

Social Work 692

Loss, Grief, and Bereavement

3 Units

“When we come close to those things that break us down, we touch those things that also break us open.” — Wayne Muller

Instructor:	Dawn Joosten-Hagye, PhD, LCSW, GC-C	Course Day:	TH
E-Mail:	joosten@usc.edu	Course #:	67373D/67374D
Office Hours:	TH 9:30-10am; 11:30-12 or by appointment	Course Time:	10:15-11:30am; 12:00-1:15pm

I. COURSE PREREQUISITES

SOWK 506 and SOWK 544

II. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

Focus on the experiences of loss, death and bereavement as it is viewed by individuals, families and loved ones.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Issues pertaining to loss and grief are core in nearly every clinical situation that social workers address. Loss occurs throughout the life cycle. Loss and grief issues include, but are not limited to, dying and bereavement. Issues such as divorce, loss of a job, effects of a disaster, declines in functional health, acute illnesses, chronic & life threatening diseases are all examples of losses other than death. This course will focus on the experiences of loss, grief and bereavement as it is viewed by individuals, families and loved ones. How we cope with grief shapes our lives, challenges our responses to change and can determine how we form, maintain, and let go of relationships. This course will examine theories on grief and loss across the lifespan. In addition, we will consider how social factors i.e., culture, ethnicity/race, gender, class and sexual orientation may impact the grieving process. Further, the role of spirituality and coping will be explored and discussed to increase the clinician's ability to work with this content

in therapy. We will look at ethical debates in right-to-die issues as well as social issues about quality of life. We will examine evidence-based interventions and best practices across the lifespan and develop skills for assessing cultural and spirituality, collaborative and interprofessional interventions at end-of-life, and the role of the social worker in intervening effectively with individuals, families and groups.

In our clinical work with clients, we confront aspects of loss on a daily basis. This course will address the role of the therapist and effective use of self with clients and their families in diverse settings and different modalities.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The Loss, Grief, and Bereavement course (SOWK 692) will:

Objective #	Objectives
1	Teach stage-based and other theoretical models and concepts related to grief, loss, and bereavement responses and provide opportunities to apply theoretical knowledge to clinical practice.
2	Facilitate understanding of the variety and complexity of grief reactions to losses people experience across the life course and evidence-informed interventions to promote coping, adaptation and adjustment.
3	Explain ways in which culture, race, and spirituality impacts both grief, loss, and bereavement responses and decision-making for end of life care.
4	Help students become knowledgeable in recognizing conflicts in values among stakeholders that create ethical dilemmas in end of life care and help them learn to recognize how to manage their own personal values to allow professional values to guide practice.

V. COURSE FORMAT / INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

The class format will consist of didactic instruction as well as large and small group discussions. Case vignettes, videos, guest speakers, experiential exercises, site visits, and other learning aids will complement the course instruction as deemed instructionally appropriate. The instructor may include additional readings to enhance the course topics.

VI. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following table lists the nine Social Work core competencies as defined by the Council on Social Work Education’s 2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards:

Social Work Core Competencies	
1	Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
2	Engage in Diversity and Difference in Practice *
3	Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
4	Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
5	Engage in Policy Practice
6	Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities *
7	Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
8	Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
9	Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

* Highlighted in this course

The following table shows the competencies highlighted in this course, the related course objectives, student learning outcomes, and dimensions of each competency measured. The final column provides the location of course content related to the competency.

Competency	Objectives	Behaviors	Dimensions	Content
<p>Competency 2 – Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice</p> <p>Using research, social workers understand how diversity and difference characterize and shape the human experience and are critical to the formation of identity and are able to apply this knowledge to work empathically and effectively with diverse populations. The dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including but not limited to age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. Social workers understand that, as a consequence of difference, a person’s life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power and acclaim. Social workers also understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and recognize the extent which a culture’s structures and values, including social, economic, political and cultural exclusions may oppress, marginalize, and/or alienate adults and older adults or create privilege and power. Social workers through self-reflection, continue to assess and address their ageist values, building knowledge to dispel myths regarding aging and stereotyping of older persons. Social workers are able to consistently identify and use practitioner/client differences from a strengths perspective. Social workers view themselves as learners and engage those with whom they work as informants.</p>	<p>3. Explain ways in which culture, race, and spirituality impacts both grief, loss, and bereavement responses and decision-making for end of life care.</p> <p>4. Help students become knowledgeable in recognizing conflicts in values among stakeholders that create ethical dilemmas in end of life care and help them learn to recognize how to manage their own personal values to allow professional values to guide practice.</p>	<p>2a. Recognize and communicate understanding of how diversity and difference characterize and shape the human experience and identity.</p> <p>2b. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of multiple theoretical perspectives through an intersectionality framework.</p>	<p>Values</p> <p>Exercise of judgement</p>	<p>Units: 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13</p> <p>Assignments: 1,2</p>

VII. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS, DUE DATES & GRADING

Assignment	Due Date	% of Final Grade
Assignment 1: Midterm	Unit 7	45%
Assignment 2: Part 1- Special Topic Paper	Unit 14	35%
Assignment 2: Part 2- Special Topic Presentation	Units 14-15	10%
Class Participation	Ongoing	10%

Assignments are due by midnight on the day of class. Extensions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances, and is left to the discretion of the course instructor. If the assignment is late without permission, the grade will be affected accordingly.

A final grade of “Incomplete” can only be given under extreme circumstances.

Assignments must adhere to the citation and referencing standards put forth in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Each of the major assignments is described below.

Assignment 1: Midterm Assignment

The purpose of this midterm assignment is to allow you to integrate the concepts and theories on grief and loss explored up to the due date. This is intended to give you the opportunity to gain a broader understanding of your own thoughts and feelings toward grief, loss, death, and dying; the appreciation of their origins, and the application of material from the professional literature and insights gained from course that have broadened your understanding. Your personal attitudes significantly influence your approach to grief, loss, death and dying on both a personal and professional level. One’s earliest experiences with loss and death result in beliefs, feelings and attitudes that are carried throughout life. To prevent being controlled by our unconscious and conscious reactions to past experiences, and to better understand the significance of the loss, it is important to recognize and explicitly state how these experiences influence us.

