

Funeral Service Psych/Counsel

MORT2330 001

Course Description

Study of the basic principles of psychology and counseling as they relate to Funeral service. Emphasis will be given to the role of the funeral director within the psychological concepts of grief, mourning, and bereavement.

Required Text or Materials

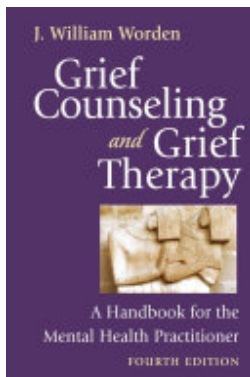
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Title: Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling

ISBN: 9780964796737

Authors: Ralph L. Klicker

Publication Date: 2007-01-01



Title: Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy, Fourth Edition

ISBN: 9780826101211

Authors: J. William Worden, PhD, ABPP

Publisher: Springer Publishing Company

Publication Date: 2008-08-11

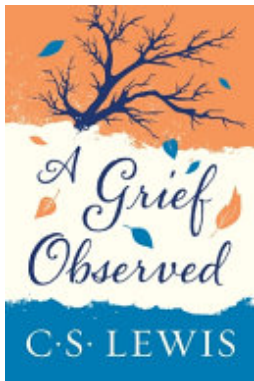
Title: The Psychosocial Aspects of Death and Dying, 2nd Edition

ISBN: 9780997926156

Authors: John D. Canine

Publication Date: 2019-05-01

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available*



Title: Grief Observed


ISBN: 9780060652388

Authors: C. S. Lewis

Publisher: Zondervan

Publication Date: 2001-02-06

Edition: Most any edition should be fine.

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at 

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Promote the value and purpose of the funeral rite.
- Recognize and differentiate between grief counseling and grief therapy and identify the limitations of the funeral director.
- Explain theories of grief.
- Differentiate and explain the types and styles of bereavement counseling.
- Describe and apply bereavement counseling techniques.
- Recognize and manage reactions and responses experienced during grief.
- Evaluate and explain how grief affects the functioning of the family.
- Analyze issues relating to children and death.
- Identify and apply psychological concepts in funeral service.

- Recognize, and evaluate the pre-need, at-need, and post-need counseling opportunities in the community.
- Compare and assess personal resources for coping with loss.
- Recognize when to make referrals to appropriate community resources.

Course Content Warnings/Trigger Warnings

Past or current life experiences, may make material and/or assignments emotionally upsetting. If this is the case, please contact me. Course content includes topics of many manners and causes of death including but not limited to homicide, suicide, traumatic or sudden death, fetal and infant death, etc.

Attendance and Participation

You are expected to be in class unless you have a serious illness or an emergency. Notifying the instructor does not mean the absence is excused. The attendance policy is outlined in the Mortuary Science Program Handbook.

Communication Plan

- I will respond to emails within 48 hours, Monday through Friday. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox.
- Communication with students will take place during class each week.
- Communication will also occur through the Canvas Inbox and assignment feedback. If you do not get personal feedback on an assignment but would like some, please request it.

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

ASSIGNMENTS: All assignments, due dates, and specific instructions are found on Canvas in the Modules. Spelling, grammatical, and punctuation errors can affect your grade. Late work is not accepted and will receive zero points. If there are extenuating

circumstances why your work is going to be late, you must let me know BEFORE the assignment is due if possible. It is up to the instructor's discretion to accept late work.

EXAMS AND QUIZZES: Quizzes cover the material from the last quiz up through the material being covered the day of the quiz. Quizzes cannot be made up. The midterm and final exams are ONLY given on the scheduled days. Questions will be derived from the textbook, lecture, class discussions, and material on Canvas.

GENERATIVE AI POLICY: Generative artificial intelligence (AI) software (e.g., ChatGPT) is a rapidly emerging tool that students may be interested in using. However, I am interested in reading YOUR thoughts and opinions. The use of Generative artificial intelligence is not allowed in this course and is considered a form of academic dishonesty. SLCC students are expected to adhere to the same standards as the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities statement on plagiarism. Presenting generative AI software content as your own violates academic integrity.

Accommodated Testing

If you have a testing accommodation for double time or minimal distraction from Accessibility and Disability Services, you are required to take all exams in an SLCC Testing Center at the same time the exam is being given in class. Instructions are on the “How to Schedule an Accommodated Testing Appointment” page in the “Getting Started” module of the course.

All exams and quizzes are administered on Canvas. Those with a testing accommodation have the option of taking quizzes in class or in the Testing Center. Quizzes are given at the end of class and have a time limit of 10 minutes. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the Testing Center information and to schedule the appointment with the Testing Center.

