



LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Ministry through Life Crises: LCPC3398

Fall 2021 (221)

Brooke Osborn, Ph.D., LPC-S, LMFT
Assistant Professor of Psychology and Counseling
504-282-4455 ext. 3325
Wednesdays 9 AM-12 PM

HSC 126 E
bosborn@nobts.edu

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of crisis and trauma. Students will develop an understanding of needs following the aftermath of various crises along with appropriate resources and interventions. Students will consider the argument from evil as it relates to crisis and trauma. Students will also discuss compassion fatigue and learn the importance of self-care and emotional health in helping others address and resolve crises.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Develop a basic understanding of crisis and trauma.
2. Examine a theological perspective for counseling and pastoral care support and intervention in crisis situations.
3. Apply counseling and pastoral care skills for managing and responding to crisis situations.
4. Discuss compassion fatigue and the importance of maintaining emotional health.

COURSE TEXTS

The following textbook is required:

Wright, H. Norman. *The Complete Guide to Crisis and Trauma Counseling*. Ventura, CA: Regal, 2011.

The following textbooks are optional:

Kellemen, Robert. *God's Healing for Life's Losses: How to Find Hope When You're Hurting*. Winona Lake, IN: BMH, 2010.

Floyd, Scott. *Crisis Counseling: A Guide for Pastors and Professionals*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2008.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and discussion questions. Students should not assume that the study guide, if one is given, is comprehensive to what will be on the exam. If an emergency prevents a student from taking a scheduled exam, it is that student's responsibility to reschedule with the instructor. If a student misses an exam and does not get preapproval from the instructor and/or cannot provide documentation (doctor's note, police report, death of loved one) they will not be allowed to make up the exam. The exam must be made up within one week of the missed exam. After one week, the student will earn a grade of 0 for the assignment.
2. Students will be required to research a crisis situation and develop an intervention plan for working with the population affected. The research paper should be 8-10 pages, typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12, and adhere to Turabian guidelines. Students may select their topic from a list provided in class. Students must obtain approval from professor. Students will also be required to record a presentation of their research to be uploaded to a discussion board in Unit 11.
3. Students will be asked to develop a community resource notebook that details the crisis services and appropriate referrals available in the student's community. An assessment of resources that are not available but should be must also be included.
4. Students will complete a reflection paper related to losses they have experienced. This paper should be 3-5 pages, typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12.
5. The final exam for this course will be a paper summarizing the student's approach to crisis intervention from a biblical perspective. This paper should be 3-5 pages, typed, double-spaced in Times New Roman 12 and adhere to Turabian guidelines.
6. Class participation will take place via Discussion Boards. For each unit where a discussion board is required, the student should make his/her initial discussion board post no later than Thursday at 11:59 PM and respond to at least two classmates no later than Sunday at 11:59 PM. The purpose of discussion boards is to allow students and instructors to interact with each other as they engage in the course material. As such, late discussion board posts are not allowed.
7. The final grade for the course will be tabulated according to the following percentage breakdown:

Discussion Board (7 total)	30%
Exam I (September 19)	10%
Exam II (October 31)	10%
Final Exam (December 5)	10%
Research Paper (October 17)	20%
Community Resource Notebook (November 21)	10%
Reflection Paper (October 3)	<u>10%</u>
	100%

GRADING SCALE

- A: 93 - 100
- B: 85 - 92
- C: 77 - 84
- D: 70 - 76
- F: below 70

COURSE OUTLINE

All topics and dates (except the final exam) are subject to change. Note: Readings should be completed prior to coming to class.

Unit	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments
1	8/16- 8/22	Introduction		Discussion Board #1 Discussion Board #2
2	8/23- 8/29	What is a Crisis? The Phases of a Crisis	Chs. 7-9	
3	8/30- 9/5	Crisis Counseling from a Biblical Perspective	Chs. 1-3	Discussion Board #3
4	9/6- 9/12	When Time Doesn't Heal All Wounds	Chs. 10-11	
5	9/13- 9/19	Exam Week		Exam 1 Due
6	9/20- 9/26	The Crisis of Death	Chs. 12-13	
7	9/27- 10/3	The Crisis of Suicide	Chs. 14-15	History of Losses Reflection Assignment Due
	10/4- 10/10	Fall Break: No Class		
8	10/11- 10/17	Children & Adolescents in Crisis	Chs. 16-20	Discussion Board #4 Research Paper Due

9	10/18-10/24	Dealing with Tough Questions of Theology & Suffering		Discussion Board #5
10	10/25-10/31	Exam Week		Exam 2 Due
11	11/1-11/7	Class Presentations		
12	11/8-11/14	Ministry Panel, Part 1		Discussion Board #6
13	11/15-11/21	Ministry Panel, Part 2		Discussion Board #7 Community Resource Notebook Due
	11/22-11/28	Thanksgiving Break: No Class		
14	11/29-12/5	Vicarious Traumatization/Compassion Fatigue		Final Exam Due

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Attendance Policy: Leavell College follows the attendance policy as stated in the Leavell College catalog.
2. Policy for Late Submissions: All late assignments will be penalized five points for the first day and one point per day thereafter with no assignment being accepted more than two weeks past the due date.
3. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
4. Classroom and Online Decorum: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A

spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.

5. Special Needs: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
6. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
7. Technical Assistance: For general NOBTS technical help, go to www.NOBTS.edu/itc/

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bisagno, John. *Pastor's Handbook*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2011.

Cymbala, Jim. *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.

Hybels, B. *Simplify: Ten Practices to Unclutter Your Soul*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale, 2014.

Jones, Ian F. *The Counsel of Heaven on Earth: Foundations for Biblical Counseling*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2006.

Langberg, Diane. *Suffering and the Heart of God: How Trauma Destroys and Christ Restores*. Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2015.

Lewis, C.S. *A Grief Observed*. New York: HarperOne: 1994.

London, H.B. Jr., and Neil B. Wiseman. *Pastors at Greater Risk: Real Help for Pastors from Pastors Who've Been There*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003.

McIntosh, Gary and Samuel D. Rima. *Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership: How to Become an Effective Leader by Confronting Potential Failures*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2007.

Scazzero, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Leader: How Transforming Your Inner Life Will Deeply Transform Your Church, Team, and the World*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.

Sparks, Penny. *My Saturday Morning Posts*. Bloomington, IN: Westbow Press, 2019.

Zacharias, Ravi and Vince Vitale. *Why Suffering?: Finding Meaning and Comfort When Life Doesn't Make Sense*. New York: FaithWords, 2014.