

“I particularly welcomed the exposure to current thinking and recent research both of which have already had an impact on service development in my organization.”

Why have we developed this course?

There is no recognised accredited course for people setting up, providing or developing bereavement services for adults in the voluntary or statutory sectors in the UK. Our course enables those who manage or deliver bereavement care to:

- endorse and extend their existing knowledge and skills
- improve the quality of services offered to bereaved people.

‘There are a great number of people for whom a professional level of training is needed. The Postgraduate Certificate provides the high standard of evidence-based, university-accredited training for practitioners that bereaved people have a right to expect.’

Colin Murray Parkes OBE, MD, FRCPsych

‘The Postgraduate Certificate course is a welcome development in bereavement care and will ensure the highest standards for practitioners and improve outcomes for clients and their communities.’

Professor Sheila Payne, International Observatory on End of Life Care, Institute for Health Research, Lancaster University

What does the course cover?

A critical appraisal of:

- theory, evidence and practice in relation to bereavement care
- social and cultural factors that influence the experience of grief and the conceptualisation of need
- models of service delivery and the role of evaluation and research
- policies and standards in relation to bereavement services and service organisation across settings
- service-user and professional perspectives

Module 1 The context and role of adult bereavement services
(30 credits at Postgraduate Level 4)

Module 2 Service organisation and delivery of adult bereavement services
(30 credits at Postgraduate Level 4)

Programme Leader

Dr Sharon Cornford, Education Centre, St Christopher’s Hospice

Director of Studies

Dr Marilyn Relf, Head of Education, Sir Michael Sobell House

“The course has been extremely helpful to me as a manager of bereavement services. It has developed and extended my thinking about the way in which services are configured to meet the needs of bereaved people.”

Experienced tutors and guest lecturers

Dr Marilyn Relf set up and managed the Sobell House bereavement service. She combines teaching with research on bereavement. Her doctorate evaluated the effectiveness of volunteer bereavement support workers.

Dr Sharon Cornford is seconded to the Education Centre at St Christopher’s Hospice. She has managed the bereavement service at St Joseph’s Hospice, Hackney for over ten years where she has experience of managing both a hospice and community-based service.

Guest lecturers will be given by expert practitioners and include:

- **Dr Dawn Chaplin**, Head of Bereavement Services at Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust; Vice-chair, National Association of Bereavement Services
- **Jonathan Hartley**, Project Lead, Standards for Bereavement Services in the UK
- **Bob Heath**, music therapist
- **Dr Linda Machin**, Visiting Research Fellow, Keele University
- **Dr Colin Murray Parkes**, Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist, St Christopher’s Hospice
- **Dr Katy Newell-Jones**, National Teaching Fellow
- **Professor Sheila Payne**, International Observatory of End of Life Care, Lancaster University
- **Tony Walter**, Professor of Death Studies, the University of Bath.

How is the course taught?

This one year part-time course includes two taught modules and individual learning. Students will be required to attend:

- one 5-day session at St Christopher’s Hospice, London
- one 5-day session at Sir Michael Sobell House, Oxford

Teaching and learning strategies include: seminars, interactive lectures, workshops, project work, reading groups and reflective journals. Assessment includes reflective learning logs and two essays.

Who should apply?

- Bereavement workers in community, hospital and palliative care settings
- Researchers and academics with a special interest in bereavement services
- Health and social-care professionals working with people facing and living with bereavement
- Experienced personnel who wish to develop a career in bereavement care.

Applicants should have a first degree or equivalent qualification.

“The quality of the teaching was excellent; it was great to have the opportunity to work with such eminent academics and practitioners.”

Help the Hospices is the leading charity supporting hospice care throughout the UK. We work with our members and other organisations to grow and improve hospice and palliative care.

www.helpthehospices.org.uk
Reg. charity no. 1014851

St Christopher's Hospice

St Christopher's Hospice was at the forefront of the development of services for the bereaved in the context of palliative care. Founded in 1967 by Dame Cicely Saunders, the hospice is widely acknowledged as the pioneer of the modern hospice movement and is considered a centre of innovation and practice development.

www.stchristophers.org.uk
Reg. charity no. 210667

Sir Michael Sobell House

Sir Michael Sobell House is a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Palliative Care with a long involvement in palliative care education and research. It is part of the Oxford Radcliffe NHS Trust and a pioneer in the development of palliative care bereavement services for adults, underpinning service delivery with research and evaluation, particularly in relation to the role of volunteers.

www.sobellhousehospiceoxford.org

Middlesex University has many years' experience of collaboration in the field of professional training. The School of Health and Social Sciences alone validates over 50 courses in the field of counselling, nursing and psychotherapy. Middlesex is therefore well placed to operate the quality control and evaluation structures to offer a high-quality programme, with appropriate national recognition.

www.mdx.ac.uk

For more information on the course and a registration form, contact

**Administrative Officer
Working with Bereaved Adults
Help the Hospices
34-44 Britannia Street
London WC1X 9JG**

Tel 020 7520 8200
Fax 020 7278 1021
bereavement@helpthehospices.org.uk

Postgraduate Certificate: Working with Bereaved People

A specialist qualification, accredited by Middlesex University, which provides a critical study of the organisation and delivery of adult bereavement services.



validated by **Middlesex University**



St Christopher's Hospice