. Prerequisites: [ENGL 211C](#) or [ENGL 221C](#) or [ENGL 231C](#).

HMSV 343W. Human Services Methods. 3 Credits.

Presents theories and techniques used by human services workers in a variety of settings. A grade of C or better is required. (This is a writing intensive course.) Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in [ENGL 211C](#) or [ENGL 221C](#) or [ENGL 231C](#). Pre- or corequisite: HMSV 341.

HMSV 444. Psycho-educational Groups. 3 Credits.

This course combines lectures and experiential learning about psycho-educational groups. Principles and practices for developing and leading psycho-educational groups are emphasized.

Prerequisite: [HMSV 341](#) with a grade of C or higher and [HMSV 343W](#) with a grade of C or higher.

HMSV 449. Crisis Intervention, Prevention and Ethics. 3 Credits.

This course explores effective crisis intervention, examines prevention strategies, and develops students' ethical decision making within human service practice. Prerequisite: [HMSV 341](#) and [HMSV 343W](#) with a grade of C or higher.

HMSV 447 Introduction to Substance Abuse 3 Credits

This course develops the professional identity of the student as a practitioner of substance abuse services while introducing the student to the signs and symptoms of substance abuse, the recovery process and relapse prevention methods. Prerequisites: [HMSV 341](#) with a grade of C or better and [HMSV 343W](#) with a grade of C or better.

HMSV 452. Substance Abuse Treatment and Research. 3 Credits

This course explores effective substance abuse treatment planning and intervention strategies through lectures and experiential learning and examines research trends in the substance abuse field. Prerequisites: [HMSV 447*](#) with a grade of C or better and [HMSV 343W](#) with a grade of C or better.

**Students must have taken HMSV 447 Introduction to Substance Abuse as a prerequisite to this course*

HMSV 491. Family Guidance. 3 credits

This course provides a study of the family as a system and an introduction to a variety of issues confronting the family, including child abuse, substance abuse and addiction, spouse abuse, and others that produce more than usual stress in the family. Available community resources for helping families will be examined. Prerequisites: HMSV 341 and HMSV 343W with a grade of C or higher.

HMSV 368. Field Observation in Human Services. 3 credits

Students will visit and examine human services systems such as mental health, substance abuse, criminal justice, rehabilitation, and professional associations to facilitate decision-making in selecting an internship and to gain a complex understanding of the human services field.

A minimum grade of C is required; Prerequisites: 339, 341 and 343W

HMSV 468. Internship in Human Services. 12 Credits.****

This course involves field placement in a human services setting. Approximately 400 hours are devoted to field placement, group seminars and individual supervision. A grade of “C” or better must be earned to complete the human services major. (qualifies as a CAP experience) Prerequisites: completion of all coursework including General Education requirements, core courses, major courses, and elective courses; a grade of C or better in [HMSV 341](#), [HMSV 343W](#), [HMSV 368](#), and [HMSV 440W](#); and program approval.

How Does the CADC Compare to the CSAC?

CSAC or CADC?

Certified Substance Abuse Counselor

- Requires a minimum of a Bachelors degree
- 2,000 residency hours (**must be pre-approved**)
- 220 hours of addiction education
- Will cost a total of \$300 from registration to receipt of your certification after passing exam
- Renew annually for \$65
- No Continuing education (CEU) required
- VA employers may request this credential
- Cannot bill insurance companies directly

Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor

- Can be obtained at the Bachelor level
 - 4,000 hours residency (**no pre-approval**)
 - 300 hours of addiction education
 - Will cost \$350 to register for exam
 - Renew every 2 years for \$150
 - Requires 40 hours of CEU every 2 years
 - Transfers to other states and internationally (**accepted in VA**)
 - Allows you to bill Medicaid insurance
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Common Questions and Answers:

1. How do I get started with this credential?

A:

This course sequence is open to all human service majors and minors as well as non-degree seeking students at Old Dominion University. Meet with your advisor to determine how best to fit this course sequence into your degree requirements.

2. What if I have already taken some of the courses before the sequence was offered?

A:

If you have already taken many or all of the courses before the spring of 2016, you may still apply for the CADC credential however Old Dominion University cannot guarantee that the course structure and format at the time of your enrollment will be sufficient for CADC credentialing.

3. How does this substance abuse track affect my internship and field observation requirements?

A:

If you are taking the substance abuse track for CADC certification, you will be required to select a substance abuse setting for your internship placement (*there are no restrictions on the setting for HMSV 368 field ob*).

Common settings for substance abuse include but are not limited to:

- a) Outpatient practices
- b) Residential and Rehabilitation Centers
- c) Detoxification Centers
- d) Hospitals
- e) Nonprofit organizations for Addiction Treatment
- f) Methadone and/or Suboxone clinics

4. If I am active in the addiction track before Fall 2017, do I need to take HMSV 449: Crisis Intervention, prevention and ethics??

A:

No, only students who are enroll in the human services program beginning Fall 2017 on forward will be required to take HMSV 449. Those students who are active prior to fall 2017 only need to ensure they take HMSV 343 Human Service Methods to have the full 300 hours of didactic education as required for CADC credentialing.

5. How do I meet the other requirements (e.g. residency and examination) for the CADC?

A:

Old Dominion University is only offering the didactic courses and 400 of the required 4,000 residency hours required to attain the CADC credential. After graduation, you will be responsible for finding an appropriate CADC supervisor, and completing your 4,000 hour residency before you can be approved to sit for your examination.

For more information regarding the residency and examination requirements, please visit

<http://www.vacertboard.org/>

<https://www.vacertboard.org/sites/default/files/applications/VCBCADCApplication.pdf>