

Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Entry Course

12-Week Basic Counseling Skills Course



Richmond Area Multi-Services Inc. (RAMS), in partnership with SFSU Department of Counseling, is offering a 12-week basic peer counseling course to individuals (and/or family members of individuals) with lived experience in receiving behavioral health services, with the aim of reaching and supporting the San Francisco community.

The goal is to equip students with the knowledge & skills for entry level peer support specialist & counseling roles in the community behavioral health system and to further their careers in the field.

Supportive Learning

Classes are offered in a collaborative learning environment designed to utilize each student's unique life experiences to enhance the course topics discussed in class. Students have the opportunity to enrich their knowledge through a job shadowing experience at a behavioral health organization, as well as connect with agencies providing services in the community.

Course Instructor and Student Advisor are on-hand to provide support for the duration of the term, as well as individualized employment guidance upon completion of the course.

Career Planning Assistance

Assistance is available for developing cover letters, resumes and sharpening interviewing skills. Coursework includes effective workplace communication and networking opportunities with potential employers.

Employment assistance/placement services are also provided by RAMS Hire-Ability Employment Services Program.

Featuring Interactive Classes, Job Shadowing, and Career Planning Assistance



Expert Lecturers

Classes are conducted by dynamic field experts who will discuss a range of topics grounded in the wellness & recovery model.

Make a **Difference** by Becoming a **Peer Counselor**

Resources

As a SFSU student, you will have access to the University's Libraries at the Downtown & Main Campus, Computer Labs, Student Health Services, Disability Programs and Resource Center, and Childcare Center as well as the College of Health & Human Services Student Resource Center.

Credit Course

Successful completion of the course is equivalent to three (3) transferable credit units from San Francisco State University.

Financial Support

This course is being offered for **FREE!** All students who successfully complete the course will be eligible to receive a stipend.

Fall 2017 Entry Course

The Fall 2017 Entry Course will take place from **September 12, 2017 to December 7, 2017.**

Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10AM-2PM at San Francisco State University Downtown Campus: 835 Market St. Campus is ADA accessible.

Funded by the Mental Health Services Act

 www.ramsinc.org



Fall 2017 Key Dates

Application Release: July 6, 2017

**Informational Open Houses: July 19, 3-5PM &
July 25, 10AM-12PM @ 835 Market St**

Application Due: Wednesday, August 16 @ 5PM

Acceptances Sent: Week of August 28, 2017

First Day of Instruction: September 12, 2017

Graduation: December 7, 2017

Application & Minimum Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- San Francisco resident
- Completed High School education or GED
- Able to commit to attending classes for 12 weeks
- Course is intended for individuals (or family members) with lived experience with the community behavioral/mental health system

To apply, interested participants must submit a complete application packet, which is available at www.ramsinc.org/peer.php

Questions?

You may contact us at certificate@ramsinc.org or by phone at (415) 579-3021 x102.