

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Office of Continuing Education
A Graduate Credit Option in Partnership with
The Assemblies of God Chaplaincy Department
April 8-11, 2003

PCPE 643 Basic and Advanced CISM Training
(3 Credits)

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Summer 2003

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will be conducted as a seminar and independent study of several core elements of ministry for institutional/military chaplains. Seminar will emphasize ministry to persons impacted by acts of terrorism, natural disasters, plane crashes or other major crisis events through Critical Incident Stress Management and Debriefing (CISM/CISD). The course encompasses pre-incident preparation, as well as demobilization, staff advisement, and crisis management briefings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The successful completion of this course is proposed to:

1. Provide an opportunity for personal and professional growth for chaplains and chaplain candidates.
2. Introduce relevant ministry applications within institutional/military chaplaincy.
3. Explain the nature of stress, trigger events, and common responses to tragic events.
4. Assist in the development of strategies for outreach to persons impacted by personal and/or communal crises events leading to acute stress responses, while managing one's own stress responses.
5. Gain insight into community resources and programs designed to assist persons impacted by crisis events and/or natural disaster.

TEXTBOOKS

There is no required textbook for the course.

METHODOLOGY

The course will be conducted in a seminar and independent study format in which the student will be responsible for his or her learning through a cooperative endeavor, interacting independently with the course material and the instructor. The student will complete assigned research, reading and projects.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Read a minimum of 1500 pages related to this topic from texts listed in bibliography or other outside texts. Sources not appearing in the bibliography may be chosen upon instructor approval. For each text read, provide a 2 to 3 - page reflective book review outlining the major aspects of the readings that most impacted you.
Due Date: July 11, 2003.
2. Write an 8 to 10 - page reflection paper on the training seminar. Include the key elements from the seminar and reflect how you might integrate some or all of these aspects in your ministry.
Due Date: May 16, 2003.
3. Pick a research topic related to the information provided the seminar or readings, and write an 18 to 20 - page research paper. The paper should demonstrate an adequate understanding of the current research and literature on the subject. It should focus on an aspect of ministry that would be specifically relevant to your current or future ministry goals. A simple plan for implementation should precede the conclusion of the paper. Use the current edition of the Turabian handbook for the style and format of the paper. Include a bibliography of sources consulted.
Due Date: July 11, 2003.

Due Date: Reflection papers are due May 16, 2003. Reading reports and final research project must be turned in no later than July 11, 2003.

COURSE OUTLINE

Basic CISM

Day One

- The nature of stress
- Symptoms of stress
- Emergency service personalities
- Acute/cumulative stress
- Definitions/examples of CIS
- CISM interventions

Day Two

- Critical incident stress debriefing
- Defusing/demobilization/on scene support
- Defusing demonstration
- Team formation – issues
- Demonstration debriefing

Advanced CISM

Day 1

- Traumatic stress/diseases
- Stress management/recovery
- Post traumatic syndromes
- Signs/symptoms of PTSD
- Reactions of others to PTSD

Day 2

- CIS debriefings rationale
- Roles of CISD in prevention of PTSD
- Peer support roles/teams
- Difficult debriefings
- Demonstration debriefings

GRADING PROCEDURES

All work is to be completed as scheduled. Each assignment will be given a numerical grade. Grades for each assignment will be weighted and distributed as follows:

Reading Report	30%
Seminar reflection paper	25%
Research paper	45%

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SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Mark Bradford and Angela Reid, April 2003.