



## CM 6000 - Grief Counseling (1 cr.)

Madison Extension

Fall Semester 2011

October 21-22

Friday, 6:30 - 9:30 PM; Saturday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

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Office hours: *Appointments as requested.*

**Moodle access:** <http://mytrinity.tiu.edu> or <http://webapps.tiu.edu/moodle>

**Enrollment key:** *grief*

**Course Description:** Grief, as a natural response to loss, is a common experience. Ministry counseling frequently involves dealing with such issues. In this course we will identify some of the spiritual and developmental issues involved in bereavement. We will identify various types of interventions that may help someone to work through significant losses.

**Course Learning Objectives:** At the end of this course, the student will...

1. Understand some of the ways people respond to loss along with possible outcomes.
2. Be better prepared emotionally and cognitively to deal with grief situations as they arise in ministry settings and to identify potential difficulties.
3. Have begun to develop a Biblical framework for dealing with grief and loss experiences.

### Required Text:

None – See suggested reading list (online).

### Course Expectations:

1. All **written work** is to be typed, double-spaced and in appropriate format unless otherwise stipulated. Written work should be consistent with the *TIU Style and Format Guide* available on the TEDS Academic Information webpage. Written work will be submitted via Moodle and a grade posted on Moodle, or returned when graded using GroupWise (TIU) email. Hard copies of assignments will *not* be accepted.
2. All papers posted after the beginning of class when they are due are considered **late** and will receive up to **two points grade reduction** for each day or fraction thereof that they are late.
3. **Plagiarism and/or cheating** of any kind will not be tolerated. (See relevant sections in current *TEDS Academic Handbook* for further discussion of these matters.) Copying, printing, receiving or distributing any past or present course exams or exam questions is considered cheating and will be dealt with accordingly through the Dean of Students office.
4. **Grades** are generally calculated on an 8 point system: *A (96-100); A- (93-95); B+ (91-92); B (88-90); B- (85-87); C+ (83-84); C (80-82); C- (77-79); D (70-76)*. **Makeup work and extensions** are available only in unusual circumstances with a reduced grade.
5. A lecture /discussion format is used. **Attendance and class participation** enhance the learning experience and are expected. These may be factored into the final grade. Since this is an intensive class significant absence may necessitate withdrawal from the course or result in a failing grade.

### Learning Assignments:

1. An **exam** will be given. Exams are taken online and require a GroupWise (TIU) account. Exams may include objective questions, brief essays, and/or case scenarios covering assigned reading and lecture material. (50%) [LO 1]
2. Each student will submit online a **position paper / project** reflecting some degree of integrative thought regarding Christian/biblical views related to grief or grief practices. Papers may be peer reviewed for content. Possible topics and/or case scenarios will be discussed in class. (25%) [LO 2,3]
3. Each student will **read approximately 200-250 pages** from a suggested reading list (available online). Other related material in the area of pastoral care may be approved in consultation with professor. A brief (1-3 page) critique / report will be submitted online. Complete bibliographic material (including page length) must be included. (25%) [LO 1,2]

### Course Resources:

Additional course resources are available on the course webpage. An abbreviated bibliography and public domain resources may be available for download. Powerpoint outlines for scheduled course lectures are generally made available prior to the scheduled class. These are for personal study purposes only and are not to be published or distributed in any format. If student papers are posted, they are for class review only. Any other use of student papers is considered unethical and may be subject to disciplinary action.

### Tentative Course Schedule: Fall 2011 [Schedule / topics may be changed as needed.]

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Oct 21 6:30-7:45 pm	Introduction / Biblical Grieving	<i>Consider effect of various theological positions on grief reactions</i>
Oct 21 8:00-9:30 pm	Death and Dying	
Oct 22 8:30-10:15 am	Grief and Loss	<i>Consider personal grief history - timeline</i>
Oct 22 10:30 am -12	Specialized Losses: death / infertility / suicide / etc.	
Oct 22 1 pm – 2:45 pm	Children and Grief	
Oct 22 3:00-4:30 pm	Grief Resources	
<i>Oct 27-31</i>		Final Exam
<i>Oct 31</i>		Position Paper Reading Critique