



### **Course Description**

#### **DEP2481 | Death Attitudes and Life Affirmation | 3.00 credits**

An analysis of the psychology, philosophy, and social function of death and dying, especially in relation to the general negative view of death in American society. Encourages a reconstruction of the participant's approach to living through a confrontation of their fear of death and of those life-denying traits and values which inhibit their growth. The course also investigates humane possibilities for funeral, bereavement, and counseling the terminally ill.

### **Course Competencies**

**Competency 1:** The student will explain the theoretical perspectives regarding death, dying, and bereavement by:

1. Describing the different theories of death and dying
2. Identifying the impact of scientific innovation on human life, death, and dying
3. Exploring the socio-cultural perspectives of death, dying, and bereavement
4. Examining standard personal views, attitudes, and belief systems regarding death, dying, bereavement, and personal wellness

**Competency 2:** The student will apply theoretical perspectives regarding death, dying, and bereavement by:

1. Distinguishing between the different theories of death and dying
2. Differentiating values, spirituality, traditions, rituals, and policies addressing death and dying by socio-cultural contexts
3. Matching standard personal views, attitudes, and belief systems regarding death, dying, bereavement, and personal wellness with myths and scientific findings regarding death, dying, bereavement and personal wellness

**Competency 3:** The student will synthesize the theoretical perspectives and socio-cultural and personal attitudes toward death, dying, and bereavement by:

1. Relating issues relevant to scientific innovations and socio-cultural contexts regarding values, spirituality, traditions, rituals, and policies addressing death and dying
2. Applying theoretical perspectives regarding death, dying, and bereavement to personal encounters with morality, suicide, life-threatening situations, dying, loss, and bereavement
3. Connecting theoretical perspectives to self-discovery of personal views, attitudes, and belief systems regarding death, dying, bereavement, and personal wellness

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society