



EAST  
CAROLINA  
UNIVERSITY

College of Allied  
Health Sciences

# Certificate in Substance Abuse Counseling E-NEWSLETTER

Department of Rehabilitation Studies, Substance Abuse & Clinical Counseling Program

Greenville, NC 27858-4353

252-744-6300 <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/rehb/certificates.cfm>

## New Job Possibilities

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has issued qualification standards formally recognizing licensed professional counselors as mental health specialists within the Veterans Health Administration. The standards, now available online at [http://www1.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub\\_ID=507&FType=2](http://www1.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub_ID=507&FType=2), are the culmination of years of work by the American Counseling Association, the American Mental Health Counselors Association, and the National Board for Certified Counselors to open up mental health provider jobs within the VA to professional counselors. This is a landmark step forward for the counseling profession as well as an important means of expanding the pool of mental health service providers available to meet the large unmet treatment needs of our nation's veterans.

## The Growing Certificate in Substance Abuse Counseling

Welcome to the second issue of the Certificate in Substance Abuse Counseling E-Newsletter. You are now one of 771 who have expressed interest in or have taken course for this certificate since its inception. At this point there are 89 in the program. Don't forget, if you haven't applied yet, you need an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 to get accepted and a 3.0 GPA to graduate. Congrats to the 19 students who completed all 4 courses!

Substance Abuse Counseling Certificate students live and work around the globe! This certificate has drawn students from throughout NC, north-eastern and western US, and England. Needless to say, this certificate program is constantly growing and changing. Click the link <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/rehb/upload/hometowns.pdf> to see the hometowns of current Certificate Students and current Rehabilitation Studies degree students; it may require time to load.

For those of you in NC... the four certificate courses meet the academic requirement for the N.C. Certification as a Substance Abuse Counselor (CSAC) or Clinical Addictions Specialist (CCAS). Three of these substance abuse courses may be credited toward the master's degree in Substance Abuse and Clinical Counseling at ECU. This master's degree program is one of only six in North Carolina currently approved by the NCSAPPB so that graduates may receive the LCAS with only one year of supervised practice experience instead of the three years. In addition, graduates are eligible for the state licensure as a professional counselor (LPC) in North Carolina after two years of supervised counseling experience.

### For more information contact:

Dr. Mary Crozier, Coordinator  
Substance Abuse Counseling Certificate  
PARC NC President & Conference Coordinator  
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<http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/rehb/crozier.cfm>



## Current Issues in SA Counseling

### Studies on Combat Related Substance Use and Abuse to be Funded by NIH and VA

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the Department of Veterans Affairs are collaborating to award more than \$6 million in federal funding to support research on substance abuse and associated problems among U.S. military personnel, veterans, and their families.

The research will examine substance abuse related to deployment and combat related trauma mostly directed at veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. There is currently little research on this subject or how to prevent and treat these war-time-related issues.

Several research projects will look at treatment seeking patterns, and will be looking at when and why veterans receive help. Researchers will be looking at what treatment strategies will work best for the veteran population. Another study will focus on the high rate of tobacco use in the military.

Retrieved on October 5, 2010 from:  
[www.nida.nih.gov](http://www.nida.nih.gov)



Certificate students now have permission to participate in graduation ceremonies with their ECU department! If you will have completed all 4 courses by the end of this semester, you are eligible to attend. The graduation ceremony is scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5pm in the College of Allied Health Sciences. RSVP by December 10<sup>th</sup> to Dr. Crozier.

**Behavioral Addictions...**Dr. Crozier has published several articles on behavioral addictions (BA). The first is: Crozier, M. & Rokutani, L. (2008). Broadening the counselor's view of addictions. *Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Journal*, 2 (2), 60-66. The second article will be particularly helpful to those working as a vocational evaluator and those needing information on addiction screening tools. Its citation is: Crozier, M. & Sligar, S. (2010). Behavioral addictions screening during the vocational evaluation process. *Vocational Evaluation & Work Adjustment Association Journal*, 37 (1), 45-54. For those of you in NC, you may be interested in attending her workshop for the Eastern Area Health Education Center on December 9<sup>th</sup> in Greenville. The topic will be "A Primer on Behavioral Addictions." For more information contact <http://eahec.edu.edu>

## ECU's Rehabilitation Department Welcomes Dr. Stephen Leierer.

We would like to welcome Dr. Stephen Leierer as the newest Associate Professor of the rehabilitation department.

Dr. Leierer received his PhD from Florida State University, and was employed by LSU and University of Memphis prior to joining the faculty at ECU. Dr.

Leierer is working primarily in the doctoral program in Rehabilitation Counseling and Administration.