Please discuss the following in your paper:

- 1) Discuss an experience you have had with **death or grief and loss**? How old were you when it occurred? Where were you when you learned of the loss? Who did it involve? Describe what happened. The paper should include identifying information of the individual and their relationship to you. What were the physical, emotional and cognitive reactions you were aware of in yourself following the loss? (define, cite, and describe normal grief reactions and type(s) of grief you were experiencing at the time).
- 2) How did the people around you respond to the loss? How did they respond to your reactions? (Incorporate relevant literature/information from course readings/discussions here).
- 3) Discuss how death and loss were addressed within your family, e.g. ignored, openly discussed, etc. Relate how these experiences might be related to your ethnicity/race/religion/philosophical perspective. (incorporate literature on diversity/intersectionality here)
- 4) Discuss the first funeral or grief ritual you attended, or if there was a funeral or grief ritual attached to the above loss, identify how you were prepared for it, your memories and

feelings about the experience and its impact on you. If you were discouraged from attending grief rituals, discuss your understanding of the rationale for this. Discuss any rituals that may relate to loss and that may be pertinent to your family as they relate to ethnicity/culture/race/religion. Incorporate relevant information from course readings/discussions about death anxiety, disenfranchised grief, anticipatory grief.

- 5) Identify how your beliefs and experiences may affect you in interacting and working with the bereaved. Also, include potential transference and countertransference reactions (define and cite both transference and countertransference) and how you can effectively manage them. Incorporate relevant course content about the grief process and the various theorists that relates to this self-examination.
- 6) Discuss how you will know if you are experiencing compassion fatigue, compassion satisfaction, or vicarious trauma (define and cite each before applying) (what symptoms, such as, physical symptoms, behaviors, thoughts and/or feelings may arise for each) .
- 7) Given your experience with loss, identify factors that assist your coping capacities with loss/grief. (Comment on relevant course content/readings here)

Incorporate these reflections into a paper which demonstrates a thoughtful, well-organized analysis of your experiences toward loss and your socio-cultural, ethnic, and religious/philosophical attitudes toward death and loss/grief. Include and cite appropriate course readings (minimum of 8) that address these issues. Be sure your citations include references to ethnicity, culture, death and loss, and religiosity/spirituality. Apply at least one theory from this class to your loss in any of the above sections.

Length: Approximately 7 ½ -8 typed, not including a reference page in APA format, double spaced, 1" margins.

Due: (Unit 7)

This assignment relates to course objectives 1-4.

Assignment 2: Part 1- Special Topic Assignment

Students may form small groups of up to 3 students or write their papers individually. Each student/group will write a 7-8 page (does not include cover page or References pages) paper on a Special Topic related to a Grief, Loss, or Bereavement issue of his/her choice, use Time New Roman 12 pt, double spaced. You may select from the Grief, Loss, or Bereavement Issue from the topics covered throughout the course (topics not listed in course materials require instructor approval). Students are encouraged to identify topics by searching databases with empirical and scholarly articles from social work. The paper will include EACH of the following:

- (1) Provide an introduction and conclusion paragraph
- (2) identify and define the specific grief, loss, or bereavement issue effecting a population
 - a. describe the population effected by the issue (i.e., veterans, older adults, caregivers, children, adolescents, young adults, etc.); include prevalence on the population
 - b. identify and define the specific grief, loss, or bereavement issue effecting the population
 - i. include: the type(s) of grief that best characterize the populations grief, loss, or bereavement issue (include and available information on prevalence/incidence of the issue for the population), and

- ii. the normal grief reactions associated with the grief, loss, or bereavement issue
- (3) identify a theoretical perspective from the course that provides the best fit as a framework for the issue (define, cite, and apply each of the stages or tasks of the theory; or provide a comprehensive review of the literature and application of how either meaning-making or continuing bonds theory applies to the issue for the population/issue. Do not use systems, ecological, biopsychosocial, person-in-environment or lifecourse theories from HBSE foundation course)
- (4) discuss implications for social work practice giving a specific intervention(s).
 - a. What specific interventions and evidence-based intervention(s) is/are appropriate to address the issue with this population

Due: (Unit 14)

This assignment relates to course objectives 1-4.

Assignment 2: Part 2- Special Topic Presentation

Students may form small groups of up to 3 students or present individually. Each student/group will give a brief presentation (10-12 minutes) of their Special Topic Assignment related to a Grief, Loss, or Bereavement issue of his/her choice, the presentation will cover the three key areas of the assignment: (1) identify and define the specific grief, loss, or bereavement issue, (2) identify a theoretical perspective from the course that provides the best fit as a framework for the issue, and (3) suggest implications for social work practice giving a specific intervention. You may use role playing, video clips to illustrate an issue, YouTube videos, PowerPoint, handouts, be creative! Students will provide a handout to the class listing key points and references.

Due: (Units 14-15)

This assignment relates to course objectives 1-4.

Class Participation (10% of Course Grade)

It is expected that each student will maintain confidentiality with classroom sharing.

Class attendance and participation are critical to student's learning and to the success of this course. Accordingly, students are expected to attend, be prepared, and make constructive contributions to the course.

Grading

Class grades will be based on the following:

Class Grades		Final Grade	
3.85 – 4	A	93 – 100	A
3.60 – 3.84	A-	90 – 92	A-
3.25 – 3.59	B+	87 – 89	B+
2.90 – 3.24	B	83 – 86	B
2.60 – 2.89	B-	80 – 82	B-
2.25 – 2.59	C+	77 – 79	C+

Class Grades		Final Grade	
1.90 – 2.24	C	73 – 76	C
		70 – 72	C-

Within the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, grades are determined in each class based on the following standards which have been established by the faculty of the School: (1) Grades of A or A- are reserved for student work which not only demonstrates very good mastery of content but which also shows that the student has undertaken a complex task, has applied critical thinking skills to the assignment, and/or has demonstrated creativity in her or his approach to the assignment. The difference between these two grades would be determined by the degree to which these skills have been demonstrated by the student. (2) A grade of B+ will be given to work which is judged to be very good. This grade denotes that a student has demonstrated a more-than-competent understanding of the material being tested in the assignment. (3) A grade of B will be given to student work which meets the basic requirements of the assignment. It denotes that the student has done adequate work on the assignment and meets basic course expectations. (4) A grade of B- will denote that a student's performance was less than adequate on an assignment, reflecting only moderate grasp of content and/or expectations. (5) A grade of C would reflect a minimal grasp of the assignments, poor organization of ideas and/or several significant areas requiring improvement. (6) Grades between C- and F will be applied to denote a failure to meet minimum standards, reflecting serious deficiencies in all aspects of a student's performance on the assignment.

