

Providing Students with a Spirituality based Launch into their first Field Placements

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Social workers as

- **Special**
- **Compassionate**
- **Resilient**
- **Having a calling**
- **Competent/Mastery**
- **Consistent**
- **Reflective practitioners**
- **Life long learners**
- **Privileged (work as a gift)**

Causal past (the hero's journey)

- **Loss and grief**
- **Endurance**
- **Resilience**
- **Transformation through the work**
- **Spirituality / religion**
- **Interest in healing /renewal**
- **Service**

Therapeutic relationship as

- Sacred
- A covenant
- Bearing witness
- Staying present
- A theology of caring
- Connectedness
- 'Co-pati' to suffer with (compassion)

Wounded healers

- **Therapist as fellow traveler (Yalom)**
- **Helped by our clients**
 - **Being effective**
 - **Helping someone else**
 - **Being drawn out of myself**
 - **Contact with others**
- **Increased efficacy (Jung)**
- **Work as a pilgrimage (Whyte)**
- **Clients influence**
- **Mutual wounds**

Loss across the lifespan.....

- **Bullying**
- **Friend moving away**
- **Family violence**
- **Poverty**
- **Trauma/ PTSD**
- **War**
- **Homes, families, children**
- **Health ,disease processes**
- **Abuse**
- **Immigration / Refugee status**
- **Death**
- **Maltreatment**
- **Fire , accident,**
- **Innocence**
- **Jobs**
- **Dreams**
- **Divorce / Separation**

It is universal.....

- **Future**
- **Security , sense of safety**
- **Pets**
- **Mental health/addictions**
- **Partners/relationships**
- **Loss of license**
- **Acquired brain injury**
- **Alzheimer's disease**
- **Disability**
- **Chronic illness (MS, ALS, RA, OA, COPD, AIDS....**
- **Happiness**
- **Wholeness, Identity**

Speaks to our need for control

- Organ donation
- Leaving home
- Desertion
- Military deployment
- Stress
- Legal problems
- Loss of function, capacity
- Nursing home transition
- Transfer for work
- Coma
- Disasters manmade and natural
- Infertility
- Miscarriage, stillbirth, SIDS

Part of the common discourse

- **Illness (self, parent, sibling, grandparent, teacher, friend.....)**
- **Moving**
- **Loss of foster home**
- **Adoption**
- **Custody break down**
- **Failing in school**

Theorists

Nagy

**Alexander &
Alderstein**

Bowlby

Grollman

Wolfelt

Worden

Piaget

Sanders

Rando

Corr & Corr

Adamson &Deveau

Stroebe &Stroebe

Neimeyer

Pollock

Averill

And more.....

