Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

CRIS 304
PTSD AND COMBAT-RELATED TRAUMA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination and analysis of the causes, symptoms and treatments of PTSD and Combat-related PTSD, taking into account the latest research in the field and examining the affective, behavioral, cognitive and spiritual challenges faced by survivors.

RATIONALE

More than half of all Americans experience traumatic stress and may develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In certain groups, (first responders, military, rape and violent crime victims, etc.) exposure and contraction rates are much higher. The Pentagon recently stated that at least 30% of returning troops from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from Combat-related PTSD. Professional counselors and pastors will face the challenge of counseling and assisting individuals and families affected by PTSD at an ever-increasing rate. Due to the nature of the disorder, specific knowledge is needed to assist clients and parishioners in this area.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment (DVD)
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office
IV. Measurable Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Explain the nature of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the effects on the body, mind, emotions, and spiritual dimension of the individual.

B. Explain the nature of Combat-related Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and the effects on the body, mind, emotions, and spiritual dimension of the individual.

C. Compare and contrast various types of treatment for PTSD/Combat-related PTSD.

D. Examine, discuss, and integrate all issues, theories, assumptions, materials, etc., presented in the course in accord with current scholarly standards and practices.

E. Examine, discuss, and integrate all issues, theories, assumptions, materials, etc., presented in the course through the lens of Scripture.

F. Analyze and apply the components of comprehensive trauma assessment, considering the differential impact trauma has on individuals, families, groups, and communities.

V. Course Requirements and Assignments

A. Textbook reading and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (6)
   Discussion boards are a collaborative learning experience. The Discussion Board is the online version of classroom discussion. Each Discussion Board has two parts. (1.) Each student will start a thread with an original post on the assigned topic of the week. Each student must use APA style citations from various sources (textbooks, articles, etc.) to validate their writing. (2.) Each student must post a reply to another student’s thread, using etiquette, as outlined in the syllabus. Posting in reply to a comment to your thread does not count as a reply.

D. Seven Principles of Healing
   The student will complete a form that will describe how the 7 principles (found in Chapter 5 of the Schiraldi textbook) integrate into the student’s healing process.
E. Research Paper

Utilizing information presented in your texts as well as theoretical and practical elements from academic and Christian sources, compile an original paper of from 6 to 8 pages of body text, in APA style, which summarizes your understanding of PTSD and spirituality in general, or PTSD and spirituality shown in relationship to some major aspect. Address factors necessary for successfully coping with the effects of PTSD, and spiritual and professional approaches to treatment. A minimum of 10 scholarly sources (books and journal articles) is required in addition to your textbooks (if you choose to cite these). Grades will be assigned based on quality of content, how well APA guidelines are adhered to, the richness of citations utilized, quality of expression, and biblical integration presented.

F. Quizzes (4)

There will be 4 quizzes that cover the presentations and material from the texts. The first 3 are 50 points each and the last is worth 150 points. The quizzes are multiple choice and true/false in nature and are timed. You may use your notes and texts, but, as they are time limited, only by becoming familiar with the material in advance will you be able to complete them successfully. Time begins when the quiz is opened, and multiple attempts are not allowed. The questions are selected at random, so each quiz will vary in its content.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist 10
Discussion Board Forums (6 at 50 pts ea) 300
Seven Principles of Healing 100
Research Paper 300
Quiz 1 (Modules/Weeks 1–2) 50
Quiz 2 (Modules/Weeks 3–4) 50
Quiz 3 (Modules/Weeks 5–6) 50
Quiz 4 (Modules/Weeks 7–8) 150
Total 1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599
C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Course Disclaimer: Students enrolling in CRIS ___ should be aware of the sensitive nature of the content related to trauma and crisis covered in this course. If they have recently gone through a trauma or are currently seeking counseling around issues of trauma and crisis, it is recommended they consider this disclaimer prior to committing to the course.

E. Tests/Exams

1. For timed tests/exams students are required to complete the exam within the assigned time. For students who exceed this time limit a penalty of 1 point may be deducted for each minute they exceed the assigned time limit.
2. Students must take the exam during the assigned module/week. Late submissions will be penalized at 5% per day, cumulative, with no test/exam being accepted seven (7) days after the original due date without written approval from the professor. Whenever possible, this approval must be sought prior to the test/exam due date.

F. Dual Relationship

The faculty is responsible to interact with counseling students in a supervisory capacity/role. As such, faculty may provide students professional principles, guidance, and recommendations as it relates to the context of the student-client setting. The faculty is responsible to avoid dual relationships with students such as entering a student-counselor or student-pastor relationship. Thus, the faculty does not provide personal counseling addressing student personal problems. If a faculty member perceives that a student is in need of personal or professional counseling, then that faculty member will recommend that the student pursue either pastoral or professional assistance from a counselor in their community.
G. Limits of Confidentiality

In the event of a student’s disclosure, either verbally or in writing, of threat of serious or foreseeable harm to self or others, abuse or neglect of a minor, elderly or disabled person, or current involvement in criminal activity, the faculty, staff, administrator, or supervisor will take immediate action. This action may include, but is not limited to, immediate notification of appropriate state law enforcement or social services personnel, emergency contacts, and notification of the appropriate program chair or online dean. The incident and action taken will become part of the student’s permanent record.

G. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact LU Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
## COURSE SCHEDULE

### CRIS 304

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MODULE/ WEEK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<td>Course Requirements Checklist DB Forum 1</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE**: Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.