

Community Services - Concurrent Disorders



Confederation College is located in the city of Thunder Bay, a culturally diverse community that serves as the education and government hub of northwestern Ontario. Located in the heart of one of the finest outdoor recreation and tourism destinations in Canada, Confederation College students enjoy the benefits of living and learning in a community that provides a rich lifestyle right at your doorstep.

At Confederation College we change lives through learning. We are committed to meeting the needs of our learners, employers and communities, and we are here to help you succeed in meeting your life goals. To arrange for a Thunder Bay campus tour call (807) 475-6110 or [book a tour online](#).

CAMPUSES

Thunder Bay »

1450 Nakina Drive
P.O. Box 398
Thunder Bay, ON
Canada P7C 4W1

Dryden »

Fort Frances »

Geraldton »

Kenora »

Marathon »

Red Lake »

Sioux Lookout »

Wawa »

ADMISSIONS

The minimum admission requirement for a postsecondary program is an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or its equivalent, with minimally 2 senior credits at the college, college/university or university preparation level. Some programs have additional admission requirements. For specific admission requirements, please see the program descriptions included in this publication, visit the [Admissions website](#) or contact our Admissions Office at (807) 475-6213.

SERVICES FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Click the title to visit Department webpage:

Admissions & Recruitment »	(807) 475-6213
Career & Placement Services »	(807) 475-6193
Centre for Continuing Education »	(807) 475-6550
Counselling Services »	(807) 475-6110
Distance Education »	1-800-563-9435
Financial Aid »	(807) 475-6637
Fitness Centre »	(807) 475-6239
General Inquiry »	(807) 475-6110
Health Centre »	(807) 475-6169
International Students »	(807) 475-6175
Learning Centre »	(807) 475-6618
Library Learning Commons »	(807) 475-6219
Negahneewin College of Academic & Community Development »	(807) 475-6465
Oshki Anishnawbeg Student Assoc. »	(807) 475-6314
Registration Services »	(807) 475-6265
Residence/Housing »	(807) 475-6381
Student Union »	(807) 475-6226

Concurrent Disorders



Do you have professional or placement experience in the social service, addiction and mental health field? Do you want to help support individuals living with substance abuse and mental health issues? Do you wish to find future employment in the social service and healthcare sector? If so, then the Concurrent Disorders program is the answer! Designed to enhance your existing qualifications and skills at an advanced post-graduate level, this one-year, Ontario College Graduate Certificate is offered through distance learning, on a full or part time basis, allowing you to complete your studies at a pace that's right for you.

Through the integration of theoretical knowledge and evidence-based practices and interventions, you will gain a deep understanding of concurrent disorders, the impact they have on individuals, families and communities, and, most importantly, how to work with and support individuals with concurrent disorders. You will learn to identify clients who have mental health and addiction disorders and formulate integrated, customized plans for treatment, focusing specifically on engagement, assessment, and crisis intervention.

The Concurrent Disorders program offers a flexible three-day-a-week field placement in a variety of community organizations, giving you the opportunity to gain valuable insights, while applying your learning in real world situations.

Admission Requirements

In order to be considered for admission into this program you must possess a Degree (Psychology, Social Work) or diploma (Social Services Worker, Child and Youth Worker, Developmental Services Worker, Native Child and Family Services Worker) from an accredited university or college in the field of social services, community services or health services programs.

Recommended Requirements:

Previous experience or knowledge in interview skills

FIRST SEMESTER

Course Number	Title	Credits
CD 120	Epistemology of Concurrent Disorders	3
CD 130	Mental Health: Issues and Interventions	3
CD 140	Addictions: Issues and Interventions	3
CD 241	Counselling, Treatment and Relapse Prevention	3
	Total	12

SECOND SEMESTER

Course Number	Title	Credits
CD 150	Case Management Practices	3
CD 201	Evidence Based Research	3
CD 220	Pharmacology with Concurrent Disorders	3
CD 230	Safety and Crisis Intervention	3
CD 240	Diversity in Mental Health and Addictions	3
	Total	15



Course Descriptions

Epistemology of Concurrent Disorders

CD120

This course examines the field of concurrent disorders and pays particular attention to our current understanding of concurrent disorders. Students will gain an understanding of the historic division between mental health and addictions and the more recent practice of current disorders; as well as examine their own values and beliefs about the etiology of mental health and addictions. The course will also explore the intricate network of concurrent disorder programs in Ontario and Northern Ontario as well as the resources and challenges for Aboriginal and Northern communities. Finally, students will be exposed to and come to understand the many different types of concurrent disorders and the levels of interventions required.

Mental Health: Issues and Interventions

CD130

This course will examine the area of mental health disorders including the nature of mental health issues, the history of mental health treatment and current best practice service delivery with mental health issues with emphasis on Northern and rural communities needs with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations. Prevalence, assessment and treatment of mental health issues will be explored.

Addictions: Issues and Interventions

CD140

This course will examine the different areas of addiction including alcohol, prescription and illicit drugs, solvents and gambling. Incidence and trends of addictions in both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal populations will be explored. Prevalence, diagnosis, assessment and treatment of addiction issues, both historical and current best practice, will be analyzed with emphasis on northern and rural communities.

Case Management Practices

CD150

This course explores and examines case management models across a diverse range of treatment settings with special emphasis on individuals living with concurrent disorders. Core functions of case management will be examined including Identification and Intake, Assessment, Service/Treatment Planning, Referral, and Advocacy. Emphasis will also be devoted to ethical, legal and other professional practice issues that accompany the far reaching responsibilities and complexities of case management. Special emphasis will be given to comparing and contrasting assessment and case management in both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal populations.

Pharmacology with Concurrent Disorders

CD220

In this course, students will examine the pharmacology of mental health issues and substance use including the impact of psychiatric medications and substance use on the brain. Students will explore the needs of clients who are taking prescribed medications and also have substance use problems, and identify the most common interactions between psychiatric medications and substances of abuse. The information gained will provide a foundation for understanding the application of pharmacological interventions in treating concurrent disorders. Students will be challenged to examine their own values and assumptions regarding psychopharmacology in substance use and mental illness treatment.

Safety and Crisis Intervention

CD230

This course will examine crisis intervention for individuals living with concurrent disorders. The indicators of suicide, self harm, and violence will be explored in relation to risk assessment and management strategies. Students will examine safety planning, risk management practices, non-violent crisis intervention to respond to situations that may arise when working with clients who have concurrent disorders. Students will examine conflict resolution. Use of interprofessional responses and coordination to respond to crisis situations will also be examined.

Diversity in Mental Health and Addictions

CD240

This course explores unique considerations in service delivery to individuals living with mental health and addictions as they are related to diverse populations, both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal, including youth, women, and the elderly. Students will examine the needs and best practice interventions in working with diverse populations. Gender specific interventions will also be explored to enhance the student's ability to intervene effectively with engagement and treatment strategies, as well as exploring gender specific experiences and outcomes. Students will examine trends in mental health and addiction issues among Ontario and Northern Ontario's young people. Students will also examine trends and unique considerations in working with older individuals living with mental health and addiction issues. Finally, this course further examines the particular needs and circumstances of specific diverse groups within our society including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered community, selected ethnic communities, members of our society with special needs, and persons who are homeless. Students explore societal and personal biases towards these groups particularly as applied to service delivery.

Counselling, Treatment and Relapse Prevention

CD241

In this course students will examine a variety of approaches for treating individuals with Concurrent Disorders. Students will be able to identify the primary theoretical and therapeutic approaches in the treatment of concurrent disorders. By doing so, students will build skills in the areas of assessment, treatment planning, evaluation of treatment planning, relapse prevention and discharge considerations. Furthermore, students will be able to demonstrate an ability to integrate culture and diversity into treatment plans. Upon completion, students will be able to apply best practice treatment strategies and the ability to provide culturally sensitive treatment.
