Ambiguous Loss, Shattered Dreams, and Disruptive Changes: Honest Responses that Promote Grieving, Resiliency, and Hope

Wed-Thu, May 24-25, 9am-4pm, $300
Program #3319-17-LAAS
12 hours, 12 CECH (CHES) contact hours
Level: Intermediate
Pyle Center, 702 Langdon St., Madison, WI

This is a busy intersection! Losses are rarely singular; rather, the change intertwines with past, current, and future stories.

Through presentations, demonstrations, discussion, and practice, you discover perspectives and tools to support individuals and families facing developmental and unexpected life events. You also learn to utilize emerging and tried-and-true models for grief and bereavement care.

Learning objectives:
• Describe change and transition and their implication for grief counseling, support, health education, and therapy.
• Define the characteristics of shattered dreams and of clear and ambiguous loss, and explain the implications of these for grief care, support, and education.
• Describe new insights about resiliency and loss.
• Practice and apply tools for storying and re-storying after disruptive changes.
• Develop specific plans to use these learnings in your work.

Instructor:
Ted Bowman, author, educator, adjunct professor (Univ. of Saint Thomas School of Social Work)

Note: Enjoy lunch on your own at the many nearby restaurants or at the UW-Madison Memorial Union, located one block away. Outside food items (including items from home) are NOT allowed to be consumed at the Pyle Center.

Grief Support Specialist Certificate (Online)
Mar 17-May 15, $1,295 before Feb 17, $1,495 after
Program #3315-17-LAAS
Jul 14-Sep 12, $1,295 before Jun 20, $1,495 after
Program #3314-18-LAAS
35 hours, 26 CECH (CHES) contact hours
Level: Intermediate

Counselors, clergy, coaches, educators, or other health-care providers: gain the counseling tools to help people find healing in the midst of loss, whether through death, divorce, destruction due to drug abuse, or any traumatic personal devastation.

Lectures, small-group assignments, and activities replicate all of the content and learning objectives of the in-person course, while allowing online learners to listen to the lectures and do the assignments on your own schedule. You are expected to commit 20-25 hours during the first five weeks for lectures and assignments, and 15-20 hours during the last three weeks for a project or paper.

This is the first program of its kind in the nation at a major university. The instructors are renowned experts who understand the complexity of personal loss.

Week 1: Psycho-spiritual model of care, theories, and tools
Week 2: Supporting children and adolescents in loss
Week 3: Spirituality and cultural competence
Week 4: Job creation and job enhancement
Week 5: Traumatic grief and compassion fatigue

Learning objectives:
• Identify and use various tools and techniques that help clients process their feelings and thoughts related to loss.
• Examine the cognitive, emotional, and physical grief responses based upon a client’s developmental age.
• Develop a basic set of multicultural clinical practice competencies and guidelines for working with diverse patients and families.
• Develop a strategy of creating or enhancing a job in grief education/counseling.
• Identify options to address large-scale trauma that leaves large groups dealing with grief, and describe techniques to help care for and recharge oneself.
• Develop an action plan to use this expertise in your work.

continued

Helping you provide solace to people in need
Molly Tomony (MA, ATR-BC, LPC)
Molly is currently a child and family therapist for the Rainbow Project in Madison, Wisconsin. She has taught art therapy and education for both the University of Wisconsin and Edgewood College, and has worked in several hospices, specializing in art therapy and grief work with children. Molly has extensive experience in running grief groups for both hospices and schools, having written manuals for running grief groups in elementary, middle and high school settings. She has also applied her art therapy talents to individuals with disabilities and is currently an art instructor for SALSO (Strong Artistic Ladies Speaking Out).

Ridley Usherwood (MA, DMin)
Ridley has over 45 years of experience in education, teaching, research, and program design. He is recently retired as the grief support coordinator for Home Health United; is currently a practicing marriage and family therapist, with a strong background in pastoral ministry and counseling. He has taught classes in multicultural studies at UW-Madison, and was for 9 years the Director of the Professional Development Plans (PDPs).

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Instructors:

Doug Smith (MA, MSc, MDiV) Doug Smith is a seasoned trainer, consultant and counselor, who has worked for hospices, hospitals, addiction treatment programs and universities across the United States and throughout Canada. A recipient of three master’s degrees in three different healthcare disciplines, Smith believes his varied background gives him a truly holistic perspective. He has written several books, including The Tao of Griefing, and Being a Wounded Healer. Smith also has had significant personal experience in grief, having lost to death a brother and two daughters. He co-created the UW Madison’s Grief Support Specialist Certificate in 2013.

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