

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: SO 215: Death & Dying

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: SO 201

Description:

A sociological and psychological exploration of issues surrounding death and bereavement such as grief, funerals, euthanasia, suicide and the dying patient.

Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate clarification of his/her own values relating to death and dying
- Demonstrate an ability in his/her interactional relationships toward a more relaxed and comfortable approach with dying , grieving or terminally ill individuals
- Discuss changing meanings of death and dying
- Describe the personal experience of death in terms of self, a dying individual and a child's view of death
- Identify the psychological, medical and social dimensions of bereavement, widowhood and the funeral in terms of the survivors of death
- Discuss the moral/ethical dilemmas of death raised by such issues as right to life, death with dignity, meanings of suicide, war and the human condition, and the death system

Topical Outline:

- Studying Dying, Death, and Bereavement
- The American Experience of Death
- Growing Up with Death/Growing Old with Death
- Perspectives on Death and Life after Death
- The Dying Process
- Living with Dying
- Dying in the American Health Care System
- Biomedical Issues and Euthanasia
- Suicide and Other Sudden, Unnatural Traumatic Deaths
- Diversity in Death Rituals
- The Business of Dying
- The Legal Aspects of Dying
- Coping With Loss
- Grieving Throughout the Life Cycle

Texts:

Leming, Michael, and Dickinson, G. (2010). *Understanding Dying, Death, & Bereavement*, 8th ed. Cengage Learning.

Pausch, R. (2008). *The Last Lecture*. Hachette/Harper/Hyperion.

Albom, M. (2001). *Tuesdays with Morrie*. Broadway Books.

Student Assessment: Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers

Note: If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Note: If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.