



MA Counseling: Trauma Specialization

The Trauma specialization was created to provide you with the skills necessary to help those who have experienced or been affected by traumatic events and environments. The nine credits in the trauma specialization will address this highly specialized and rapidly growing field of study from a Christian worldview.

COU-642 Sociology of Trauma

3 credits

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the sociological aspects associated with the contexts of traumatic events from a local and global perspective. Extensive consideration is given to the elements that contribute to natural and human generated disasters from a systemic theoretical construct. Various aspects of society, the existing infrastructure in an environment and culture will be studied including barriers, challenges, resources, corruption, oppression, poverty, disease, depravity and other factors that impact a community's ability to prevent and respond to traumatic events. This course is offered in an 8-week format.

COU-643 Trauma Informed Advocacy and Crisis Intervention

3 credits

This course is designed to prepare students to become aware of diverse critical incidents that are considered to be potentially traumatic, with specific attention given to how to respond and intervene in crisis situations. These circumstances can include situations with homicidal, suicidal clients, school shootings and also natural disasters, such as earthquakes, fire, terrorism, war, sex/drug trafficking and other dangerous instances. The ethical guidelines and professional protocol will be emphasized for the purpose of preparing students for effective immediate response to the psychological impact of life threatening situations from a professional counseling perspective. This course is offered in an 8-week online format.

COU-644 Trauma Counseling and Recovery

3 credits

This course provides an opportunity to explore the current research about traumatology from a Christian worldview, which includes the most effective counseling theories and techniques for counseling children and adults that are recovering from traumatic events. These include instances of physical, sexual abuse, domestic violence as well as natural disasters that could cause a client to experience the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder or complex trauma. There will be an emphasis on helping clients increase their capacity for emotional/cognitive restoration, coping skills, resiliency and ability to optimize functioning. There will also be considerable attention given to issues associated with vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue, which can promote healthy stress management for the Counselor and clients that are served. This course is offered in an 8-week online format.