As a professional school, class attendance and participation is an essential part of your professional training and development at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. You are expected to attend all classes and meaningfully participate. For Ground courses, having more than 2 unexcused absences in class may result in the lowering of your grade by a half grade. Additional absences can result in additional deductions. For VAC courses, meaningful participation requires active engagement in class discussions and maintaining an active screen. Having more than two unexcused absences in class may result in the lowering of your grade by a half grade. Additional absences in the live class can result in additional deductions. Furthermore, unless directed by your course instructor, you are expected to complete all asynchronous content and activities prior to the scheduled live class discussion. Failure to complete two asynchronous units before the live class without prior permission may also lower your final grade by a half grade. Not completing additional units can result in additional deductions.

VIII. REQUIRED AND SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS & RESOURCES

Required Textbooks

Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). *Social work practice with older adults: An evidence-based approach*. San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing. [Note: this is an abridged version of the text with chapters that are required readings]

This textbook is available in e-book and print formats directly from Cognella Academic Publishing.

Worden, J. W. (2018). *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner*. Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Textbooks

Berzoff, J., & Silverman, P. (Eds.). (2004). *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Csikai, E., & Chaitin, E. (2006). *Ethics in end of life decisions in social work practice*. Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books.

Irish, D., Lundquist, K., & Nelsen, V. (1993). *Ethnic variations in dying, death, and grief: Diversity in universality*. Philadelphia, PA: Taylor & Francis.

Kessler, D. (2007). *The needs of the dying*. New York: HarperCollins.

Klass, D., Silverman, P., & Nickman, S. (Eds.). (1996). *Continuing bonds: New understandings in grief*. Philadelphia, PA: Taylor and Francis.

Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed)*. New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Course Reader, None for this class. Required Readings will be available through ARES.

Recommended Guidebook for APA Style Formatting

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: APA.

Recommended Websites

American Institute of Health Professionals. (n.d.). *Grief counseling*. Available from <http://www.aihcp.org/aagc.htm>

CMI Education Institute. American Academy of Bereavement. (n.d.). Available from <http://www.pesi.com/associations/>

Note: Additional required and recommended readings may be assigned by the instructor throughout the course.

Course Overview

Unit	Topics	FALL RECESS SCHEDULE TH/FRI classes only
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Introduction to Grief, Loss, & Bereavement in Western Society; Contextual Thinking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Theoretical frameworks I ▼ Types of grief ▼ Normal grief reactions ▼ Meaning making, Continuing bonds, and Resilience ▼ Attachment, loss, and grief experience ▼ Abnormal grief reactions: Complicated mourning ■ Skill development: Recognizing types of grief and grief responses- In class activity: Tuesdays with Morrie 	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Introduction to death and dying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Theoretical frameworks II ▼ End-of-life care options ▼ Bioethical principles ▼ Evidence-based interventions: Respecting Choices, Advance care planning, Reminiscence therapy, Dignity therapy, Mindfulness ■ Skill development: Advance Care planning 	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Role of the Social Worker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Biopsychosocial & Grief and loss assessment/interventions ▼ Mediators and tasks of mourning ▼ Professional standards and ethics ▼ Interdisciplinary/collaborative care ▼ Tasks of mourning and Dual process model ▼ Evidence-based interventions and best practices ▼ Recognizing Compassion fatigue, Compassion satisfaction and Vicarious trauma ■ Skill development: Grief & loss assessment, Differential diagnosis with DSM-5, Recognizing mediators of mourning 	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Diversity: Grief & Bereavement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Culture: grief rituals, beliefs & attitudes ▼ Intersectionality & perspectives on death ▼ Vulnerable & marginalized populations ■ Skill development: cultural assessment 	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Spirituality: Grief & Bereavement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Spirituality: grief and death customs, beliefs & attitudes ▼ Meaning-making and Continuing bonds ▼ Existential anxiety ▼ Spirituality & role of social worker ■ Skill development: Spiritual assessment 	

Unit	Topics	FALL RECESS SCHEDULE TH/FRI classes only
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Infancy thru Elementary School Age Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Developmental stage & understanding of death ▼ Normative and non-normative losses ▼ External factors influencing grief responses ▼ Dual process theory ▼ Death of a sibling, parent, grandparent ▼ Introduction to interventions with children ages birth to 12: TF-CBT, expressive arts, play therapy, grief camps, bibliotherapy, school-based grief groups 	Unit 6 and Unit 7 covered unit 6
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Adolescents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Developmental stage & understanding of death ▼ Normative and non-normative losses ▼ External factors influencing grief responses ▼ Resilience ▼ Introduction to evidence-based and best practices with grieving adolescents: school-based, expressive arts, individual and group grief and trauma-informed interventions ▼ Grieving special types of losses: death of a parent, sibling or friend; suicide, military deployment of a parent, addiction, chronic or life threatening illness, mental health, divorce ▼ Special Treatment for refugee minors in the United States 	Unit 8 to be covered Unit 7
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Young Adults <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Developmental stage, grief responses & understanding of death ▼ Normative and non-normative losses ▼ Disenfranchised grief ▼ Grieving special types of losses: death of a child, suicide, sudden death, SIDs, miscarriages, stillbirths, abortion, anticipatory grief, military deployment & death, addiction, chronic or life threatening illness, mental health, divorce ▼ Introduction to evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with adults 	FALL RECESS

Unit	Topics	FALL RECESS SCHEDULE TH/FRI classes only
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Middle Adulthood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Developmental stage & impact of a death ▼ Normative and non-normative losses ▼ Strengths-based approaches ▼ Mourning special types of losses: caregiving, death, chronic and/or life threatening condition, loss of employment, divorce, relocation or loss of home, transformation of identity, child leaving the home ▼ Introduction to evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with middle age adults 	
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Older Adults <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Developmental stage & impact of a death ▼ Normative and non-normative losses ▼ Loneliness, Depression, Dementia, Delirium ▼ Mourning special types of losses: aging in a prison system or long-term care setting, death of a child, death of a spouse, retirement, chronic and life threatening conditions, co-morbidity ▼ Introduction to evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with older adults: Dignity therapy, Reminiscence therapy, CBT, grief counseling and grief therapy, complicated grief treatment, long-term care planning, problem solving therapy ■ Skill development: long-term care planning 	
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interventions-Individuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Grief counseling ▼ Grief therapy ▼ Complicated grief treatment ▼ Evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with individuals ▼ Clinical practice and collaborative/interprofessional care ■ Skill development: Grief counseling and Grief therapy 	

Unit	Topics	FALL RECESS SCHEDULE TH/FRI classes only
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interventions-Families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Grief, loss and bereavement in families ▼ The context of family in grief, loss, and bereavement ▼ Introduction to trauma-informed and grief focused family interventions ▼ Military families ■ Skill development: Family-focused grief therapy 	
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interventions-Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Support groups ▼ Group psychotherapy, expressive and visual arts ▼ Forming a grief, loss and bereavement group ■ Skill development: Short-term group therapy for uncomplicated and complicated grief 	
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Special Topic Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Student presentations 	
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Special Topic Presentations & Course Wrap up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Student Presentations 	
STUDY DAYS / NO CLASSES		

sCourse Schedule—Detailed Description

Unit 1: Introduction to Grief, Loss, & Bereavement in Western Society; Contextual Thinking

Topics

- Introduction to Grief, Loss, & Bereavement in Western Society; Contextual Thinking
 - ▼ Theoretical frameworks I
 - ▼ Types of grief
 - ▼ Normal grief reactions
 - ▼ Meaning making, Continuing bonds, and Resilience
 - ▼ Attachment, loss, and grief experience
 - ▼ Abnormal grief reactions: Complicated mourning
- Skill development: Recognizing types of grief and grief responses- In class activity: Tuesdays with Morrie

This Unit relates to course objective 1.

