# "WBUlogo"

WBU Online

School of Christian Studies

# 2. UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.

# 3. COURSE NUMBER & NAME:

MNST 5372 VC01 Topics in Pastoral Counseling: Grief

# **4. TERM**:

Fall 2, 2021 (October 11- December 11 2021)

# **5. INSTRUCTOR**:

D Glenn Simmons, PhD, ThD

# **6. CONTACT INFORMATION**:

Office phone: 684-699-2177 (Please remember that American Samoa is 7 hours behind Texas time.)

WBU Email: simmonsg@wbu.edu

Cell phone: 602.740.7040. Please text first, identify yourself, and I will contact you at my earliest convenience.

# **7. OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION**:

Students can reach out to me and I will set up a time to meet. I work out of the WBU American Samoa Site.

# **8. COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION**:

WBU Online

# **9. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**: Research in selected issues in religion and personalty, psychology of religious experience, family and crisis counseling or theories of pastoral counseling. Note: May be repeated for credit when subject matter and topic change

# 10. PREREQUISITE:

None

11. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESO**URSES:**

Kubler‐Ross, Eliszabeth & Kessler, David (2014). *On grief and grieving: Finding the meaning of*

 *grief**through the five stages of loss*. New York: Scribner.

Oates, Wayne E. (1997). Grief, *Transition, and Loss: A pastor’s clinical guide*. Minneapolis:

 Fortress Press.

Additional Readings assigned inside Blackboard and with the Blog project.

**This course includes an Automatic eBook.  Opt out date is the 8th day of class (second Monday of the session).  Click on the menu link for more details.**

# 12. OPTIONAL MATERIALS

None

# **13. COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES**:

* Identify the five stages of grief
* Discuss how pastoral counselors can address each of these.
* Develop depth in various areas of pastoral counseling and pastoral care to especially deal with those who grieve
* Identify Scriptures that can support and encourage people through their grief
* Provide an example of a program in a local church in which the pastor and congregation can become involved in addressing grief from a Christian perspective.
* Read, analyze, and evaluate peer-reviewed literature concerning grief, grief counseling, and/or pastoral counseling.
* Create by analysis, synthesis, and evaluation a strong program that builds effective grief ministry within a local church or other organization.

# 14. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

# **15. STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**: [WBU Catalog Statement](https://catalog.wbu.edu/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=928&hl=Plagiarism&returnto=search)

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

# **16. DISABILITY STATEMENT**:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

17. COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:

**Course Requirements:**

* Weekly reading assignments with quizzes over the reading
* Journal article review assessing current practices in pastoral counseling, especially related to grief.
* Interview someone within a church or other organization that regularly provides grief counseling.
* Regular discussion boards where students will discuss pertinent issues related to grief. And pastoral counseling within a ministry situation.
* An individual wiki page consisting of resources each student has found that would be helpful to the entire class in the subject
* Blog—Students will create a blog where they will list three reliable resources that can help others in grief counseling in a church or ministry situation. The blog is not the same as a journal review, but should include a proper Turabian reference; a one-sentence purpose statement of the resource; a paragraph summary statement; and a one-to two sentence evaluation of the resource, analyzing the positive and negative feature of the resource. One of these blog entries should be a peer-reviewed academic article. Students will be required to respond to two other articles, preferably from two different students.
* Final Project—Students will provide a paper/project on setting up a lay-counseling grief center in a church or other organization. Students will reflect thorough research and knowledge of assessment and integration of biblical principles into counseling theories. This should include a philosophy of grief counseling as a pastoral ministry; a step-by-step strategy of soliciting, training, and monitoring volunteers into the program; and a mechanism by which both individuals as the program can be evaluated and assessed. Normally this would require around 15- 20 pages and have at approximately eight strong, academic resources.

**Method of Determining Course Grade:**

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| Quizzes | 150 |
| Discussions  | 200 |
| Interview | 100 |
| Wiki | 100 |
| Journal Review | 100 |
| Academic Blog | 100 |
| Final Project | 250 |
| **TOTAL POINTS** | **1000** |

17.1 Grade Appeal Statement: “Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”

# 18. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

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| **Lesson** | **Due** | **Assignments** | **Text Reading Assignment** |
| 1.—Introduction to Grief—The Five Stages |  October 17 | Map, Intro wiki, Discussion Board and video  | Kübler-Ross Chapter 1 |
| 2—The Inner World of Grief  |  October 24 | Discussion Board, Journal Article | Kübler-Ross Chapter 2 |
| 3—The Outer world of Grief  | October 31 | Discussion Board | Kübler-Ross Chapter 3 |
| 4—Special Circumstances of Grief | November 7 | Discussion Board, midterm project—wiki on grief | Kübler-Ross Chapter 4 |
| 5—Emergencies, the pastor, the life cycle of grief |  November 14 | Discussion Board, Interview | Oates Chapters 1-3 |
| 6—Divorce, Work-related, and the life of Christ | November 21 | Discussion Board, Blog  | Oates Chapters 4-6 |
| 7—Final Project |  December 5 | FINAL PROJECT DUEFINAL BLOG DUE | Additional assigned readings |
| 8—The role of Grief Counseling in the church | December 10 | Final Discussion Board | Additional assigned readings |

# 19. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Assignments: None**