Grading Scale

FINAL GRADES WILL BE COMPUTED AS FOLLOWS:

100 – 95 = A

94 – 90 = A-

89 – 87 = B+

86 – 83 = B

82 – 80 = B-

79 – 78 = C+

77 – 75 = C

74 – 71 = C-

70 – 67 = D+

66 – 64 = D

63 and below = E

Civil Learning Environment

The manner in which we behave and treat others impacts everyone and our learning environment. These policies are intended to benefit each of us.

- Tardiness: Students are expected to attend class every time we meet and to be seated and prepared to participate when class begins. Arriving late disrupts other students, the instructor, and means the person arriving late misses important material.
- Respect: One person talks at a time. Side conversations are not allowed. Please raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking. While you are entitled to your own opinion, you need to communicate your viewpoints in a respectful and professional manner. You are expected to respect the opinions, beliefs, and comments of others. This includes avoiding non-verbal signals of disrespect such as eye-rolling. Much can be learned by considering what others have to say and refraining from judgment. We will discuss difficult and sensitive topics. Communicating in a civil manner is especially important during these discussions.

- Confidentiality: Personal stories/experiences shared in this class are to be kept confidential. Do not share these stories or experiences with others without first receiving permission from the person who shared them.
- Food in class: You may bring food to class, but if it becomes a disturbance to anyone, you will need to put it away.
- End of class: Please do not pack your belongings up before class ends. It is disruptive and gives the impression you are done listening.
- Academic honesty: Plagiarism is the writing equivalent of stealing or passing off another's work as your own. Rather than properly citing and documenting a source, the student copies the source word for word or modifies what was written to make it appear as though the work is original to them. Anyone caught cheating will be penalized, possibly receiving an F in the course. If two students turn in the same work for an assignment that was to be completed individually, both will earn a "0" for that assignment. All students are expected to follow the SLCC Student Code of Conduct.
- As your instructor, I will:
 1. Have material for modules posted on Canvas at least one week before assignments in that module are due.
 2. Respect you and your opinions.
 3. Do what I can to help you succeed in this course.
 4. Check Canvas at least once a day, Monday – Friday.
 5. Respond to your messages within 48 hours Monday – Friday.
 6. Grade your assignments within one week of the assignment due date.
 7. Start class on time.
 8. Give you a five-minute break during class. If we have not had a break after 50 minutes, please remind me it is time for a break.

Course Schedule

Textbooks:

- FSPC = Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling - Klicker

- GCGT = Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy - Worden
- PADD = The Psychosocial Aspects of Death and Dying - Canine

Date	Lesson # - Quiz/Exam	Material Covered
Aug 20	1	Review syllabus and assignments; Course overview; Personal experiences
Aug 22	2	Overview of basic psychology – Part I
Aug 27	3	Overview of basic psychology – Part II
Aug 29	4	Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling; Needs of the Bereaved (FSPC Chaps 1 & 2)
Sep 3	5 - Quiz #1	Purposes and Value of the Funeral; Theories of Grief; Comparing and Contrasting Reactions to Loss; Manifestations of Grief (FSPC 3 & 4; PADD 8 & 12)
Sep 5	6	Normal Grief Reactions; Attachment, Loss and the Experience of Grief; Understanding the Mourning Process (FSPC 5; GCGT 1 & 2); Video – Beyond Death's Door
Sep 10	7	Determinants of Grief; The Mourning Process: Mediators of Mourning; Circumstantial Factors Influencing Grief (FSPC 6; GCGT 3; PADD 11)
Sep 12	In-class reading	Bring your copy of "A Grief Observed"
Sep 17	In-class reading	Bring your copy of "A Grief Observed"
Sep 19	8 - Quiz #2	Complicated Grief; Abnormal Grief Reactions: Complicated Mourning; Grief Therapy: Resolving Complicated Mourning (FSPC 7; PADD 5 & 6)
Sep 24	9	Abnormal Grief and Why Some People Do Not Grieve; Therapeutic Strategies for the Bereaved (PADD 13 & 14); Review for Midterm
Sep	Grief Experience	<i>Practice your presentation and look at the rubric in</i>