Required Readings

Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Loss, Grief, and bereavement. In D. Joosten-Hagye, *Social work practice with older adults: An evidence-based approach* (pp. 279-291). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.

Worden, J. W. (2018). Introduction. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 1- 14). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Worden, J. W. (2018). Attachment, loss, and the experience of grief. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 15-38). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Worden, J. W. (2018). Abnormal grief reactions: Complicated mourning. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 127-150). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Readings

Attig, T. (2004). Disenfranchised grief revisited: Discounting hope and love. *Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying*, 49(3), 197-215.

Kirchberg, T. M., Neimeyer, R. A., & James, R. K. (1998). Beginning counselors' death concerns and empathic responses to clients' situations involving death and grief. *Death Studies*, 22, 99-120.

Roberts, P. (2004). The living and the dead: Community in the virtual cemetery. *Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying*, 49(1), 57-76.

Unit 2: Introduction to Death and Dying

Topics

- Theoretical frameworks II
- End-of-life care options
- Bioethical principles
- Evidence-based interventions: Respecting Choices, Advance care planning, Reminiscence therapy, Dignity therapy, Mindfulness
- Skill development: Advance Care planning

This Unit relates to course objectives 1 and 4.

Required Readings

Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Advance care planning and end-of-life issues. In D. Joosten-Hagye, *Social work practice with older adults: An evidence-based approach* (pp. 253-278). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.

Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Introduction. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 1-26). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Readings

Berzoff, J. (2004). Psychodynamic Theories in Grief and Bereavement. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 242-262). New York: Columbia University Press.

Berzoff, J., & Silverman, P. (Eds.). (2004). Bereavement: A time of transition and changing relationships. In *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 226-241). New York: Columbia University Press.

Bourgeois, S., & Johnson, A. (2004). Preparing for dying: Meaningful practices in palliative care. *Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying*, 49(2), 99-107.

Csikai, E., & Chaitin, E. (2006). Ethical issues at the end of life. In *Ethics in end of life decisions in social work practice* (pp. 23-71). Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books.

Goelitz, A. (2001). Nurturing life with dreams: Therapeutic dream work with cancer patients. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 29(4), 375-385.

Lester, D. (2006). Can suicide be a good death? *Death Studies*, 30, 511-527.

Preston, T., & Kelly, M. (2006). A medical ethics assessment of the case of Terri Schiavo. *Death Studies*, 30(2), 121-133.

Unit 3: Role of the Social Worker

Topics

- Biopsychosocial & Grief and loss assessment/interventions
- Mediators and tasks of mourning
- Professional standards and ethics
- Interdisciplinary/collaborative care
- Tasks of mourning and Dual process model
- Evidence-based interventions and best practices
- Recognizing Compassion fatigue, Compassion satisfaction and Vicarious trauma
- Skill development: Grief & loss assessment, Differential diagnosis with DSM-5, Recognizing mediators of mourning

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Loss, Grief, and bereavement. In D. Joosten-Hagye, *Social work practice with older adults: An evidence-based approach* (pp. 291-308). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). Understanding the mourning process. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 39-58). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). The mourning process: Mediators of mourning. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 59-86). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). The counselor's own grief. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 254-260). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Readings

- Beder, J. (2003). Picking up the pieces after the sudden death of a therapist: Issues for the client and the "inheriting therapist." *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 31(1), 25-36.
- Bonham, V. (2001). Race, ethnicity and pain treatment: Striving to understand the causes and solutions to disparities in pain treatment. *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics*, 29, 52-68.
- Foster, L. W., & McLellan, L. J. (2002). Translating psychosocial insight into ethical discussions supportive of families in end-of-life decision-making. *Social Work in Health Care*, 35(3), 37-51.
- Hudson, P., Aranda, S., & Kristjanson, L. (2004). Meeting the supportive needs of family caregivers in palliative care: Challenges for healthcare professionals. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 7(1), 19-25.
- NASW Standards for Palliative and End of Life Care. (2004). *National Association of Social Workers*. Retrieved 5/14/2004 from www.socialworkers.org

Ringel, S. (2001). In the shadow of death: Relational paradigms in clinical supervision. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 29(2), 171-179.

Unit 4: Diversity: Loss, Grief & Bereavement

Topics

- Culture: grief rituals, beliefs & attitudes
- Intersectionality & perspectives on death
- Vulnerable & marginalized populations
- Skill development: cultural assessment

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

Arthur, D. P. (2015). Social work practice with LGBT elders at end of life: Developing practice evaluation and clinical skills through a cultural perspective. *Journal of social work in end-of-life & palliative care*, 11(2), 178-201.

Byon, H. D., Hinderer, K., & Alexander, C. (2017). Beliefs in advance care planning among Chinese Americans: Similarities and differences between the younger and older generations. *Asian/ Pacific Island Nursing Journal*, 2(3), 83–90.

Dobbs, D., Park, N. S., Jang, Y., & Meng, H. (2015). Awareness and completion of advance directives in older Korean American adults. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 63(3), 565–570.

Giannopoulou, I., Bitsakou, P., Ralli, E., Chatzis, F., & Papadatou, D. (2018). Addressing cultural issues in grief counseling with immigrants: The case of a bereaved Filipino family following homicide, 200-210. *The European Journal of Counselling Psychology*, 7(1), 200–210.

Houben, L. M. (2011). *Counseling Hispanics through loss, grief, and bereavement: A guide for mental health professionals*. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company.

Huang, I. A., Neuhaus, J. M., & Chiong, W. (2016). Racial and ethnic differences in advance directive possession: Role of demographic factors, religious affiliation, and personal health values in a national survey of older adults. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 19(2), 149–156.

