I. Course Name: Introduction to Alcoholism  
Prefix and Number: CDC 100  
Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours - 3 contact hours  
Course Description:  
A study of the nature of Alcoholism/Alcohol Abuse, in regard to the physiological disposition of alcohol the agent, and how its use and abuse impacts on a host and his/her significant others. Topics will include the biopsychosocial effects of abuse, the history of alcohol use and abuse, theories of causation, diagnostic criteria, definitions of alcoholism and alcohol abuse, American drinking patterns compared with drinking patterns of other cultures, myths surrounding alcohol use and abuse, and the history of alcoholism and alcohol abuse treatment. The course materials will also cover the nature of addiction as such, a comparison of alcohol and other substances of abuse according to their relative harmfulness, the dynamics of denial, the effects of alcohol on human behavior and family systems, the role played by the Liquor Industry in alcohol problems, and the role played by Alcoholics Anonymous as a treatment modality.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives  
Learning outcomes:  
1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of alcohol and its personal and societal effects, including the history of alcohol, the physiology of alcohol, addiction and the treatment of addictions in midterm and final examinations. The format of these exams may be short answer, short essay and multiple choice. Students will develop in-depth knowledge by writing and presenting a research report on an alcoholism related topic of their choice.

2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the functioning of an agency serves alcoholics and their families by preparing for, conducting, and making an oral report on a visit to a local agency.

3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how self-help groups may serve alcoholics by attending Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon meetings and writing a reaction paper that details their experience.

Relationship to academic programs and curricula:  
CDC 100 Introduction to Alcoholism fulfills 3 credits that are required by the A.A.S. Chemical Dependency program. The course may also be used as a general elective for other degree programs.

College competencies addressed by CDC 100 Introduction to Alcoholism:  
CDC 100 addresses
1. professional competency by providing essential background knowledge of an important addiction.

2. oral communication by requiring students to make oral presentations of research papers and agency visitations.

3. written communication by requiring a research paper.

III Methods of Instruction
Types of course materials:
1. A comprehensive text dealing with the topic of alcohol and its impact on individuals, families, and society will be utilized to compliment class lectures.
2. Reading major news publications about related issues will be recommended and discussion will ensue in class.
3. A booklet containing handouts will be distributed at the beginning of the semester and will be referred to during some class lectures.

Methods of instruction:
Class sessions will include lectures, discussions, group projects, videos, role playing, and guest lecturers.

Method of Evaluation: A balanced allocation of points will cover all aspects of assessment, weighted according to the importance of different course activities.

Assessment measures
1. Multiple choice, short answer and short essay midterm and final exams.
2. Research paper
3. Oral presentations of research paper and agency visits
4. Reaction papers for visits to self-help group meeting.

IV. Topics
1. Alcohol
2. Alcohol and its costs
3. Alcohol and the body
4. Alcohol dependence
5. Etiology of alcohol dependence
6. Medical complications
7. The behavior of dependency
8. Effects of alcohol problems on the family
9. Evaluation and treatment overview
10. Treatment techniques and approaches
11. Other psychiatric considerations
12. Special populations