COURSE NO., HOURS, AND TITLE:  MSFS 401, 2, Funeral Service Counseling

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Mortuary Science and Funeral Service program is to challenge students to achieve academic and professional excellence; prepare students to acquire entry level positions in the funeral service profession; provide quality instruction and stay current with trends of the profession; cultivate and maintain excellent relations with local, state, and national organizations; enhance university and community relations; and work toward the continued improvement of the Mortuary Science and Funeral Service program as an ongoing process.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The student will be taught specific counseling procedures used when counseling the bereaved family. Specific attention will be paid to the counseling and communication techniques and skills that will assist individual family members with handling grief and the mourning process. In addition, students will explore the promotion of pre-need and after-care services. Lecture three hours. Prerequisite: MSFS 108 and PSYC 102.

PREREQUISITES TO:  None

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

1. distinguish between grief counseling and grief therapy;
2. describe the limitations of the funeral director as they apply to a grief therapist;
3. identify direct and non-direct styles of counseling;
4. apply different techniques utilized in counseling;
5. describe the principle times available for the funeral director to meet the counseling needs of the people in the community concerning pre-need, at-need and post-need counseling;
6. understand the funeral directors resources for coping with loss situations; and
7. identify appropriate community resources and referral procedures for families needing additional assistance.

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Percentage of Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Definitions</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>II. Types and styles of counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>III. Grief counseling</td>
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<td>IV. Characteristics of the helping funeral director</td>
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<td>V. Developing interpersonal skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI. Effective communications</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>VII. Disaster/ situational counseling</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**TEXTBOOKS:**
**Required:**

**LECTURE:**
M W 1:00 – 1:50 pm

**INSTRUCTOR:**
Cydney A. Griffith, M.S.Ed., Associate Professor
Mortuary Science and Funeral Service Program
School of Allied Health
College of Applied Sciences and Arts

**Office Hours:**
M W 2:00 – 4:00 pm
W 10:00 – 12:00 pm
Also available by appointment

**Office Location:** CASA Building - Room 11E
**Fax:** 618-453-7020
**Office Phone:** (618) 453-7214
**E-mail:** cgriffit @ siu.edu

(NOTE: there is no “H” at the end of my e-mail address)

**Snail-mail:**
Mortuary Science and Funeral Service
Southern Illinois University
1365 Douglas Drive
Carbondale, IL 62901-6615

**EXAMINATION AND QUIZZES:**

There will be **one** examination administered during the semester. This exam will include material from the textbooks, handouts, and lecture notes. Vocabulary will be incorporated into the hourly exam. The date for all examination will be given in advance. **Make-up exam are generally NOT PERMITTED**

In addition, a comprehensive final examination is scheduled for **12:30 – 2:30pm on Friday, December 16, 2016.**

Quizzes may also be given **without** prior notice. **MAKE-UP QUIZZES WILL NOT BE GIVEN.**

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

In addition to reading assignments, there will be written assignments to support class discussions and/or related material.
RESEARCH PROJECT:

Each student will submit a typed research paper of no more than three (3) pages of written text (excluding title and reference page). It will primarily serve as a review of at least three (3) articles pertaining to one aspect of grief counseling and/or grief therapy from a funeral service perspective. Proper APA (current edition) format should be followed for reference citations within the text, as well as for the reference page. This paper is due at the beginning of class on WEDNESDAY, November 16, 2016. This research is worth 50 points.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED PERIOD!!!!

GRADE:

A= 100 - 92
B= 91 – 83
C= 82 – 75
F= 74 and below

ATTENDANCE: ATTENDANCE AT EACH CLASS IS REQUIRED!

All students are expected to attend and be punctual to class. Records will be maintained to support students’ attendance. If a student misses a class, it is THE STUDENTS responsibility to obtain the missed notes from a classmate. After two absences, a letter grade will be deducted for each absence from the student’s final class grade. For example, three absences will reduce the final grade from an “A” to a “B.”

PLEASE DON’T INTERRUPT THE CLASS BY COMING IN LATE!

PLEASE DO NOT INTERRUPT CLASS BY GETTING A SODA OR REFILLING OUR COFFEE!!!! E-mailing, facebook, computer games/video games, sleeping, reading the newspaper, listening to Ipad or working on other materials during class is not permitted. If a student partakes in the aforementioned activities, s/he will be dismissed from class and counted as absent for the day.

YOUR CELL PHONE WILL NOT BE HEARD OR SEEN DRING CLASS! IF IT IS, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE. IF IT IS SEEN OR HEARD DURING A TEST, QUIZ OR EXAM YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO.
UNIVERSITY’S EMERGENCY PROCEDURE CLAUSE:
Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

NOTE: Modifications or additions to this syllabus may be made by the instructor as needed.