Rhodes, R. L., Elwood, B., Lee, S. C., Tiro, J. A., Halm, E. A., & Skinner, C. S. (2017). The desires of their hearts: The multidisciplinary perspectives of African Americans on end-of-life care in the African American community. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, 34(6), 510–517.

Recommended Readings

Caputo, R. (2004). Women who die young: The cumulative disadvantage of race. *Affilia*, 19(1), 10-23.

- Del Rio, N. (2004). A framework for multicultural end of life care: Enhancing social work practice. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 439-461). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Otis-Green, S., & Rutland, C. B. (2004). Marginalization at the end of life. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 462-481). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Rosenblatt, P., & Wallace, B. (2005). Narratives of grieving African Americans about racism in the lives of deceased family members. *Death Studies, 29*, 217-233.
- Thompson, B., & Colon, Y. (2004). Lesbians and gay men at the end of their lives: Psychosocial concerns. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 482-498). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Winston, C., Leshner, P., Kramer, J., & Allen, G. (2005). Overcoming barriers to access and utilization of hospice and palliative care services in African American Communities. *Omega, 50*(2), 151-163.

Unit 5: Spirituality: Loss, Grief & Bereavement

Topics

- Spirituality: grief and death customs, beliefs & attitudes
- Meaning-making and Continuing bonds
- Existential anxiety
- Spirituality & role of social worker
- Skill development: Spiritual assessment

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Claburn, O., Knighting, K., Jack, B. A., & O'Brien, M. R. (2019). Continuing Bonds With Children and Bereaved Young People: A Narrative Review. *OMEGA-Journal of Death and Dying, 1-24*.
- Galea, M. (2018). The Two Faces of Spirituality in Time of Traumatic Loss: A Thematic Analysis Study. *Open Journal of Social Sciences, 6*(08), 49-63.
- Jueckstock, J. A. (2018). Relational Spirituality and Grief: A Qualitative Analysis of Bereaved Parents. *Journal of Psychology and Theology, 46*(1), 38-51.
- Neimeyer, R. A. (2016). The narrative arc of tragic loss: Grief and the reconstruction of meaning. *International Journal of Existential Psychology and Psychotherapy, 5*(1), 27-3
- Pentaris, P. (2011). Culture and death: A multicultural perspective. *Hawaii Pacific Journal of Social Work Practice, 4*(1), 45-84.

Recommended Readings

- Boyd-Franklin, N. (2003). Spirituality and religion: Implications for psychotherapy with African American clients and families. In F. Walsh (Ed.), *Spiritual Resources in Family Therapy* (pp. 141-155). New York: Guilford Press.
- Jacobs, C. (2004). In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 188-205). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Oltjenbruns, K., & Batten, M. (1999). Adolescent sibling bereavement as a catalyst for spiritual development: A model for understanding. *Death Studies*, 23, 539-546.
- Richards, T. A., & Folkman, S. (1997). Spiritual aspects of loss at the time of a partner's death from AIDS. *Death Studies*, 21, 527-552.
- Wolin, S., Muller, W., & Taylor, F. (2003). Spiritual perspectives on resilience: Buddhism, Christianity and Judaism. In F. Walsh (Ed.), *Spiritual Resources in Family Therapy* (pp. 121-135). New York: Guilford Press.
- Wright, L. (2003). Spirituality, suffering, and beliefs: The soul of healing and families. In F. Walsh (Ed.), *Spiritual Resources in Family Therapy* (pp. 61-75). New York: Guilford Press.

Unit 6: Grief, Loss & Bereavement : Infants thru School Age Children

Topics

- Developmental stage & understanding of death
- Normative and non-normative losses
- External factors influencing grief responses
- Dual process theory
- Transgender identity development
- Death of a sibling, parent, grandparent
- Introduction to interventions with children ages birth to 12: TF-CBT, expressive arts, play therapy, grief camps, bibliotherapy, school-based grief groups

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Hanna, J. R., McCaughan, E., & Semple, C. J. (2019). Challenges and support needs of parents and children when a parent is at end of life: A systematic review. *Palliative medicine*, 1-28.
- Katz-Wise, S. L., Budge, S. L., Fugate, E., Flanagan, K., Touloumtzis, C., Rood, B., ... & Leibowitz, S. (2017). Transactional pathways of transgender identity development in transgender and gender-nonconforming youth and caregiver perspectives from the Trans Youth Family Study. *International Journal of Transgenderism*, 18(3), 243-263.

- Ridings, L. E., Moreland, A. D., & Petty, K. H. (2019). Implementing trauma-focused CBT for children of veterans in the VA: Providing comprehensive services to veterans and their families. *Psychological services, 16*(1), 75-84.
- Tubbs, A., Young, E. L., Heath, M. A., & Dyches, T. T. (2019). Military Deployment in a Family: Children's Literature as a Basis for Counseling Support. *Reading Horizons: A Journal of Literacy and Language Arts, 58*(1), 75-91.
- Walsh, K. (2012). Loss and grief across the life span: Childhood and adolescence. In K. Walsh *Grief and loss theories and skills for the helping professions (2nd ed.)* (pp. 31-41). Boston: Pearson.

Recommended Readings

- Browning, D., & Solomon, M. (2004). The initiative for pediatric palliative care: An interdisciplinary educational approach for healthcare professionals. *Journal of Pediatric Nursing, 20*(5), 326-334.
- Himmelstein, B., Hilden, J., Boldt, A., & Weissman, D. (2004). Pediatric palliative care. *The New England Journal of Medicine, 250*(17), 1752-1762.
- Kaufman, K., & Kaufman, N. (2006). And then the dog died. *Death Studies, 30*, 61-76.
- Silverman, P. (2001). Death of a parent. In *Never too young to know: Death in children's lives* (pp. 77-93). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Silverman, P. (2001). Historical and theoretical perspectives. In *Never too young to know: Death in children's lives* (pp. 11-22). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Infancy and Toddlerhood. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 59-82). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Elementary-School-Age Children. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 83-109). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Wolfe, J., Holcobe, E. G., Klar, N., Levin, S., Ellenbogen, J., Salem-Schatz, S., Weeks, J. (2000). Symptoms and suffering at the end of life in children with cancer. *The New England Journal of Medicine, 342*(5), 326-333.

