Spiritual Diversity: 
Care in Trauma

An interprofessional education program for those who:

- Are interested in the specific role of Spiritual Health Care in the Trauma environment
- Have some experience/training as a health care professional or in the spiritual health care field
- Would like the opportunity to observe and participate in the provision of spiritual health care in a variety of areas in a trauma hospital
- Are seeking to improve their knowledge/skill as a health care professional and those who are interested in the Spiritual Health Care field

Care in Trauma

The Spiritual Diversity: Care in Trauma course provides students with an introductory opportunity to explore in a reflective/experiential setting what it means to provide spiritual care in a trauma environment. Students will engage with both theory and practice to gain insight into the dynamics of trauma and spiritual care. Students will spend time reflecting on their personal responses and self-awareness as they witness, participate and reflect on providing care in the hospital setting.

The Learning Environment

The classroom component provides students with foundational elements, including trauma theory, ethics, diversity, family dynamics, chronic trauma, death and dying, etc. Particular attention will be focused on self-awareness and reflection.

The practicum offers students the opportunity to witness and participate in spiritual care in trauma alongside a trained Spiritual Health Specialist. Again, particular emphasis will focus on self-reflection and self-care as students experience the trauma environment.

Learning Outcomes

Students will create their own specific ongoing learning goals, within the parameters of the course. Readings, assignments, and coursework can reflect the individual students’ areas of interest.

In addition, the following learning outcomes will be highlighted as important areas of knowledge and growth for all students:

- Awareness of self and who you are as a supportive presence in trauma
- Experience in trauma areas shadowing an SHS and/or working in tandem with an SHS and/or taking the lead with the support of an SHS
- Increased knowledge in factors present in trauma care (grief, diversity, ethics, etc.)
- Increased awareness of clinical aspects of trauma (organ donation, withdrawal of life supports, etc.)
- Understanding of personal self-care strategies in integrating experiences in trauma care

The Spiritual Diversity Program and its courses are created and offered through Spiritual Health Services at the Health Sciences Centre with the support of the University of Winnipeg.

HSC Spiritual Health Services, (204) 787 3884