

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

HealthCare Ministries  
521 W. Lynn St.  
Springfield, MO 65802  
October 18-19, 2004

**MCSE 639/PCPE 643 SPECIALIZED STUDIES: CONSULTATION ON POST-TRAUMATIC  
STRESS DISORDER AND CRITICAL INCIDENT DEBRIEFING  
(3 Credits)**

**JoAnn Butrin, RN, MS, PHD**

**Fall 2004**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Missionaries, ministers, counselors and health professionals are often called upon to assist persons who have suffered a traumatic event in their lives. There are occasions, especially following cataclysmic events, when victims find it difficult to cope or to carry on with normal functions of life. Persons fitting this description require caregivers with specialized training in dealing with post-traumatic stress disorders and/or critical incident management.

This consultation will endeavor to offer key principles in assessing and assisting those who have experienced trauma. It will also incorporate principles of cross-cultural counseling and draw from the experience of field personnel who will assist in shaping a culturally appropriate response.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Define Critical Incident
2. Define Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
3. Distinguish between terms such as defusing, debriefing, counseling, therapy, psychological assessment and psychiatric treatment.
4. Identify symptoms of PTSD, co-morbid disorders and universal and culturally specific responses to trauma.
5. Recognize grief and loss issues associated with PTSD and Critical Incident
6. Adopt applicable components of debriefing models and create a culturally appropriate model to be used on the field.

## **READING MATERIALS**

### ***Required Text:***

Hicks, R. (1993). Trauma: The pain that stays. Michigan: Revell.

Green, D. & Laurenz, M. (2000) Overcoming Grief and Trauma. CA: Baker.

### ***Recommended Reading:***

Matsakis, Aphrodite (1996). I can't get over it: A handbook for trauma survivors. Oakland, CA: New Harbinger Publications, Inc.

Sue, Derald Wind and David Sue. (1990). Counseling the Culturally Different: Theory and Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Chapter 13, Critical Incident Cases). New York: Wiley & Sons.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **I. Monday**

Video Introduction to PTSD  
Critical Incident Definition  
Helping Approaches for Critical Incident Debriefing  
Defining PTSD  
Field Reports of Critical Incidents

### **II. Tuesday**

Helping Approaches for persons with PTSD  
Children and Trauma  
Implications of dealing with trauma cross-culturally  
Compassion Fatigue

## **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology will be primarily that of lecture and interactive learning. Role plays and other interactive techniques will be used as well as multimedia presentations.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

I. Reading of both required texts

II. Session

Fully participate in the classroom activities and discussion groups

III. Post-Session

A. A written essay of not less than 20 pages addressing either of the following topics will be required:

1. Using Biblical precedent, historical reference and experience, make a case for the holy spirit distinctive in the helping and healing process of dealing with trauma.

**Or**

2. Based on the materials read and presented, outline a “mini-course” that might be used to help families and/or children in a developing country setting deal with the diagnosis of AIDS in their family.

B. The participant must read at least 1200 pages (including textbooks) for the course. Submit a bibliographic reading report noting the texts or articles and the number of pages read in each.

The work is to be postmarked no later than December 31, 2004 and sent to:

Dr. JoAnn Butrin  
HealthCare Ministries  
521 W. Lynn St  
Springfield, MO 65802

A \$15.00 change-of-grade fee will be charged, even when the instructor has granted an extension.

**GRADING**

1. Active Participation in class – 25%
2. Post-session work - 75%

**SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by Dr. JoAnn Butrin, June 18th, 2004