26	Presentations	<i>advance</i>
Oct 1	10 - Quiz #3	Children and Death; Explaining Death to Children (FSPC 8 & 9)
Oct 3	Guest Speaker from The Sharing Place	Professional Dress Day
Oct 8	11	Grief and Family Systems (FSPC 10; GCGT 8)
Oct 10	Midterm Exam	Bring your computer to class
Oct 15	Movie Day!	<i>The Bucket List</i>
Oct 17	Fall Break - No Class	
Oct 22	12	Counseling; Essential Interpersonal Skills for the Counselor; Characteristics of a Good Counselor; Grief Counseling: Facilitating Uncomplicated Grief (FSPC 11, 12 & 13; GCGT 4)
Oct 24	13 - Quiz #4	A Rationale for a Multidisciplinary Support System; Counseling Techniques for Helping the Bereaved; Models of Bereavement Aftercare; Aftercare (PADD 18, 19, & 20; FSPC 16)
Oct 29	Guest Speaker: Professional Counselor	Professional Dress Day
Oct 31	14	Grieving Special Types of Losses; Nonstandard Deaths: Grief and Aftercare (GCGT 7; PADD 21)
Nov 5	Movie Day!	<i>Rabbit Hole</i> - Look at the assignment on Canvas in advance
Nov 7	15	Pandemics and Grief
Nov 7	16	Topics from "Companioning the Bereaved" by Alan Wolfelt
Nov 14	Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling Vocabulary Exam	Bring your computer to class
Nov	The Art of Mourning	<i>Practice your presentation and look at the rubric in</i>

19	Presentations	<i>advance</i>
Nov 21	17	Holiday Help
Nov 26	18	Intervention Strategies for Grief Counselors; Crisis Intervention Counseling; Making funeral arrangements – how you can help and keeping their grief in mind (FSPC 14 & 15)
Nov 28	Thanksgiving - No Classes	
Dec 3	19 - Quiz #5	Funeral Director's Own Grief; Stress and the Funeral Director; Taking Care of the Caregiver; The Counselor's Own Grief (FSPC 17, 18, & 19; GCGT 9)
Dec 5	Research paper presentations; Review for Final Exam	
Dec 12	Final Exam 9:10 - 11:10 a.m.	Bring your computer to class

Instructional Continuity Plan in the Case of College Closure

Instructional delivery, course requirements, deadlines, and grading policies are subject to change in the event of a campus closure that disrupts academic activities. In case of such an event, your instructor will communicate information about course changes as soon as possible via email or Canvas.

Keys for Success (how to succeed in the course)

Do NOT put things off until the day assignments are due. Look at the course schedule so you are aware of required readings and homework, quizzes, exams, and when professional dress is required.

Turn homework in on time.

Pregnancy

SLCC values inclusive learning environments and strives to make all aspects of the College accessible to our students. If you have a disability and believe you need accommodations to improve access to learning materials or the learning environment, please contact Access and Disability Services. Although pregnancy is not a disability, our ADS advisors are trained to assist with pregnancy related accommodations in addition to disability related accommodations. We strongly recommend any student who is pregnant or becomes pregnant while in the program notify the ADS. This will allow preventative measures to be taken, safety process in place to protect the student and the unborn child and allow for accommodations. Due to risk of fetal exposure to radiation and chemicals while in some programs it is strongly recommended that all pregnant students work closely with the ADS. Phone: 801-957-4659. Email: ads@slcc.edu. Website: www.slcc.edu/drc

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

How to Navigate to Canvas

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling

Support Services tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Miscellaneous Extra Credit	Assignment	0
	Roll Call Attendance	Assignment	100
8/28	The Potter's Field	Assignment	10
9/3	Quiz #1	Quiz	25
9/10	Counseling or Psychology Article Summary	Assignment	25
9/19	Quiz #2	Quiz	10
9/19	A Grief Observed	Assignment	15
10/1	Grief Experience Presentation	Assignment	15
10/1	Quiz #3	Quiz	8
10/10	Midterm Exam	Quiz	100
10/17	The Bucket List	Assignment	10
10/22	Day of the Dead Video	Assignment	12
10/24	Quiz #4	Quiz	10

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
10/24	Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Ofrenda	Assignment	5
11/7	Rabbit Hole	Assignment	13
11/7	Visit a Day of the Dead celebration - Extra credit (up to 10 pts).	Assignment	0
11/12	Set up/Take down Dia de los Muertos altar - Extra credit (up to 10 points)	Assignment	0
11/14	Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling Vocabulary Exam	Quiz	73
11/19	The Art of Mourning (Upload artwork at least one day before due date).	Assignment	10
12/3	Quiz #5	Quiz	10
12/3	Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling Paper	Assignment	90
12/3	Home Funerals Video - Extra credit (5 points).	Assignment	0
12/5	Presentation	Assignment	15

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
12/5	Course Improvement Suggestions (up to 6 points).	Assignment	0
12/5	Homeless at the End - Extra credit (up to 20 points).	Assignment	0
12/5	Video Reflection - Extra credit (5 points).	Assignment	0
12/12	Final Exam	Quiz	100

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link:

<https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>

College Wide Student Learning Outcomes

- Acquiring substantive knowledge in the field of their choice
- Developing quantitative literacies
- Developing the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged
- Thinking critically
- Communicating effectively