

Psychology 206 01
Introduction to Thanatology- Death, Dying, and Bereavement

Instructor: Alida D. Gibson, MA
Meeting: Tuesday 5p-7:40p
Email: alida_gibson@tmail.com

Text: Corr, C.A., Nabe, C.M., & Corr, D.M. (2006). Death and Dying: Life and Living (5th Edition).

Kubler-Ross, E. (1969). On Death and Dying.

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce you to Thanatology- the study of death, dying and bereavement. We will take a look into how these very real and inevitable issues affect individuals mental/emotionally, physically and spiritually. This course will consist of written assignments along with exams as evaluative tools.

Assignments and Exams: The class will consist of two examinations, two short paper assignments, 3-4 pages in length. Each exam and paper will be worth 60pts, equaling 240 overall points.

Course Schedule:

January 15	Ice Breaker Introduction: What is Thanatology? Why have a course on Death and Dying? The Horse on the Dining-Room Table by: R. A. Kalish Chapter 1, Learning about Death, Dying and Bereavement
January 22	Chapters 2 and 3 Encounters with Death, Attitudes toward Death
January 29	Chapters 4 and 5 Death-Related Practices, Cultural Differences
February 5	Chapters 12 and 13 Developmental Perspectives- Children and Adolescents
February 12	Chapters 14 and 15 Developmental Perspective- Adults and Elderly
February 19	Chapters 6 and 7 Coping with Dying
February 26	Chapter 8 Coping with Dying
March 4	Mid-Term Paper Due
March 11	Exam 1: Chapter 16 Legal Issues
March 18	No Class- Spring Break

March 25	Chapter 9 Coping with Loss and Grief
April 1	Chapters 10 and 11 Coping with Loss and Grief
April 8	Chapter 17 Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior
April 15	Chapter 18 Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia
April 22	Paper 2 Due; Chapter 19 The Meaning and Place of Death in Life
April 29	Chapter 20 New Challenges/ Wrap Up
May 6	Final Exam

**Please know that the schedule is subject to changes. Remember that this is an introductory-level course and represents a general familiarization with the topics in the field.