Unit 7: Grief, & Loss: Adolescents

Topics

- Developmental stage & understanding of death
- Normative and non-normative losses
- External factors influencing grief responses
- Resilience
- Introduction to evidence-based and best practices with grieving adolescents: school-based, expressive arts, individual and group grief and trauma-informed interventions
- Grieving special types of losses: death of a parent, sibling or friend; suicide, military deployment of a parent, addiction, chronic or life threatening illness, mental health, divorce
- Special Treatment for refugee minors in the United States

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Franco, D. (2018). Trauma without borders: The necessity for school-based interventions in treating unaccompanied refugee minors. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 35(6), 551-565.
- Geronazzo-Alman, L., Fan, B., Duarte, C. S., Layne, C. M., Wicks, J., Guffanti, G., ... & Hoven, C. W. (2019). The distinctiveness of grief, depression, and posttraumatic stress: lessons from children after 9/11. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, 1-12.
- Grassetti, S. N., Williamson, A. A., Herres, J., Kobak, R., Layne, C. M., Kaplow, J. B., & Pynoos, R. S. (2018). Evaluating referral, screening, and assessment procedures for middle school trauma/grief-focused treatment groups. *School psychology quarterly*, 33(1), 10-20.
- Kennedy, B., Chen, R., Valdimarsdóttir, U., Montgomery, S., Fang, F., & Fall, K. (2018). Childhood bereavement and lower stress resilience in late adolescence. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 63(1), 108-114.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Tweens and Teens. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 111-141). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Readings

- Corr, C., & Balk, D. (1996). *Handbook of adolescent death and bereavement*. New York: Springer Publishing Co.
- Gutierrez, P. (1999). Suicidality in parentally bereaved adolescents. *Death Studies*, 23, 359-70.
- Hogan, N., & DeSantis, L. (1996). Basic constructs of a theory of adolescent sibling bereavement. In D. Klass, P. Silverman, & S. Nickman (Eds.), *Continuing bonds: New understandings in grief* (pp. 235-252). Philadelphia, PA: Taylor and Francis.
- Layne, C. M., Kaplow, J. B., Oosterhoff, B., Hill, R. M., & S Pynoos, R. (2017). The interplay between posttraumatic stress and grief reactions in traumatically bereaved adolescents:

When trauma, bereavement, and adolescence converge. *Adolescent Psychiatry*, 7(4), 266-285.

Unit 8: Grief & Loss: Young Adults

Topics

- Developmental stage, grief responses & understanding of death
- Normative and non-normative losses
- Disenfranchised grief
- Grieving special types of losses: death of a child, suicide, sudden death, SIDs, miscarriages, stillbirths, abortion, anticipatory grief, military deployment & death, addiction, chronic or life threatening illness, mental health, divorce
- Introduction to evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with adults

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Walsh, K. (2012). Grief and loss across the lifespan: Young and middle adulthood. In K. Walsh *Grief and loss theories and skills for the helping professions (2nd ed.)* (pp. 45-52). Boston: Pearson.
- Wagstaff, J., Teska, J. Cooper, L.B., & Neff, M.R. (2018). Parental Bereavement and Grief. *Cinahl Information Systems*, 1-10.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). Grieving special types of losses. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed.) (pp. 183-216). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Youngblut, J. M., & Li, J. (2019). Parent, Grandparent, and Sibling Responses to the Death of an Infant or Child in Intensive Care. *Pacific Rim international journal of nursing research*, 23(1), 1-5.

Recommended Readings

- Baker, J. (2001). Mourning and the transformation of object relationships: Evidence for the persistence of internal attachments. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 18(1), 55-73.
- Baum, N. (2003). The male way of mourning divorce: When, what, and how. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 31(1), 37-50.
- Bellali, T., & Papadatou, D. (2006). Parental grief following the brain death of a child: Does consent or refusal to organ donation affect their grief? *Death Studies*, 30, 883-917.
- Conant, D. (1996). Memories of the death and life of a spouse. In D. Klass, P. Silverman, & S. Nickman (Eds.), *Continuing bonds: New understandings in grief* (pp. 179-196). Philadelphia, PA: Taylor and Francis.
- Margolies, L. (1999). The long good bye: Women, companion animals, & maternal loss. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 27(3), 289-304.

- Packer, G. (2005, July 4). The home front: A soldier's father wrestles with the ambiguities of Iraq. *The New Yorker*, 48-59.
- Robinson, M., Baker, L., & Nackerud, L. (1999). The relationship of attachment theory & perinatal loss. *Death Studies*, 23, 257-270.
- Sormanti, M., & August, J. (1995). Parental bereavement: Spiritual connections with deceased children. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 67(3), 460-469.
- Toller, P., & Braithwaite, D. (2009). Grieving together and apart: Bereaved parents' contradictions of marital interaction. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 37(3), 257-277.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Young Adulthood. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 171-201). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Unit 9: Grief & Loss: Middle Adulthood

Topics

- Developmental stage & impact of a death
- Normative and non-normative losses
- Strengths-based approaches
- Mourning special types of losses: caregiving, death, chronic and/or life threatening condition, loss of employment, divorce, relocation or loss of home, transformation of identity, child leaving the home
- Introduction to evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with middle age adults

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Aoun, S. M., Ewing, G., Grande, G., Toye, C., & Bear, N. (2018). The impact of supporting family caregivers before bereavement on outcomes after bereavement: adequacy of end-of-life support and achievement of preferred place of death. *Journal of pain and symptom management*, 55(2), 368-378.
- Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Caregiving. In *Social Work Practice with Older Adults: An Evidence-based Approach* (pp. 309-333). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.
- Müller, F., Hagedoorn, M., & Tuinman, M. A. (2017). Chronic multimorbidity impairs role functioning in middle-aged and older individuals mostly when non-partnered or living alone. *PloS one*, 12(2), 1-14.
- Walsh, K. (2012). Grief and loss across the lifespan: Young and middle adulthood. In K. Walsh *Grief and loss theories and skills for the helping professions (2nd ed.)* (pp. 52-54). Boston: Pearson.

Recommended Readings

- Gilliland, G., & Fleming, S. (1998). A comparison of spousal anticipatory grief and conventional grief. *Death Studies*, 22(6), 541-569.
- Malkison, R., & Bar-Tur, L. (2005). Long term bereavement process of older parents: The three phases of grief. *Omega*, 50(2), 103-129.
- Rosenblatt, P. (2004). Grieving while driving. *Death Studies*, 28, 679-686.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Middle Adulthood. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 203-234). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Unit 10: Grief & Loss: Older Adults

Topics

- Developmental stage & impact of a death
- Normative and non-normative losses
- Loneliness, Depression, Dementia, Delirium
- Mourning special types of losses: aging in a prison system or long-term care setting, death of a child, death of a spouse, retirement, chronic and life threatening conditions, co-morbidity
- Introduction to evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with older adults: Dignity therapy, Reminiscence therapy, CBT, grief counseling and grief therapy, complicated grief treatment, long-term care planning, problem solving therapy
- Skill development: long-term care planning

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Aging in institutions. In *Social Work Practice with Adults: An Evidence-based Approach* (pp. 103-131). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.
- Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Employing a strengths-based approach to work, retirement, and leisure. In *Social Work Practice with Adults: An Evidence-based Approach* (pp. 135-162). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.
- Joosten-Hagye, D. (2019). Long-term care planning. In *Social Work Practice with Adults: An Evidence-based Approach* (pp. 227-252). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.

