

FE99
Pm

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Fall Evening
October 4 - December 16, 1999
Main Campus

COURSE: RE 48000 Death and Dying

TIME: Wednesdays 17:45-21:55

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel

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TEXTBOOKS: Leming, Michael R., and Dickinson, George E.,
4th ed. 1998, **UNDERSTANDING DYING, DEATH, AND
BEREAVEMENT**, Forth Worth, TX: Harcourt Brace.

Kubler-Ross, Elisabeth, 1997, **ON DEATH AND
DYING**, New York, NY: Touchstone (Simon and
Schuster.

Beauchamp, Tom L., and Veatch, Robert
M., **ETHICAL ISSUES IN DEATH AND DYING**, Upper
Saddle River, NJ:Prentice Hall

DESCRIPTION :

This course examines the concepts of death and dying from interdisciplinary and cross-cultural view points. The class will analyze how religion, culture, psychology, and social values are reflected in people's perceptions of dying and death. The objective is to develop an understanding of the process of dying and explore various resources to cope with the issues revolving around it.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

- *survey various resources available to assist in better understanding of death.
- *learn about the meaning of life and death cross culturally.
- *compare various approaches to dealing with death and dying in different societies and cultures.

*critically review the influence of social and religious values on personal and social perspectives about the issues of dying and death.

*examine various alternatives and possibilities to develop one's own positive outlooks on the issues of death and dying.

*create greater awareness of how one's attitude has an impact on dealing with the understanding of death.

CLASS FORMAT:

This class will utilize the seminar setting and special topics presented by guest speakers with occasional lectures. It will be an interactive, cooperative learning experience for the students and the instructor. The format includes small group discussions, video analysis, student presentations and debates. Students are encouraged to actively participate in all class activities. It is very crucial that students read the assigned chapters and come to class well prepared for class discussion.

REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to be open minded and courteous in class discussion and to participate regularly in all class activities. Each student is expected to carefully read the assigned chapter in the textbook and be prepared to discuss it for the class period of the assignment.

Only registered students are allowed to be in the class.

All students will be graded on the following requirements:

- *come to class on time and stay for the whole period.
- *be courteous and professional in class discussions i.e. take turn in speaking, allowing others to express their ideas without interruption, communicate with positive, constructive verbal and non-verbal language.
- *show respect and an open mind to different ideas and opinions from class members.
- *turn in assignments on time.
- *be responsible to cooperate and complete class/team projects on time.

GRADING:

The grading will be based on

1. Class attendance and participation 10 pts.
2. Book chapter reports 30 pts.
3. Reflective journal 30 pts.
(written journal 20 pts.
class presentation 10 pts.)
4. Research project 30 pts.
(written report 20 pts.
oral report 10 pts.)

90-100 =A, 80-89 =B, 70-79 =C, 60-69 =D, 59 AND BELOW=F

BOOK CHAPTER REPORTS:

Students will be assigned to read chapter(s) from the textbooks and to turn in the following on the day when they take a leading role in class discussion:

- 1) a 1-2 page (typed double-spaced) summary of the chapter(s) including
- 2) 3 main points from the reading clearly stated in bullet or number format, and
- 3) 3 analytical questions for class discussion.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

The purpose of the project is for students to creatively apply knowledge from classroom to real life experience. Students may choose a research topic relating to the problems and issues of death and dying. The research methodology includes survey, interviews, and a literature review.

The written report of the research should be within the range of 7-10 double-spaced typed pages. It will be due on the last day of the class when the oral report is given.

Plagiarized work will lead to failure of the course. Also, it will be reported to the university for disciplinary action.

ORAL REPORT ON RESEARCH PROJECT:

Each student will have 10 minutes to share their project with the class. The oral report should be a brief summary of the student's written report. Reading from the written report is discouraged and points will be taken off. The grade will be based

on the style of presentation, the ability to deliver information succinctly, and being conscientious about the 10 minutes time slot by not going over the time limit for each student.

REFLECTIVE JOURNAL:

Each student is required to keep a reflective journal at the end of each class. In lieu of the mid-term exam, students select one specific topic from their previous collection of journal entries to analyze in details. This journal should reflect the student's understanding of the issues of death and dying. The student will orally present this journal in class and turn in all of the written journals on the day of the mid term class presentation. Each journal must be typed double-spaced. The total number of the journal entries is five. Each entry will be graded for its brief and insightful reflection of the issues of death and dying. The contents of class presentation journal should include:

- 1) reflective understanding of the chosen topic;
- 2) insightful comment on the topic; and
- 3) 3 analytical questions about the topic.

LEARNING OUTCOME ASSESSMENT:

All of students' work will be evaluated for:

- *knowledge of the subject matter from textbooks, class lectures, discussion, videos, resources from research, outside class activities.
- *ability to provide relevant examples to support viewpoints.
- *ability to apply the knowledge to understand current issues in society.
- *clarity and logical presentation.
- *demonstration of having an understanding of the subject matter objectively and from opposing viewpoints.
- *demonstration of achieving the objectives of this class.
- *ability to analyze, critically review, and compare the issues cross-culturally.

Students must turn in all class assignments and the exam in class on time. Points will be taken off for turning in assignments late. All work turned in must be typed double-spaced.

ONLY HARD COPY WILL BE ACCEPTED. EXAM AND ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED VIA EMAIL OR FAX.

SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING (Chapter)</u>
OCTOBER		
6	Orientation and Introduction Understanding Dying and Death	Leming ch.1
13	Social Meaning of Death	Leming ch.2 Kubler-Ross 1-2, 3-4-5,6-7,8-9
20	Understanding Death Attitude Guest Speaker: Dr. Phyllis Roe	Leming ch.3,4,13 K-Ross 10, 11-12
27	Blue Ribbon: Death and Dying with Dignity Guest Speaker: Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani	Leming ch. 8,9,12 Beauchamp 3,4,5,6,7
NOVEMBER		
3	Anthropology of Death Ritual Guest Speaker: Dr. Leslie Sponsel CLASS PRESENTATION OF JOURNAL TURN IN WRITTEN JOURNAL FOR PRESENTATION (2 pages) TURN IN 4 ENTRIES OF CLASS JOURNAL	Leming ch. 10, 11
10	Religions and the Dying Process Guest Speaker:	Leming ch.5,6,7
17	Human Right and Life Guest Speaker: Prof. David Coleman RESEARCH GROUP WORK/DISCUSSION group leader 1. 2. 3.	
24	INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT GROUP LEADER REPORT Ethical Issues in Death and Dying	Beauchamp 1,2,8,9

DECEMBER

1 Death and Dying in the Next Century

Debate

8 RESEARCH ORAL REPORT

TURN IN WRITTEN RESEARCH REPORT

*****The instructor reserves the right to make changes and adjustments to any portion of the syllabus and schedule.*****