

**Presentation Title:** Grief in Undergraduate Populations: Expression Based on Identity Factors**Abstract:**

Regarding the grief experiences of college students, recent research has focused primarily on the use of social media in the grieving process, the institution-related support needs of grieving students, and even the impact of COVID-19 on college students' grief (Varga & Varga, 2019; Buehler & Youngvorst, 2022; Bakelants et al., 2023; Bistricean & Shea, 2002; ElTohamy et al., 2002; Governale et al., 2023). Some studies have considered the ways that identity factors like race and ethnicity, religious affiliation, and gender identity may impact the grief experiences of college students (Krull, 2021; Matthews et al., 2021; Oltjenbruns, 1998; Wilson et al., 2023), but few have utilized a holistic lens to conceptualize these experiences (Varga et al., 2020; Varga et al., 2021; Olaleye & Varga, 2022). This purpose of this study is to examine the holistic grief experiences of college students and the impact of race and ethnicity, religious affiliation, and gender identity on these grief expressions. In particular, the experiences of traditionally underrepresented groups within these identity classifications will be a research focus. This study utilizes the Holistic Impact of Grief framework (HIG, Balk, 2011) as its conceptual foundation, which theorizes that grief expression occurs within six holistic dimensions including physically and interpersonally. The study will utilize a minimum sample of 55 college students who have experienced a death or non-death loss in the previous two years. The participants will complete a survey consisting of questionnaires that assesses holistic grief expression, behavioral reactions to loss, and aspects of identity. Multiple linear regression analysis will be used to assess for relationships between the variables.