

Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary  
HIV/AIDS

MF-642 (.5 unit)

Spring, 2010

Feb. 17 and 24, 5:30-9:00 p.m.

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This introductory course on HIV/AIDS and counseling covers epidemiological and physiological aspects of the disease, assessment, psychosocial and ethical issues, and treatment strategies for at risk populations and surviving significant others.

**REQUIRED READING ASSIGNMENTS AND TEXTS:**

Bell, Geneva. (1997) My rose: An African American mother's story of AIDS, Pilgrim Press.

Bourke, D.H. (2006). The skeptic's guide to the global AIDS crisis. Revised edition. Authentic.

Dilley, James and Robert Marks (1998) The UCSF AIDS health project guide to counseling:

Perspectives on psychotherapy, prevention, and therapeutic practice will be our main text. The 1995 edition, Face to face: A guide to AIDS counseling, by James W. Dilley, Cheri Pies, and Michael Helquist may also be utilized, but the earlier editions, 1989, 1990, 1993 are not up to date enough so if you choose to order your own copy, be aware of the fact that you may receive an outdated edition. Our campus bookshop has plenty of copies.

Hall, J. et al. eds. (2006). A guide to acting on AIDS: Understanding the global AIDS pandemic and responding through faith and action. World Vision.

**Recommended Texts:**

Donnelly Katherine F. (2001) Recovering from the loss of a loved one to AIDS: Help for surviving family, friends, and lovers who grieve. Fawcett Columbine.

Dorzbach, D. and Long, W.M. (2006). The AIDS crisis: What we can do. IVP Books.

Hunter, Susan. (2004). Black death. Palgrave Macmillan.

Iiffe, John. (2006). The African AIDS epidemic: a history. Athens: Ohio University Press.

Yamamori, T., D. Dageforde and T. Bruner. (2003). The hope factor: Engaging the church in the HIV/AIDS crisis. World Vision.

There are also some binders and books on the self outside Dr. Friesen's office with other articles relevant to the course, which you may borrow. See the bibliography for additional suggestions.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES:**

- To acquire a basic understanding of the physiological aspects of HIV/AIDS transmission and the course of the disease.
- To understand risk factors for acquiring the disease.
- To become conversant with assessment techniques regarding risk and sexual behavior.
- To explore salient issues for different populations (e.g., women, minorities, men, gays and lesbians, children, family and friends).
- To become aware of treatment strategies and develop referral sources for persons infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS.
- To be fully aware of legal and ethical issues raised by the diagnosis of HIV/AIDS.

**DEGREE OUTCOMES:**

- Develop and practice skills in counseling those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Engage in the hermeneutical task of analyzing, synthesizing and engaging the contemporary local and world issues raised by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
- Develop appropriate therapeutic and theological responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
- Awaken and nurture a proactive, compassionate commitment to a community of witness, justice and peace and an appropriate use of one's personal self in response to human need

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Everyone does # 1, #2, and #3.

Choose a combination of additional items for a total of 100 points

1. Read at least 350 pages and turn in an annotated log of your reading. 20%
2. Respond to at least 2 case studies which will be provided by the instructor. 20%
3. Develop a brief referral notebook of HIV/AIDS related services in the area. 10%
4. Write a psycho educational "rap" that explains the basics of HIV/AIDS transmission, risk factors and prevention strategies. 10%
5. Visit the Living Room, 420 N. Broadway, 485-3667, or other agencies caring for persons with AIDS such as Fresno County Health Services Agency, 445-3434, All About Care, 222-9471, etc. Write a brief response paper describing what you experienced. 10-25%
6. Watch videos and movies such as Philadelphia, that deal with AIDS, and write a brief response to each. 10-25% (5% for each movie)
7. Read additional materials on HIV/AIDS counseling, especially experience stories and cases, including the grief issues for both those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS 10-25%.
8. Interview someone who is infected with or affected by HIV or AIDS. (family members, spouse, etc.) Write a brief 1-2 page response paper. 10% for each interview.
9. Search the Internet for useful information and sources. Write a brief critique of what you find. 10%
10. Create or find brochures about HIV/AIDS that are appropriate to give to clients. 10%

Schedule your study time so you spend at least 15 hours on your assignments and reading. All assignments are **DUE** on or before March 26.

