WEEK 1

How can we define addiction?
Medial diagnosis involves assigning a category label to a putative condition, which differentiates it from other conditions and ascribes it certain features.

Its primary function is to establish whether and what kind of medical treatment or care may be appropriate, also to establish prognosis so that people affected by a condition can make whatever adjustments may be needed, and provides a basis for studies to determine the extent and nature of a problem, its causation, prevention and optimum management

We can categorize someone is addicted, when they are engaged in a behavior which researches have found often leads to a pathological distortion of the motivational system. Further, there is evidence of significant harm/potential harm.

When they fail to see that theirs is a problem with them (their behavior doesn't serve as a functioning facilities) and they experience craving – addicted

It then could be define as a mere fact that an individual is engaging in or at risk of returning to a particular behavior pattern that is known to have addictive potential

Severity also plays a part, because there are many dimensions of severity, including the strength of the motivation to engage in the behavior; the extent of overall distortion of the motivational system, and the degree of harm. We're often forced to a more pragmatic view of the kind being proposed in this editorial, which relies on a judgment of significant current/potential harm from engaging in an addictive behavior