

---

# HSE K101

## Death and Dying

---

### Overview

This course is designed to familiarize you with attitudes toward death, dying, grief, and loss. You will have opportunities to understand approaching death from several perspectives. The issues will include the organizational context of dying, cross cultural studies of death, and the personal struggle of terminally ill people and their families.

### Goals

- Understand societies' definitions of death and dying from a variety of perspectives.
- Challenge and increase your own awareness of how personal attitudes and beliefs about death and dying develop, and influence the grief process.
- Understand the issues facing people with life threatening illnesses and their families.
- Describe the death and grief concepts and rituals as viewed from a variety of cultural and spiritual perspectives.
- Increase awareness and competence in successfully working through death, loss and grief.

### Evaluation

Student achievement of the knowledge and skill objectives is assessed via examinations and/or policy analysis.

<i>Assignments</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Lossography Paper	15%
Funeral Paper	15%
I Learned Paper	15%
Take Home Quizzes	40%
Class Participation/Assignments	15%
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100%</b>

---

Fall 2015  
Monday, 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Instructor: Denise DeBrady  
E-Mail: ddebrady@trcc.commnet.edu  
Phone: 860-334-8337  
Office: D209  
Office Hours: By Appointment

---

### Required Materials

The Last Dance by DeSpelder,  
10<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2013.

### Assignments

---

#### **Due September 28, 2015**

Lossography Paper is an essay that details the death and loss events in your life, along with your present understanding of how each experience has influenced your attitudes and beliefs.

#### **Due October 12, 2015**

Quiz 1 Due

---

#### **Due October 26, 2015**

Quiz 2 Due

---

#### **Due November 2, 2015**

Funeral Paper is an obituary that you write about yourself.

---

#### **Due December 7, 2014**

Quiz 3 Due

---

#### **Due December 14, 2014**

I Learned Report is a review of your learning during the term. Choose at least three personal things learned and three things learned of broader social import.

**Due dates are included in the syllabus and are not generally flexible. Late papers will *not* usually be accepted. If you are experiencing a personal situation of some kind that impacts your work in this class, please speak to me privately *before* the fact. All late assignments will be marked down one letter grade for every day it is late.**

## COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 – August 31st	Class Introduction/Syllabus
Week 2 - September 8 <sup>th</sup>	NO CLASS
Week 3 - September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Text Readings: Last Dance Chapters 1 & 2
Week 4 – September 21 <sup>st</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapter 3
Week 5 – September 28 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapter 15 <b>Lossography Due</b> <b>Quiz 1 Opens (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 &amp; 15)– Due October 12<sup>th</sup></b>
Week 6 – October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapter 4
Week 7 – October 12 <sup>th</sup>	NO CLASS <b>Quiz 1 Due</b>
Week 8 – October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapters 6 & 8
Week 9 – October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapter 7 <b>Quiz 2 Opens (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 10 &amp; 11)– Due November 9<sup>th</sup></b>
Week 10 – November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapter 10 <b>Funeral Paper Due</b>
Week 11 – November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapter 11 & 12 <b>Quiz 2 Due</b>
Week 12 – November 16 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapters 13 & 14
Week 13 – November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	NO CLASS <b>Quiz 3 Opens (Chapters 5, 9, 12, 13, 14) - Due December 7<sup>th</sup></b>
Week 14 – November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Text Reading: Last Dance Chapters 5 & 9
Week 15 – December 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Quiz 3 Due</b>
Week 16 – December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Last Class <b>I Learned Report Due</b>
December 21st	Make-up Class (if needed)

**Please remember that it is your responsibility, not mine, to keep up with assigned readings and paper due dates as outlined by the syllabus. Contact me if you miss a class to get any handouts from the session you did not attend. If a class is cancelled for some reason, expect to do the work and turn in any papers as outlined on the syllabus.**

### **College Withdrawal Policy**

A verbal “drop or withdrawal” from course(s) cannot be accepted by the instructor. Students must complete the required form and file it with the Registrar’s Office. Students may drop or withdraw from a course up to the 12<sup>th</sup> week of the semester; the exact ending date for the drop period is listed in the academic calendar.

### **Instructor’s Attendance Policy**

I will be conducting a formal “roll call” for the first couple of weeks of classes. After that, I will simply make note of those students who are missing on any given day. Because many of the ideas for out-of-class writings and in class assignments will be discussed in detail during class, it is to your advantage to attend regularly. One or two missed classes will not result in any kind of grading penalty, but excessive absences (more than three) will most likely impact your work negatively.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person’s words or ideas in your writing. Conscious plagiarism is an unacceptable academic behavior. ***Any instance of conscious plagiarism will result in a “zero” for that assignment. More than one instance will result in an “F” grade for the course.*** Plagiarism by omission or “unconscious” plagiarism will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

### **Cellular Phones etc.**

Students are notified that cellular phones and other electronic devices are allowed in class only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

### **Early Warning Policy**

Students experiencing academic difficulty and/or chronic absenteeism will be notified of their class standing.

### **Disabilities Statement**

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 892-5751. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### **Revisions to Syllabus**

The information contained in the syllabus is subject to revision at my discretion. I will inform the class of any changes that are made. If you miss a class, check with a classmate upon your return to verify that you have the most up-to-date information.

### **Learning Portfolios**

All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio in Digication that uses the college template. Through this electronic tool students will have the opportunity to monitor their own growth in college-wide learning. The student will keep his/her learning portfolio and may continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. Student work reviewed for assessment purposes will not include names and all student work will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. Students will have the ability to integrate learning from the classroom, college, and life in general, which will provide additional learning opportunities. If desired, students will have the option to create multiple portfolios.