**PLEASE NOTE: Prior to class, students are encouraged to do as much of the reading as possible, especially in the texts by Bourke, Hall, Bell, Dilley and Marks.**

**If you are taking the course for CEU requirements,** attend all sessions of the day long class. Any additional work or reading you do is voluntary and not required. However, the professor is willing to respond to work completed by Continuing Education participants. If you wish to receive a CEU certificate, it is your responsibility to follow and complete the appropriate sign in and sign out procedures and CEU evaluation forms.

**ACADEMIC POLICIES:** MBBS academic policies are described on the MBBS website at: <http://www.mbseminary.edu/fresno/policies>. These policies provide guidance on incomplete course work, extensions, academic integrity and plagiarism, non-discriminatory and inclusive language, dates for changing registration, academic appeals, accommodations for disabilities,

grading, etc. Students are expected to be familiar with MBBS academic policies and to follow them. Copies of the *MFCC Handbook* are also available on the MBBS Website. If you have questions about how these policies relate to you or to a situation that you face in your studies, please speak to your professor or advisor or consult the Registrar or Academic Dean.

**Class Web Site:** Please watch the class website for materials, cases, etc. which will be uploaded.

**Submitting Assignments:** Students are asked to submit hard copy versions of their assignments to the professor. If assignments contain information that needs to be kept confidential, please submit them in a secure manila envelope or folder. It is acceptable to print on both sides of the paper, or to use single spacing to conserve paper. If possible, hand in all of your assignments together, in a folder or stapled packet. Be sure your name is on each item, and include a list of the combination of items and the amount of points you ascribed to each. MFCC students must follow APA style. The professor will not print papers sent electronically as file attachments. Late papers will be graded lower and extensions will be granted only for emergencies, as it is important to read and process the course text materials prior to and during the class times.

**Evaluation:** What a student gains from a course such as this goes far beyond grades and faculty response, so please make sure that you meet your own learning goals, and develop the necessary skills and attitudes for working with persons who are infected with, or affected by HIV/AIDS. As your professor, I also expect that you will understand the importance of prevention and advocacy, not just treatment and therapy, so remember to include this aspect in your written and experiential work. “Student work will be evaluated by two standards: a) by what is considered the appropriate level of graduate performance, and b) by comparison with work submitted in a given class” (<http://www.mbseminary.edu/fresno/policies/grading>).

**Intensive Course Protocol:** Because the class time is brief and intensive, it is important for students to be on time and present for all seven hours of the class. Those wishing to count this course for licensure purposes in the state of California are required to have seven contact face to face hours. Please note that the class begins half an hour earlier than the usual evening classes at MBBS. This will help to accommodate our guest speakers, and makes it possible to complete the class time in two evenings instead of an all day format. There will be community building time and informal interaction beginning at 5 p.m. Students who can arrive early are encouraged to do so. It is also OK to bring finger foods and snacks to share with the group, or to bring your evening meal and beverage along to class, as long as you do not disturb your fellow students. Audit students are very welcome to attend and they will be expected to join in role plays and case conferencing, but they need to at least read the text by Bourke, D.H. The skeptic’s guide to the global AIDS crisis and should avoid over-participation, if they have not read the course materials that are being discussed. There may be persons who will visit or attend the class who have HIV/AIDS, or who have lost family members and close friends to this devastating disease. We will maintain a class covenant of respect, honor, and sensitivity to confidentiality and privacy concerns. Please let the professor know, if you have special needs for accommodation.

**Course Evaluations:** Course evaluations are to be completed on line and are due after students have completed all their assignments and coursework. A student’s official grade will not be posted until his or her course evaluation is completed.