Lindemann

Engel

Kubler Ross

Bandura

Freud

Rogers

Attig

Mischel

Olshansky

Maslow

Erikson

Kastenbaum

Anthony

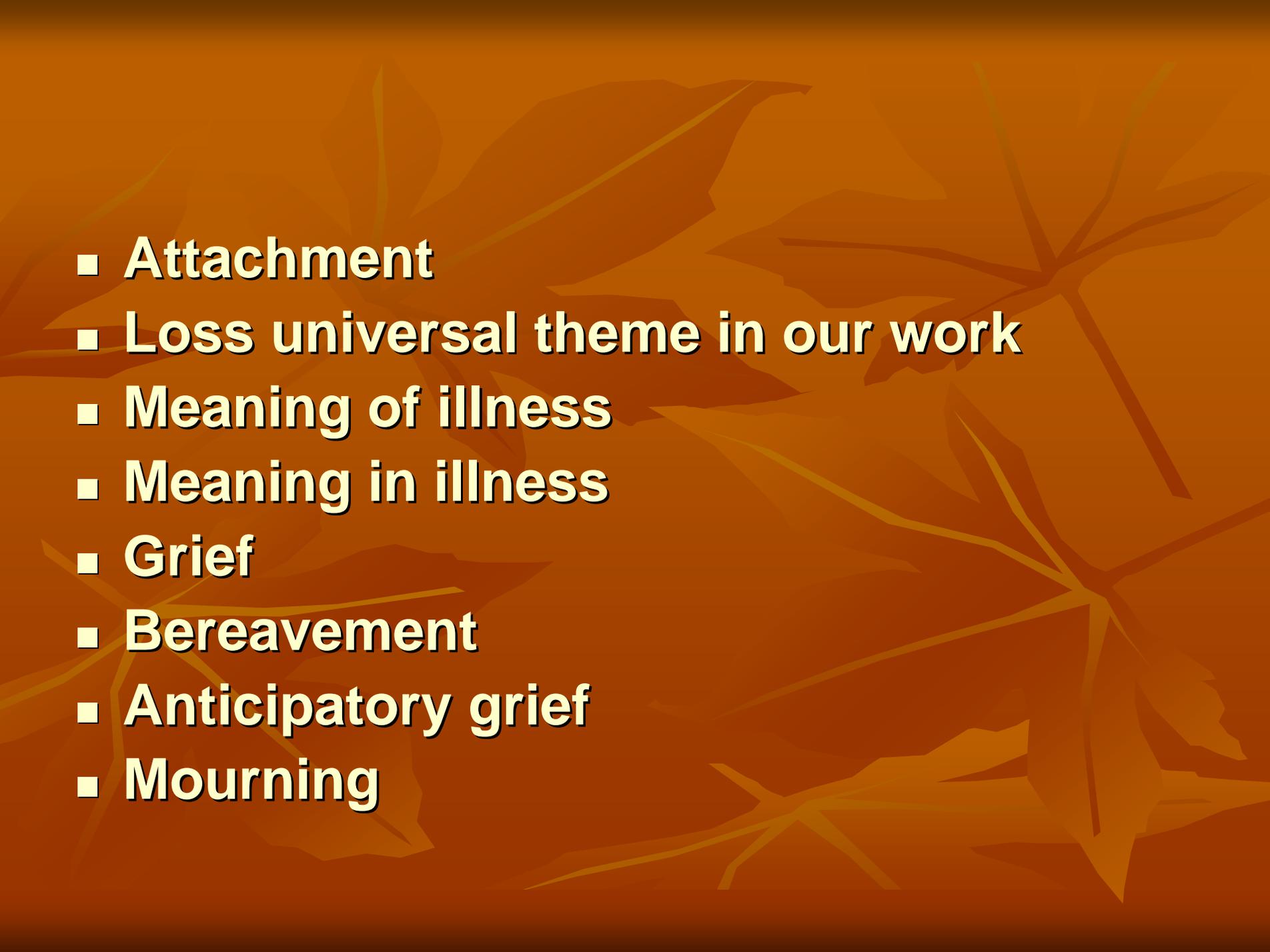
Silverman

Klass

Parkes & Weiss

Fife

Roos

- 
- The background of the slide features a warm, orange-brown color palette with faint, stylized silhouettes of autumn leaves scattered across the surface. The leaves vary in size and orientation, creating a textured, seasonal atmosphere.
- **Attachment**
 - **Loss universal theme in our work**
 - **Meaning of illness**
 - **Meaning in illness**
 - **Grief**
 - **Bereavement**
 - **Anticipatory grief**
 - **Mourning**

Loss of.....

Physical

Relational

Political

Power

Freedom

Authority

Psychological

Functional

Cognitive

Economical

Safety

Sexual

Existential

Spiritual

Cultural

Financial

Communal

Loss experienced as

- **Primary / Secondary**
- **Major / Minor**
- **Actual / Threatened**
- **Internal / External**
- **Chosen / Imposed**
- **Direct / Indirect**

The experience of loss and grief

- Emotionally
- Socially
- Behaviorally
- Physically
- Spiritually
- Cognitively
- Physiologically
- Intellectually

Grief can be.....

- **Traumatic**
- **Anticipatory**
- **Delayed**
- **Complicated**
- **Disenfranchised**
- **Masked**
- **Sudden**
- **Chronic**
- **Pathological**
- **Exaggerated**

or.....

Ambiguous loss

Chronic sorrow

Total Pain

Existential pain

Suffering

At risk.....

Concurrent stressors

Prior history

Gender

Cause

Culture

Mental health

Physical health

Relationships, quality of ties

Age, developmental stage

Social status

Support

Also consider.....

- Person lost
- SES
- Intelligence
- Ethnicity
- Religion
- Family system openness
- Ongoing trauma of trial, legal battles
- Traumatic loss
- Experience with death/loss
- Media exposure
- Peer orientation
- Attachment “style”
- Degree of disruption
- Secondary losses

Professional responses to loss.....

- **Compassion fatigue**
- **Vicarious trauma**
- **Burnout**
- **Impact of suffering**
- **Brown-out**
- **Exhaustion**
- **Stress leave**
- **Caregiver stress**
- **Professional caregiver stress**
- **Boundary violations**
- **Ethical dilemmas**

The work is

- **Hard**
- **Important, Meaningful**
- **Fulfilling**
- **Unpredictable**
- **Stressful**
- **Sometimes thankless**
- **Often ambiguous or negative outcomes**
- **Never know**
- **Exposure to suffering and pain has a cost**
- **Some workplaces are better than others at supporting and valuing**

SW 311 : The Helping Process

Last class prior to Christmas break

**3 day/week placement for third year
begins January**

Fear

lack of self esteem

unsure of skills.....



“What Happy Social Workers Know”

- 
- **Signs and symptoms**
 - **The toxic workplace**
 - **The truly living workplace**
 - **Staying In**
 - **Self care personal and professional**
 - **Resilience**
 - **Organizations**
 - **Teams and colleagues**

Being made more by.....

Temporality

Reflexivity

Mourning

Enduring

Tragic optimism

Self transcendence

Post traumatic growth

- **Meaning making**
- **Resilience**
- **Transcendence**
- **Spirit, spiritual, 'spiritus'**
- **Inward mobility vs. upward mobility**
- **Compassion**

Goals for ourselves

- Resilience
- Mastery
- Reconstruction
- Tolerance
- Coping
- Adjustment
- Hope
- Transcendence
- Meaning
- Strengths perspective
- Restoring personal agency
- Normalizing
- Adaptation
- Relearning the world
- Reorganizing