COURSE SYLLABUS

CRIS 608
TRAUMA ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTIONS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine in depth the causes, symptoms and treatments of both trauma-related and “normal” relations to exceptional violence, taking into account the latest research in the field and examining the affective, behavioral, cognitive and spiritual challenges faced by survivors. Included, among others, will be community, military and church-based responses to such events as crime, school and workplace violence, domestic violence, motor vehicle accidents, and sexual assault.

RATIONALE

It is undeniable that today’s society is saturated by violence. The average child will witness over 200,000 acts of violence on TV by the time they turn 18. Around 35% of the women and 22% of the men who arrive at hospital emergency rooms are there due to domestic violence. While some who experience trauma of this type are able to adequately cope, many are not. Counselors and community workers need to be aware of the effects of trauma on individuals and ways in which these effects may be treated, this class is intended to address that need.

I. PREREQUISITES

In order to register for this course, students need to have taken a minimum of 12 hours, including COUN 505 and COUN 510.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES


Disclaimer: The above resources provide information consistent with the latest research regarding the subject area. Liberty University does not necessarily endorse specific personal, religious, philosophical, or political positions found in these resources.

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

B. Internet access (broadband recommended)

C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
IV. **Measurable Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Explain the nature of various types of violence and the effects on the body, mind, emotions, and spiritual dimension of the individual.

B. Compare and contrast various types of treatment for violence-related trauma.

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

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

E. 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. Course Requirements Checklist

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

B. Discussion Board forums (4)

   The Discussion Board forums are the online equivalent of a classroom discussion among students. Students are expected to post a thread on the topic assigned by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Wednesday of the assigned module/week and at least one reply to another student’s thread by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the same module/week. Threads should address the topic in a clear and concise fashion, using outside sources (quotes from our texts, other books and/or journal articles) as needed to support one’s point. Also, reply to some of the comments to your thread, as needed. Threads are usually 1–2 paragraphs, while replies may be fairly brief. Discussion Board posts are class wide and not by small group in this class. *(Late posts are not accepted as they are the digital equivalent of talking to an empty room after everyone has already gone home.)*

C. Research Paper

   Utilizing information presented in your texts as well as theoretical and practical elements from academic and Christian sources, each student will an original paper of at least 10 pages of body text but no more than 12. The paper must include a title page, abstract and references, in APA style, and should summarize the student’s understanding of violence and spirituality in general, or violence and spirituality shown in relationship to some major aspect domestic, school, sexual, and workplace violence as well as natural disaster). Also, the paper must address factors necessary for successfully coping with the effects of violence, 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. The Research Paper will be due 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 6.
D. Tests (4)

There will be 4 tests covering the presentations and all required reading from the textbooks. Each test is composed of 25 multiple-choice and true/false questions and will have a 30 minute time limit. Students may use their notes and textbooks, but since each test is time limited, only by becoming familiar with the material in advance will each test be completed successfully. Time begins when the test is opened and multiple attempts are not allowed. The questions are selected at random, so each test will vary in its content. Each test is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the assigned module/week, except Test 4, which is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 4.

*Students will be viewing 12 presentations embedded in the course, each about 50 minutes in length. As students view these, they should take notes on the content which they will then be allowed to use when taking the tests.*

VI. Course Grading and Policies

A. Points

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board forums (4 at 50 pts each)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test 1 (Modules 1 &amp; 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test 2 (Modules 3 &amp; 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test 3 (Weeks 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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<td>Test 4 (Modules 7 &amp; 8)</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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B. Scale

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>680–699</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>679 and below</td>
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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. Other Policies

1. Academic misconduct is strictly prohibited. See The Undergraduate Catalog for specific definitions, penalties, and processes for reporting.
2. Students are expected to abide by the policies about academic honesty as stated in The Liberty Way. If students plagiarize, they will receive a zero for the assignment at the least and possibly a FD (failure due to dishonesty) as a final grade for the course. See the following link for particulars: http://www.liberty.edu/StudentAffairs/index.cfm?PID=1324
3. Correspondence
   a. Students are expected to communicate in a professional manner at all times whenever emailing classmates, professors, or any employee of Liberty University.
   b. Because there is no accompanying tone of voice, facial expressions or body language, email communication is more easily misinterpreted than face-to-face.
   c. All emails should be courteous and well thought out to avoid responses that will be interpreted as “flaming” or sarcasm.
   d. Communicate complaints directly to the individual involved. Do not send a blanket email to everyone in the class or to administrative personnel until the issue has been communicated directly to the person involved and time has been given for that person to respond. Do not post a message to the class on Blackboard that is more appropriate for an individual.
   e. Avoid offensive language of any kind.
5. No extra credit work will be available.
6. Students should keep copies of their papers/assignments in case the electronic versions become corrupted or disappear.

7. Students should check their Liberty University email accounts at least once a day to receive information about the class, etc. Being aware of changes, etc. is your responsibility.

8. Students are expected to check the Bb site for this class for any announcements, additional materials, etc. This is your responsibility.

E. Disability Assistance

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

VII. RECOMMENDED RESOURCE PURCHASES


VIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY


