

**Lakeview College of Nursing  
N306C – Grief and Bereavement  
Summer 2012**

**Level III**                      **PREREQUISITES:** None                      **COURSE CREDITS:** 2 Hours

Lecture Clock Hours: 32 Hours                      Clinical Clock Hours: none

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a seminar that addresses the challenging aspects of grief and bereavement related to various loss experiences and the nurse's role. We will discuss various types of loss, with emphasis on death and dying, and the issues that arise for the patient, the family, the nurse, and society in general. Different models associated with grief and grieving will be explored and critiqued. The grief process and different types of grief will be examined and discussed.

Research, current books and journal articles, video tapes, as well as, individual and group activities will be used to examine a variety of perspectives related to grief and loss: the biological, psychological, sociological, spiritual, and funeralization experience. Class participation and discussion are essential as part of the learning experience.

**STANDARDS:** The course is based on the AACN (2008). *Essentials of Baccalaureate Nursing Education for Professional Nursing Practice* and Standards of Bereavement Care established by the Association of Death Education and Counseling (ADEC).

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

The program at Lakeview College of Nursing is designed to provide a foundation for practicing professional nursing using ethical judgment. Therefore academic integrity is a critical aspect of the educational process. All learners are held responsible for one's own academic honesty and for reporting violations by others. Should there be incidents of academic dishonesty learners will be disciplined under the Student Code of Conduct and may face probation or dismissal. Please read through your Student Handbook, particularly the Student Code of Conduct, Honor Code Policy, and Professional Standards Expected of Learners by Faculty.

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:** Any student who has a documented disability is urged to contact his/her instructor of this course for assistance and direction in obtaining services to accommodate his/her needs.

**FACULTY:**

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**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a theoretical framework, strategies in caring for an individual who is dying and their family, and how to support someone who is grieving.

**GOAL:**

The overall goal of this course is to increase the knowledge base of learners in the area of loss, grief, and bereavement and assist them in becoming competent and compassionate caregivers for individuals, families, and communities when a death or significant loss occurs. Learners will be able to identify how current trends and issues related to palliative care, loss, and death effect individuals, families, communities, nursing, and society in general.

**LEVEL III COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

**Level Objective 1: Critical Thinking/Clinical Reasoning**

Apply theoretical and empirical knowledge from nursing scientific and humanistic disciplines to the adaptive responses of people, families, groups, communities and society for optimal nursing practice.

Operationalized: Assess theoretical frameworks, which underpin the experience of dying and grieving from a physiological, sociological, cultural, spiritual, emotional, and psychological perspective, which support Hospice care, palliative care, and the caring of a patient, and their family who have experienced a sudden/unexpected death or significant loss.

**Level Objective 2: Basic Organization and Systems Leadership Quality Care**

Practice nursing leadership roles in the provision and coordination of healthcare as a direct care provider, teacher, and communicator.

Operationalized: Assimilate concepts related to loss, death, grief and bereavement in provision of nursing care to individuals, families, and their significant others.

**Level Objective 3: Nursing Process**

Utilize the nursing process to assess, plan appropriately, safely implement and evaluate nursing interventions for individuals.

Operationalized: Become acquainted with the current knowledge about the biology of death and the role of our society in investigating and regulating it.

**Level Objective 4: Values**

Demonstrate professional values with ethical, moral, and legal aspects of nursing into nursing practice.

Operationalized: Synthesize variations in cultural/religious beliefs and/or practices, which pertain to the dying individual and to issues of euthanasia/assisted suicide, suicide, and organ donation and the impact on society.

**Level Objective 5: Caring**

Employ caring through behaviors, which reflect respect, empathy, & genuineness in providing care to individuals in order to promote an optimal health.

Operationalized: Integrate one's personal experience of loss into professional practice.

**Level Objective 6: Communication & Technology**

Adopt communication skills to collaborate in finding solutions to problems and meeting health care needs of the individuals.

Operationalized: Incorporate appropriate communication techniques when communicating and offering support to someone who is dying, their family, and significant others.

**Level Objective 7: Adaptability**

Prioritize nursing actions, which are appropriate to an individuals and families health status.

Nursing education facilitates the correlation and integration of knowledge from the general education and basic nursing courses through a focus on the adaptive responses of individuals, families, groups, and communities to the actual or potential threats to the internal and external dimensions of well-being in personal and interpersonal Spheres. Nursing focus is on critical analysis and decision making in the utilization of the nursing process and coordination of health care through collaborative relationships. Roles expand to include case finder, client advocate, collaborator, facilitator, and change agent. Caring is displayed through behaviors reflecting commitment to well being that is displayed through investment of self towards the concept of well-being of individuals, families, and groups.

N306C is a nursing elective. Learners who choose this course have an opportunity to study in-depth in an area that will touch every specialty in nursing. The Level III objectives are as follows:

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. To become acquainted with the current knowledge about the biology of death and the role of our society in investigating and regulating it.
2. Assess theoretical frameworks, which underpin the experience of dying and grieving from a physiological, sociological, cultural, spiritual, emotional, and psychological perspective, which support Hospice care, palliative care, and the caring of a patient, and their family who have experienced a sudden/unexpected death or significant loss.
3. Synthesize variations in cultural/religious beliefs and/or practices, which pertain to the dying individual and to issues of euthanasia/assisted suicide, suicide, and organ donation and the impact on society.
4. Assimilate concepts related to loss, death, grief and bereavement in provision of nursing care to individuals, families, and their significant others.
5. Incorporate appropriate communication techniques when communicating and offering support to someone who is dying, their family, and significant others.
6. Integrate one's personal experience of loss into professional practice.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

Journal articles and multimedia will be provided for module readings. No required textbooks required.

**REQUIREMENTS:****1. Class Attendance and Discussion/Participation = 20%**

Each Face-to-Face Meeting will be worth 10 points.

These meetings will last from 3 pm to 7pm (see course calendar for specify dates)

It is expected that reading assignments will have been completed so that all learners will actively engage in productive discussion within the framework of the course. Group and individual activities occur during class time and full participation is expected.

**2. Written Assignments = 50%****Module Reflections**

Learners will complete the Reflection at the beginning of each module. Learners will provide reflective and self-disclosure when answering the questions. At least 200 words are required. No reference is needed. Each Reflection is worth 10 points.

**Module Learning Activities**

Learners will complete the Learning Activity for each module. Printed copy will be handed in to the instructor by the due date. Thoughtful and scholarly insights will be provided; references from course required readings and journals will support the learners position. APA will be used and this assignment will be at least 2 pages in length typed, double-spaced. Learning activities are worth 20 points.

**Reflective Essays**

Three essays will be required. Each is worth 10 points for a total of 30 points.

Learners who take this course do so for a variety of reasons: both personal and professional. Whenever there is discussion about death and dying, one's own personal experiences of loss and grief may come to the surface. Therefore, learners will be required to write a reflective diary entry a minimum of three times to process their feelings, thoughts, and experiences. See criteria for Reflective Essays assignments on Edvance360.

**3. Grief and Bereavement Symposium = 30%****Video/Presentation=10% -see grading rubric**

The last class each learner will present the topic chosen for their annotated bibliography. A video or brief power point presentation will be crafted and used as a part of the presentation given. DO NOT just read from your paper or power point! It is expected that each presentation will generate discussion, questions, and/or comments from the rest of the class. Be prepared! Each presentation will be allowed 10 minutes.

**Annotated Bibliography on Grief and Bereavement topic = 20% - see grading rubric.**

Learners must find nursing research/research to prepare for their project. A minimum of 3 annotated bibs in APA format will be turned in the last day of class during the symposium. Information on how to do an annotated bib in APA format is included below. Also, the grading rubric can be found below.

**EVALUATION:**

Attendance-Participation	20%
Written Assignments	50%
Symposium	30%
Total	100%

**Grading Scale:**

100-93=	A
92-85=	B
84-77=	C
76-70=	D
Below 69=	F

Presentation/Video Grading Guidelines  
N306C: Death, Dying and Bereavement

Name of Presenter \_\_\_\_\_ Topic \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Started \_\_\_\_\_ Time ended \_\_\_\_\_

Objectives were met:		
1. Discussed why you selected your topic. Related the purpose of your presentation Identified the objectives for the topic	2	
3. Explained the significance of the topic to nursing practice.	20	
4. Related the purpose of your presentation	2	
5. Discussed the topic including implications for nursing practice.	10	
6. Integrated nursing references to support your discussion of the topic	10	
7. Summarized the topic	5	
8. Professional presentation  Offered the audience the opportunity to ask questions. Speaker had good eye contact Presentation was logical Adult learning principles were used throughout presentation Speaker wore professional attire and was well groomed	10	

Comments

### Bibliography Grading Rubric

Criteria	Points/Bib 1	Points/Bib 2	Points/Bib 3
Qualified research article	1	1	1
Author qualifications	1	1	1
Scope & purpose	2	2	2
Intended audience	1	1	1
Bias/Standpoint	1	1	1
Relation to other works	1	1	1
Summery comment	3	3	3
150 words or less	1	1	1
APA Format	2	2	2
Grammar/Spelling	2	2	2
<i>Totals</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>15</i>
Total 15 x 3 Bibs = 45		TOTAL	45