

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 (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 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 services are also provided by RAMS Hire-Ability Employment Services Program.

Featuring Interactive Classes, Job Shadowing, & Career Planning Assistance



Expert Lecturers

Classes are conducted by field experts who will discuss a range of topics grounded in wellness and recovery principles.

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.

Spring 2018 Entry Course

The Spring 2018 Entry Course will take place from **March 20, 2018 to June 7, 2018.**

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



Spring 2018 Key Dates

Application Release: January 11, 2018
**Informational Open Houses: January 24, 3-5PM
& January 30, 10AM-12PM @ 835 Market St**
Application Due: Tuesday, February 20 @ 5PM
Acceptances Sent: Week of March 5, 2018
First Day of Instruction: March 20, 2018
Graduation: June 7, 2018

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.