

Northwestern Connecticut Community College

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: DEATH AND DYING **COURSE NUMBER: PSY 210**

Course Description: Although human beings are unique individuals, there are certain experiences that we all must deal with. We are born; therefore, one day we must die. In the meantime we must deal with the deaths of loved ones, friends, pets, and the depictions of death in film, literature, and popular media. Come explore the issues of death and the human experience associated with it. This course will be team taught by an English instructor and an instructor from the healthcare field. Course topics will include: death in different cultures, end-of-life issues, suicide, violent death experiences and accidents, life after death, depictions of the afterlife, and various other topics related to mortality that appear in literature, film, healthcare, and culture. The course will be taught through lectures, in-depth discussions, guest speakers, field trips, and outside readings, projects, and exams. (3 Credit Hours).

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: Successful completion of English 101.

Goals:

1. To gain an appreciation of death and the process of dying as natural components of the lifespan, and to appreciate how an awareness of mortality contributes to the construction of meaning in one's life;
2. To understand death and the process of dying from a multidimensional, multidisciplinary perspective to appreciate how culture, history, and individual differences contribute to understanding of, preparation for, and coping with death and dying;
3. To become acquainted with theoretical, scientific, and practical knowledge relevant to issues pertaining to death, dying, grief, and bereavement, and to integrate that knowledge in such a way that facilitates personal growth and development;
4. To become more comfortable and skilled in reading, summarizing, and evaluating the results of empirical research and scholarly writing, and to increase confidence in skill in expressing the self in an academic context via writing and speaking.

Outcomes: Upon completion of this course a student will:

1. Be able to define his or her ideas about death and dying
2. Identify their personal methods of dealing with death and dying and helping to cope with grief issues in themselves and others
3. Describe theories related to death and dying
4. Identify, analyze, and compare and contrast themes of death and dying in literature, film, and the healthcare profession
5. Explain the dynamics of dying as understood from an individual and outside perspective

College Policies

Plagiarism: Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty are not tolerated at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions ranging from failure of the assignment (receiving a zero), failing the course, being removed/expelled from the program and/or the College. Please refer to your "Student Handbook" under "Policy on

Student Rights,” the Section entitled “Student Discipline,” or the College catalog for additional information.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities. Students should notify Dr. Christine Woodcock, the Counselor for Students with Disabilities. She is located at Green Woods Hall, in the Center for Student Development. Her phone number is 860-738-6318 and her email is cwoodcock@nwcc.edu.

School Cancellations: If snowy or icy driving conditions cause the postponement or cancellation of classes, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations and posted on the College’s website at www.nwcc.edu. Students may also call the College directly at **(860) 738-6464** to hear a recorded message concerning any inclement weather closings. Students are urged to exercise their own judgment if road conditions in their localities are hazardous.

Use of Electronic Devices: Some course content as presented in Blackboard Learn is not fully supported on mobile devices at this time. While mobile devices provide convenient access to check in and read information about your courses, they should not be used to perform work such as taking tests, quizzes, completing assignments, or submitting substantive discussion posts.

Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team: NCCC is committed to creating a community that is safe and supportive of people of all gender and sexual identities. This pertains to the entire campus community, whether on ground or virtual, students, faculty, or staff.

Sexual assault and intimate partner violence is an affront to our national conscience, and one we cannot ignore. It is our hope that no one within our campus community will become a victim of these crimes. However, if it occurs, NCCC has created the SART Team - Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team - to meet the victim’s needs.

SART is a campus and community based team that is fully trained to provide trauma-informed compassionate service and referrals for comprehensive care. The team works in partnership with The Susan B. Anthony Project to extend services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year.

The NCCC team members are:

Ruth Gonzalez, Ph.D.	860-738-6315	Green Woods Hall Room 207
Susan Berg	860-738-6342	Green Woods Hall Room 223
Kathleen Chapman	860-738-6344	Green Woods Hall Room 110
Michael Emanuel	860-738-6389	Founders Hall Annex Room 308
Seth Kershner	860-738-6481	Library
Jane O’Grady	860-738-6393	Founders Hall Annex Room 212
Robin Orlomski	860-738-6416	Business Office Room 201
Patricia Bouffard, Ex-Officio	860-738-6319	Founders Hall Room 103
Savannah Schmitt		Student Representative

At NCCC we care about our students, staff and faculty and their well-being. It is our intention to facilitate the resources needed to help achieve both physical and emotional health.