

Department:

Sociology

Course Description:

This course will examine aspects of death and dying. The course will cover the stages of dying and grief and will look at grief from a lifespan perspective. The course will also examine social issues, cultural differences, and legal and ethical issues related to death and dying.

Course Competencies:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify and articulate personal beliefs and attitudes toward death and dying.
2. Identify and describe the stages of dying.
3. Identify and describe the stages of grief and mourning.
4. Describe social programs of care for persons coping with dying.
5. Describe the current American death system.
6. Describe cultural differences related to death and dying.
7. Explain the impact of issues relating to death, dying, and bereavement on children, adolescents, and the elderly.
8. Identify issues related to suicide, life threatening behavior, assisted suicide, and euthanasia.
9. Explain legal and ethical issues related to death and dying, including required legal documentation.

Course Content:

- A. Perspectives on Death and Dying
- B. Theories of Death and Dying
- C. The Dying Process
- D. The Grieving Process
- E. Programs of Care
- F. Bereavement
- G. Developmental Perspectives across the Lifespan
- H. Legal, Conceptual, and Ethical Issues
- I. Diversity in Loss and Grieving

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by use of written assignments, quizzes, group work, oral presentations and role-play, exams, research assignments, and reflection papers.

Instructional Materials:

Textbook: Corr, C.A., & Corr, D.M. (2013). *Death & Dying, Life & Living* (7th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. ISBN-13: 978-1111840617

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).