Recommended Readings

- Bern-King, M., & Ellis, K. (2004). End-of-life care in nursing homes. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 628-641). New York: Columbia University Press.

- Moss, M. S., & Moss, S. Z. (1996). Remarriage of widowed persons: A triadic relationship. In D. Klass, P. Silverman, & S. Nickman (Eds.), *Continuing bonds: New understandings in grief* (pp. 163-177). Philadelphia, PA: Taylor and Francis.
- Reed, M. (2003). Grandparents' grief—Who is listening? *The Forum*, 29(1), 1-3.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Retirement and Reinvention. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 235-258). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Walter, C., & McCoyd, J. (2015). Older Adults. In C. Walter & J. McCoyd (Eds.), *Grief and loss across the lifespan: A biopsychosocial perspective (2nd ed.)* (pp. 259-287). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Unit 11: Interventions—Individuals

Topics

- Grief counseling
- Grief therapy
- Complicated grief treatment
- Evidence-based interventions and best practices in grief, loss and bereavement practices with individuals
- Clinical practice and collaborative/interprofessional care
- Skill development: Grief counseling and Grief therapy

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Linde, K., Trembl, J., Steinig, J., Nagl, M., & Kersting, A. (2017). Grief interventions for people bereaved by suicide: A systematic review. *PloS one*, 12(6), 1-20.
- Shear, M., & Gribbin Bloom, K. (2017). Complicated Grief Treatment: An Evidence-Based Approach to Grief Therapy. *Journal of Rational-Emotive & Cognitive-Behavior Therapy*, 35(1), 6-25.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). Grief counseling: Facilitating uncomplicated grief. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner (5th ed.)* (pp. 87-130). New York: Springer Publishing Company.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). Grief therapy: Resolving complicated mourning. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner (5th ed.)* (pp. 159-182). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Readings

- Baker, J. (2001). Mourning and the transformation of object relationships: Evidence for the persistence of internal attachments. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 18(1), 55-73.
- Browning, D. (2004). Fragments of love: Explorations in ethnography of suffering and professional caregiving. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 21-42). New York: Columbia University Press.

- Enders, S. R. (2004). End-of-life care in the prison system: Implications for social work practice. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 609-627). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Saldinger, A., Cain, A., Porterfield, K., & Lohnes, K. (2004). Facilitating attachment between school-aged children and a dying parent. *Death Studies*, 28, 915-40.
- Silverman, P. (2004). Helping the bereaved. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 571-592). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Sugarman, I. (2006). The woman who could not grieve: A contemporary look at the journey toward mourning. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 34(2), 201-214.

Unit 12: Interventions—Families

Topics

- Grief, loss and bereavement in families
- The context of family in grief, loss, and bereavement
- Introduction to trauma-informed and grief focused family interventions
- Military families
- Skill development: Family-focused grief therapy

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Breen, L. J., Szyliet, R., Gilbert, K. R., Macpherson, C., Murphy, I., Nadeau, J. W., ... & International Work Group on Death, Dying, and Bereavement. (2019). Invitation to grief in the family context. *Death studies*, 43(3), 173-182.
- Dooley, C. M., Carroll, B., Fry, L. E., Seamon-Lahiff, G., & Bartone, P. T. (2019). A model for supporting grief recovery following traumatic loss: The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS). *Military medicine*, 1-5.
- Griese, B., Burns, M., & Farro, S. A. (2018). Pathfinders: Promoting healthy adjustment in bereaved children and families. *Death studies*, 42(3), 134-142.
- Masterson, M. P., Schuler, T. A., & Kissane, D. W. (2013). Family focused grief therapy: a versatile intervention in palliative care and bereavement. *Bereavement care: for all those who help the bereaved*, 32(3), 117-123.
- Worden, J. W. (2018). Grief and family systems. In J.W. Worden (Ed.), *Grief counseling and grief therapy: A handbook for the mental health practitioner* (5th ed). (pp. 217-250). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Recommended Readings

- Barlow, C. A., & Coleman, H. (2003). The healing alliance: How families use social support after a suicide. *Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying*, 47(3), 187-201.

- Blacker, S., & Jordan, A. R. (2004). Working with families facing life-threatening illness in a medical setting. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 548-570). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Csikai, E., & Chaitin, E. (2006). The process of end of life decision- making. In *Ethics in end of life decisions in social work practice* (pp. 122-145). Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books.
- Foster, L. W., & McLellan, L. J. (2002). Translating psychosocial insight into ethical discussions supportive of families in end-of-life decision-making. *Social Work in Health Care*, 35(3), 37-51.
- Hudson, P. L., Aranda, S., & Kristjanson, L. J. (2004). Meeting the supportive needs of family caregivers in palliative care: Challenges for health professionals. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 7(1), 19-25.
- Mayfield, A. E., Abbott Artin, K., Lund Person, J., & Griffiths, D. (2004). Consideration of hastening death among hospice patients and their families. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 27(6), 523-532.
- Walsh, F. (2003). *Spiritual resources in family therapy*. New York: Guilford Press.

Unit 13: Interventions—Groups

Topics

- Support groups
- Group psychotherapy, expressive and visual arts
- Forming a grief, loss and bereavement group
- Skill development: Short-term group therapy for uncomplicated and complicated grief

This Unit relates to course objectives 1-4.

Required Readings

- Fancourt, D., Finn, S., Warran, K., & Wiseman, T. (2019). Group singing in bereavement: effects on mental health, self-efficacy, self-esteem and well-being. *BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care*, 1-9.
- Hassani, F., Emamipour, S., & Mirzaei, H. (2018). Effect of Acceptance and Commitment Group Therapy on Quality of Life and Resilience of Women with Breast Cancer. *Archives of Breast Cancer*, 111-117.
- Jerome, H., Smith, K. V., Shaw, E. J., Szydlowski, S., Barker, C., Pistrang, N., & Thompson, E. H. (2018). Effectiveness of a Cancer Bereavement Therapeutic Group. *Journal of Loss and Trauma*, 23(7), 574-587.
- Kealy, D., Sierra-Hernandez, C. A., Piper, W. E., Joyce, A. S., Weideman, R., & Ogrodniczuk, J. S. (2017). Short-Term Group Therapy for Complicated Grief: The Relationship Between Patients' In-Session Reflection and Outcome. *Psychiatry*, 80(2), 125-138.
- Weiskittle, R. E., & Gramling, S. E. (2018). The therapeutic effectiveness of using visual art modalities with the bereaved: a systematic review. *Psychology research and behavior management*, 11, 9-24.

