

Minnesota State College Southeast

PSYC 1223: Psychology of Death and Dying

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

This course examines death and dying in terms of current and historical viewpoints and the effect of individual and cultural attitudes and rituals. Medicolegal movements and issues, and factors such as age, culture, spirituality, and manner of death will be investigated and how those issues shape end-of-life and grief experiences. (Fulfills MnTC Goals 5 and 9) (Prerequisite: none) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 07/27/2016 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Historical and current sociocultural attitudes toward death and dying processes and rituals
2. Personal attitudes toward death and dying
3. Medical and legal movements and issues regarding end-of-life processes
4. Factors affecting experiences of grief and loss

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Outline historical changes and current views on death and dying
2. Explain the relationship between lifespan developmental periods and one's understanding of death and grief
3. Analyze attitudes regarding death, dying, and spirituality, as an individual and as a member of society
4. Comprehend the impact of culture on the death process, grief, and accompanying rituals
5. Assess societal and personal attitudes toward medicolegal matters, such as advance directives, assisted suicide, euthanasia, and organ donation
6. Investigate the role of hospice and palliative care in easing the death process for patients and families
7. Analyze the impact of traumatic death, such as accidents and suicide, on survivors' grief
8. Explain complicated grief and how the bereaved can be helped

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.

Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
3. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.
4. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

This course was previously PSYC 2523.