

COU569 Bereavement Counselling in Context

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY 2 YEARS

Synopsis:

COU569 Bereavement Counselling in Context critically appraises the contemporary range of concepts, theories, and models available to understand the bereavement experience and how professional counsellors may consider their application in diverse local contexts of practice with different client groups. Through facilitated learning with peers, students will learn to identify issues encountered by the bereft and make informed judgements of appropriate interventions. Students will also have the opportunity to construct their own approaches to bereavement counselling.

Topics:

- Introduction and definitions: typology of grief and grief reactions
- A life span approach to loss, grief and bereavement
- Contemporary theories of grief and bereavement I
- Contemporary theories of grief and bereavement II
- Grief assessment (risk factors, use of screening/assessment tools)
- Bereavement counselling in context: extended illness, end of life and palliative care
- Bereavement counselling in context: non volitional deaths (traumatic grief)
- Bereavement counselling in context: non death losses in bereavement
- Grief in special bereft population (e. perinatal loss, disaster/pandemic, children etc.)
- Intervention: individuals and families
- Intervention: group work, technology enabled approaches, role of the community
- Ethical issues in bereavement counselling

Textbooks:

Handbook of Thanatology: The essential body of knowledge for the study of death, dying, and bereavement 2nd David K. Meagher, David E. Balk Routledge
ISBN-13: 9780203767306

Learning Outcome:

- Discuss the issues faced by the bereft across different stages of individual and family life.
- Appraise the use of contemporary grief and bereavement theories in the local context
- Examine bereavement counselling approaches for different contexts of practice.
- Assess risk factors associated with maladaptation and poor bereavement outcomes.
- Design appropriate intervention for common themes across diverse groups of the bereft
- Construct one's own approach to bereavement counselling.

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	40
Overall Examinable Components	ECA	60
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.