Recommended Readings

- Charles-Edwards, D. (2007). Empowering people at work in the face of death and bereavement. *Death Studies*, 33(5), 420-436.
- Berzoff, J., & Silverman, P. (Eds.). (2004). Technology- based groups and end-of-life care. In *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 534-547). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Maxim, L. S., & Mackavey, M. G. (2005, March). Best practices regarding grief in the workplace. *The Journal of American Academy of Business*, 6(1), 110-116.
- Sutton, A. L., & Liechty, D. (2004). Clinical practice with groups in the end-of-life care. In J. Berzoff & P. Silverman (Eds.), *Living with dying: A handbook for end-of-life healthcare practitioners* (pp. 508-533). New York: Columbia University Press.

Unit 14: Special Topic Presentations

Topics

- Special Topic Presentations

This Unit relates to course objectives 1, 2, and 4.

Unit 15: Special Topic Presentations & Course Wrap-Up

Topics

- Special Topic Presentations

This Unit relates to course objectives 1, 2, and 4.

Required Readings

STUDY DAYS / NO CLASSES

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Due by Noon

University Policies and Guidelines

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend every class and to remain in class for the duration of the unit. Failure to attend class or arriving late may impact your ability to achieve course objectives which could affect your course grade. Students are expected to notify the instructor by email (xxx@usc.edu) of any anticipated absence or reason for tardiness.

University of Southern California policy permits students to be excused from class for the observance of religious holy days. This policy also covers scheduled final examinations which conflict with students' observance of a holy day. Students must make arrangements *in advance* to complete class work which will be missed, or to reschedule an examination, due to holy days observance.

Please refer to Scampus and to the USC School of Social Work Student Handbook for additional information on attendance policies.

X. ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" <https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

XI. SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Student Counseling Services (SCS) – (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1 (800) 273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) – (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: sarc.usc.edu

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. equity.usc.edu

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and micro aggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

The Office of Disability Services and Programs

Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu

USC Support and Advocacy (USCSA) – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa

Diversity at USC

Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. diversity.usc.edu

USC Emergency Information

Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. emergency.usc.edu

USC Department of Public Safety – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24-hour emergency or to report a crime. Provides overall safety to USC community. dps.usc.edu

XII. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Students enrolled in the Virtual Academic Center can access support services for themselves and their families by contacting Perspectives, Ltd., an independent student assistance program offering crisis services, short-term counseling, and referral 24/7. To access Perspectives, Ltd., call 800-456-6327.

XIII. STATEMENT ABOUT INCOMPLETES

The Grade of Incomplete (IN) can be assigned only if there is work not completed because of a documented illness or some other emergency occurring after the 12th week of the semester. Students must NOT assume that the instructor will agree to the grade of IN. Removal of the grade of IN must be instituted by the student and agreed to be the instructor and reported on the official “Incomplete Completion Form.”

XIV. POLICY ON LATE OR MAKE-UP WORK

Papers are due on the day and time specified. Extensions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances. If the paper is late without permission, the grade will be affected.

XV. POLICY ON CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS AND/OR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

It may be necessary to make some adjustments in the syllabus during the semester in order to respond to unforeseen or extenuating circumstances. Adjustments that are made will be communicated to students both verbally and in writing.

XVI. CODE OF ETHICS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS (OPTIONAL)

Approved by the 1996 NASW Delegate Assembly and revised by the 2017 NASW Delegate Assembly
<https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>

Preamble

The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession's focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living.

Social workers promote social justice and social change with and on behalf of clients. "Clients" is used inclusively to refer to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are sensitive to cultural and ethnic diversity and strive to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice. These activities may be in the form of direct practice, community organizing, supervision, consultation, administration, advocacy, social and political action, policy development and implementation, education, and research and evaluation. Social workers seek to enhance the capacity of people to address their own needs. Social workers also seek to promote the responsiveness of organizations, communities, and other social institutions to individuals' needs and social problems.

The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession's history, are the foundation of social work's unique purpose and perspective:

- Service
- Social justice
- Dignity and worth of the person
- Importance of human relationships
- Integrity
- Competence

This constellation of core values reflects what is unique to the social work profession. Core values, and the principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience.

XVII. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY SANCTION GUIDELINES

Some lecture slides, notes, or exercises used in this course may be the property of the textbook publisher or other third parties. All other course material, including but not limited to slides developed by the instructor(s), the syllabus, assignments, course notes, course recordings (whether audio or video) and examinations or quizzes are the property of the University or of the individual instructor who developed them. Students are free to use this material for study and learning, and for discussion with others, including those who may not be in this class, unless the instructor imposes more stringent requirements. Republishing or redistributing this material, including uploading it to web sites or linking to it through services like iTunes, violates the rights of the copyright holder and is prohibited. There are civil and criminal penalties for copyright violation. Publishing or redistributing this material in a way that might give others an unfair advantage in this or future courses may subject you to penalties for academic misconduct.

XVIII. COMPLAINTS

If you have a complaint or concern about the course or the instructor, please discuss it first with the instructor. If you feel cannot discuss it with the instructor, contact the chair of the [xxx]. If you do not receive a satisfactory response or solution, contact your advisor and/or Associate Dean and MSW Chair Dr. Leslie Wind for further guidance.

XIX. TIPS FOR MAXIMIZING YOUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE IN THIS COURSE (OPTIONAL)

- ✓ Be mindful of getting proper nutrition, exercise, rest and sleep!
- ✓ Come to class.
- ✓ Complete required readings and assignments BEFORE coming to class.
- ✓ BEFORE coming to class, review the materials from the previous Unit AND the current Unit, AND scan the topics to be covered in the next Unit.
- ✓ Come to class prepared to ask any questions you might have.
- ✓ Participate in class discussions.

- ✓ AFTER you leave class, review the materials assigned for that Unit again, along with your notes from that Unit.
- ✓ If you don't understand something, ask questions! Ask questions in class, during office hours, and/or through email!
- ✓ Keep up with the assigned readings.

Don't procrastinate or postpone working on assignments.
