

Palo Verde College

Program Outline Report

Program Basics	
Program Title:	Alcohol and Drug Studies Specialist I Certificate of Career Preparation
Program Status:	Active from 2025-2026 Fall (2025FA)
Department:	Alcohol & Drug Studies
Award Type:	Certificate of Career Preparation (Credit)
Program/Catalog Description	The ADS Specialist I Certificate provides a foundational education in the core principles and practices of alcohol and drug counseling. This program introduces students to key areas, including human services, addiction studies, pharmacology, and the physiological effects of addiction. Additionally, students explore topics such as addiction prevention education, outreach and referral, co-occurring mental health disorders, and the role of law and ethics in the human services field. By emphasizing core concepts, ethical standards, and professional practices, this certificate builds a strong theoretical framework while developing essential skills for counseling and case management. The ADS Specialist I Certificate serves as an entry point for students seeking further education or professional certification in the field of substance use treatment and human services.
Control Number:	No value
Credential ID:	No value
Transferability:	No value
(SP01) Program TOP Code:	2104.40
(SP01) Program TOP Code:	Alcohol and Controlled Substances
(SP02) Student Program Award:	Certificate requiring 6 to fewer than 18 semester units (not approved by Chancellor's Office)
Maximum Credits:	15
Minimum Credits:	15
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	04/10/2025
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	05/13/2025
External Review Approval Date:	05/13/2025

Proposal Details	
Proposal Start:	2025-2026 Fall (2025FA)
What changes have been made to the program:	Updated certificate description, added and removed classes. Required Core Changes: Added ADS 111 removed PSY 220 Electives: Removed ADS 106 and 110
Program Justification:	No value

Submission Rationale

- Change to Content

Program Requirements

Alcohol and Drug Studies Specialist I Certificate of Career Preparation (Total 15)

Complete all of the following

Required Core Foundation Courses 15 units (Total 12)

Complete the following number of credits: 12

ADS101 - Introduction to Addiction Studies	3
ADS102 - Pharmacology and Physiological Effects of Addiction	3
ADS105 - Co-occurring Disorders and Chemical Dependency	3
ADS111 - Law and Ethics in Alcohol and Drug Studies	3

Choose a minimum of three units from the list below (Total 3) (Total 3)

Complete the following number of credits: 3

ADS104 - Addiction Prevention Education and Outreach/Referral	3
ADS110 - Introduction to Social Work and Human Services	3

Recommended Sequences

No value

Program Outcomes

Alcohol and Drug Studies Specialist I Certificate of Career Preparation

PSLO	Performance
1. Obtained basic knowledge of the principles and practices of the field of alcohol and drug treatment	70

Program Narrative

Narrative Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

Not needed for COP

Narrative Item 2. Catalog Description

The ADS Specialist I Certificate provides a foundational education in the core principles and practices of alcohol and drug counseling. This program introduces students to key areas, including human services, addiction studies, pharmacology, and the physiological effects of addiction. Additionally, students explore topics such as addiction prevention education, outreach and referral, co-occurring mental health disorders, and the role of law and ethics in the human services field.

By emphasizing core concepts, ethical standards, and professional practices, this certificate builds a strong theoretical framework while developing essential skills for counseling and case management. The ADS Specialist I Certificate serves as an entry point for students seeking further education or professional certification in the field of substance use treatment and human services.

Narrative Item 3. Program Requirements

Not needed for COP

Narrative Item 4. Master Planning (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Not needed for COP

Narrative Item 5. Enrollment and Completer Projections (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Not needed for COP

Narrative Item 6. Place of Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Not needed for COP

Narrative Item 7. Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Not needed for COP

LMI and Analysis

Not needed for COP

Advisory Committee Recommendations (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Not needed for COP

Regional Consortia Recommendations (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Not needed for COP