APA Recovery to Practice Curriculum

Instructions for Delivering the Curriculum
People with serious mental illnesses (SMI) can and do recover from the devastating effects of these illnesses. Psychologists are crucial to helping individuals achieve recovery and attain a satisfying and productive life, BUT Psychologists do not receive the specialized training needed for this work in existing training programs. This new curriculum is intended to fill this void. The curriculum is aimed at training psychologists in the concepts and practices needed to assist those with serious mental illnesses recover and attain their full functional capacity. The overarching goal of the APA Recovery to Practice Curriculum is to provide doctoral level psychology students with:

- Knowledge of the concept of recovery from severe mental illness and
- Knowledge of rehabilitation assessments and evidence based and emerging practices to assist individuals with severe mental illnesses to achieve their goals and full potential. These are known as psychosocial rehabilitation (PSR) interventions.
SAMHSA awarded APA a contract to develop a training curriculum in recovery principles and psychosocial rehabilitation practices for the profession of psychology.

The curriculum was developed in 2011–2012 and pilot tested in 2012–2013.

The curriculum has 15 topical modules; each is based on the latest scientific literature.

Each module reviews the literature, includes a short learning quiz, and includes a learning exercise designed to reinforce the content of the module.

The curriculum provides training for psychologists in the latest assessment and intervention methods for this population.

The curriculum is being released to doctoral programs, internship and post doctoral training sites.
Curriculum Modules

Instruction Module
1. Introduction to Recovery
2. Recovery, Health Reform and Psychology
3. Assessment
4. Partnership and Engagement
5. Person Centered Planning
6. Health Disparities
7. Interventions I
8. Interventions II
9. Interventions III
10. Forensic and Related Issues I
11. Forensic and Related Issues II
12. Community Inclusion
13. Peer Delivered Services
14. Systems Transformation
15. Scientific Foundations
It is important that individuals who have experienced serious mental illness are incorporated into the delivery of each of the curriculum modules.

It is strongly encouraged that consumers be an integral part of the teaching experience. This can be accomplished through:

- Having consumers serve as co-trainers
- Inviting consumers to classes to be guest speakers
- Showing films or other media that have been produced for teaching the experiences of consumers
Important Considerations

In order to ensure adequate preparation and support for participants, it may be important to provide advance training and after class debriefing, especially where issues related to trauma have been raised and discussed.

Everyone should note the importance of establishing an environment where everyone feels comfortable and safe sharing information.

Confidentiality must be assured for all information that is shared and any discussions that take place.

No personal information should be shared with anyone who is not part of the class and discussions about personal information that may have been disclosed in the class should not occur outside the classroom.

Information that is shared should never be used to affect an individual’s status in the program.
Citation for this Module:


www.apa.org/pi/rtp

Citation for the full Curriculum:


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