

Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Entry Course

12-Week Basic Counseling Skills Course



Richmond Area Multi-Services Inc. (RAMS), in partnership with San Francisco State University (SFSU), is offering a 12-week basic peer counseling course to individuals and family members with personal experience in receiving behavioral/mental health services, with the aim of reaching underserved San Francisco communities.

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

Supportive Learning

Classes are designed to utilize each student's unique experience to further enhance the course topics discussed in class. Students have the opportunity to enrich their knowledge through an 8-hour job shadowing experience at an assigned behavioral health agency in San Francisco.

A student advisor is on-hand to provide the necessary support services for the duration of the term as well as assist in career planning upon completion of the course.

Career Planning Assistance

Assistance is available for developing cover letters & resumes and 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 field experts who will discuss a range of topics grounded in the wellness and 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 2016 Entry Course

The Fall 2016 Entry Course will take place from **September 13, 2016 to December 8, 2016.**

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



Fall 2016 Key Dates

Application Release Date: July 6, 2016

Informational Open Houses: Tuesday, July 19 & Thursday, July 21, 10AM-12PM at 835 Market St

Application Due Date: August 10, 2016 @ 5PM

Acceptances Sent: Week of August 22, 2016

First Day of Instruction: September 13, 2016

Graduation: December 8, 2016

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
- Program is intended for individuals (or family members) with personal experience in 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.