Constructing Responses to Loss, Grief and Death

Lorraine Hedtke MSW PhD
Professor, California State University, San Bernardino USA
Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 April 2017 9.00am to 4.30pm

Professor Lorraine Hedtke teaches about death, dying and bereavement in North America and internationally. Well-known for her stimulating blend of theoretical rigour and practice-based teaching, this experiential professional development workshop will show how to explore what people find comforting, sustaining, and even invigorating in the presence of grief.

On Day One Lorraine will give the foundational assumptions of her work, bringing an aesthetic approach with innovative ideas and practices that represent a departure from the conventional models of grief psychology. She will consider the effects of cultural discourses on the stories that people tell and retell of their experiences of death in life. Along the way, she will speak about various notions of identity, being and becoming.

The emphasis will be on therapeutic conversations that craft meaningful questions in the face of uncertainty and distress. Various methods to help people chart their own pathways will be presented. She will focus on a more relational version of grief through the narrative approach of remembering, extending on her previous Perth teaching.

On Day Two Lorraine will offer a nuanced approach to constructing identity in the face of complex grief. She will review circumstances where there is distance, migration, and estrangement or where loved ones may have died by suicide or homicide. Participants will be introduced to storied ways of creating agency with clients and shown how complex shades of meaning can be teased out in different ways.

Learning will be enhanced through Lorraine’s highly interactive style of teaching, participant exercises, live interviews and video. The workshop will draw from her recent book, co-authored with John Winslade (see below). It will be suitable for people who are newcomers to these ways of working. Background reading will sent with the confirmation of registration.

Lorraine Hedtke MSW PhD is a Professor at California State University San Bernardino and contributes to the University of Melbourne’s Master of Narrative Therapy. She is the founder of The Fabula Center, a faculty member of the Vancouver School of Narrative Therapy and an Associate of the Taos Institute. Along with John Winslade, she is a co-author of the book Re-membering lives: conversations with the dying and the bereaved (2004, Baywood). Bereavement Support Groups: Breathing Life into Stories of the Dead (2012) is available from Taos Publishing. Her latest text, co-authored with John Winslade, The Crafting of Grief: Constructing Aesthetic Responses to Loss (2017), is now available from Routledge. Lorraine’s articles have appeared in professional journals including The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy, The International Journal of Narrative Therapy and
Community Work, OMEGA: Journal of Death and Dying and Illness, Crisis & Loss. She has been interviewed on the Radio National program Life Matters on the positive impact of folding stories of the deceased back into the life of the living.

Who is this training for? Tertiary qualified professionals in health or social sciences including the fields of counselling, social work, psychology, psychotherapy, nursing, teaching, chaplaincy, funeral services, hospice work and education, psychiatry, general and specialist medical practice and occupational therapy. Other applicants with significant relevant work experience may be considered.

Fee $440 (inc GST) Morning and afternoon refreshments included

Registration Please complete and send the Registration Form below

Venue The Theatre Room, Technology Park Function Centre, 2 Brodie-Hall Drive, Bentley

Cancellation If you need to cancel your registration, you may exchange it with another person, or transfer it to a future training. If this is not possible, then cancellation up to one week prior to the course will incur an administrative fee of $60. If you cancel your place with less than one week’s notice and you cannot exchange or transfer it, then no refund will be made except under special circumstances.

Further information Ian Percy 0422 498 607 or narrativetherapy@hotmail.com

The Crafting of Grief: Constructing Aesthetic Responses to Loss (2017)
Edited by Professor Robert A. Neimeyer PhD

The Crafting of Grief represents an artful act of resistance against the dominant narrative of grieving, one that opens up space for alternative stories of hope, inspiration and meaning.

Professor Robert A. Neimeyer PhD
Editor of Death Studies

This book is both intellectually adventurous and deeply moving. Their rigorous critical inquiry of time-worn ideas about bereavement opens up new possibilities for foregrounding the beauty in the grieving process, crafting a container for hope. In effect, this groundbreaking work ushers in an ‘aesthetic science’ of bereavement.

Professor David Pare
Counselling Psychology, University of Ottawa, Canada
Author of The Practice of Collaborative Counseling and Psychotherapy

Crafted with both elegance and sensitivity, this book opens up and explores radical dimensions of living and dying, losing and grieving. Beautifully told practice illustrations interweave with sound theorizing to make this account a compassionate contribution to understandings and practices of mourning.

Kathie Crocket PhD
Director of Counsellor Education, Te Oranga
Faculty of Education, University of Waikato, New Zealand

This is a spellbinding book, rich in conceptual content, ripe in personal wisdom, and robust in offering a bold new way to engage with those who have experienced the loss of someone close to them.

Kenneth Gergen PhD and Mary Gergen PhD
Taos Institute, Ohio, USA
Registration Form
*Tax Invoice ABN 73 515 983 264

The Crafting of Grief with Professor Lorraine Hedtke
Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 April 2017

$440 (inc GST)

Name........................................................................................................................................

Phone..................................................Mobile.................................................................

Email........................................................................................................................................

Work context/interests................................................................................................................

Postal Address...........................................................................................................................

Please tick payment option and complete all details. Personal payments must be made at the time of registration.

☐ Direct bank payment with your name and name of training event in the reference field
   Acct Ian Percy; BSB 066 009; Account No 00637312

☐ Cheque or money order payable to Ian Percy

☐ Agency to pay with no invoice required

☐ Agency to pay with invoice required

Contact person’s name..............................................................................................................

Postal or email address for invoice...........................................................................................

Either scan and email this form to narrativetherapy@hotmail.com or
Mail this form to Ian Percy 544 William Street Mt Lawley WA 6050

Confirmation of registration will be sent by email

*This document is an invoice when fully completed