COURSE IDENTIFICATION

Course Code/Number: PSYC 250

Course Title: Death and Dying

Division: ☐ Applied Science (AS)   ☒ Liberal Arts (LA)   ☐ Workforce Development (WD)

☐ Health Care (HC)   ☐ Lifetime Learning (LL)   ☐ Nursing   ☐ Developmental

Credit Hour(s):   3

Effective Date: FA 2015

Assessment Goal Per Outcome: 70%

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as an overview of the psychological, medical and social aspects as they are related to death and dying. Concepts explored include but are not limited to bereavement and grief, medical and health care, developmental context of death, and legal issues related to death and dying.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS/PREREQUISITES AND/OR COREQUISITES
None

TEXTS

The official list of textbooks and materials for this course is found on *my*Neosho.

http://www.neosho.edu/ProspectiveStudents/Registration/CourseSyllabi.aspx

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES

1. Practice Responsible Citizenship through:
    - identifying rights and responsibilities of citizenship,
    - identifying how human values and perceptions affect and are affected by social diversity,
    - identifying and interpreting artistic expression.
2. Live a healthy lifestyle (physical, intellectual, social) through:

- listing factors associated with a healthy lifestyle and lifetime fitness,
- identifying the importance of lifetime learning,
- demonstrating self-discipline, respect for others, and the ability to work collaboratively as a team.
3. Communicate effectively through:
    - developing effective written communication skills,
    - developing effective oral communication and listening skills.
4. Think analytically through:
    - utilizing quantitative information in problem solving,
    - utilizing the principles of systematic inquiry,
    - utilizing various information resources including technology for research and data collection.

COURSE OUTCOMES/COMPETENCIES

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

Outcome 1: Explain theoretical and social concepts as they relate to death and dying.
 a. Discuss attitudes toward death in relation to media and current society.
 b. Describe historical and cultural perspectives on death.
 c. Identify and describe traditional concepts about life after death.
 d. Identify and describe various religious beliefs about death.

Outcome 2: Demonstrate an understanding of the impacts of different types of deaths.
 a. Identify the impact of deaths in disasters.
 b. Describe issues related to homicides.
 c. Identify and describe issues related to suicide.
 d. Identify and describe issues related to traumatic deaths (to include, but not limited to accidents, violence, terrorism, war, and AIDS).

Outcome 3: Describe death and dying throughout the life-span.
 a. Discuss the issues of caring for a seriously ill child.
 b. Discuss a child's perception of a serious illness.
 c. Discuss bereavement through the lifespan.
 d. Identify ways to help children and adolescents cope with loss and grief.
 e. Discuss parental bereavement to include coping with childbearing losses, death of a school-aged child, and the death of an adult child.
 f. Identify issues in regards to support of and death of adult parents.
 g. Identify issues related to aging and the aged.

Outcome 4: Explain issues related to the death process.
 a. Identify strategies utilized when facing death.
 b. Describe the social role of the dying patient.
 c. Identify and describe the stages in Kubler-Ross's Stages of grief.
 a. Identify and explain aspects involved with funerals and last rites.

Outcome 5: Explain the processes involved with bereavement, grief, and mourning.
   a. Explain various models of grief to include the psychological perspective.
   b. Identify issues related to the experience of grief to include the course, duration, and complications of grief.
   c. Identify and explain variables influencing grief to include but not limited to gender, personality, and cultural expectations.
   d. Describe how the mode of death (i.e. anticipated death vs. traumatic death) could impact grief.
   e. Describe various methods for support to include grief counseling and support groups.

Outcome 6: Identify common medical and health care issues related to death and dying.
   b. Identify principles in medical ethics.
   c. Explain the concept of a "good death".
   d. Differentiate between hospice and palliative care.
   e. Explain hospice and palliative's role in providing end-of-life care.
   f. Identify issues related to caregivers and staff in hospice and palliative care.

Outcome 7: Evaluate legal and ethical issues and their impact on death and dying.
   a. Explain various issues involved with choosing death such as physician-assisted death, euthanasia, unintentional overdose, and the right to die.
   b. Identify the definition of death.
   c. Explore ethics involved with transplantation.
   d. Identify issues involved with advanced directives, wills, inheritances, and probate.

MINIMUM COURSE CONTENT

The following topics must be included in this course. Additional topics may also be included.

Attitudes toward death
Perspectives on death
Medical and health care issues related to death and dying
Legal issues related to death and dying
Death in the life-span
Types of death: anticipated, suicide, traumatic death
Bereavement and grief

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHOD OF EVALUATION

<u>INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS</u>
For specific instructional methods see the syllabus supplement on the syllabus page for this class on *my*Neosho.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHOD OF EVALUATION
A = 90–100% B = 80–89% C = 70–79% D = 60-69% F = 0-59%

For specific instructional methods see the syllabus supplement on the syllabus page for this class on *my*Neosho.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT GAIN

The purpose of assessing student learning at Neosho County Community College is to ensure the educational purposes of the institution are met and appropriate changes are made in program development and classroom instruction to allow for student success. The instructor(s) of this course will determine the methods of assessment most appropriate and complete an assessment report at the end of the course.

Attendance Policy

1. NCCC values interactive learning which promotes student engagement in the learning process. To be actively engaged, the student must be present in the learning environment.

2. Unless students are participating in a school activity or are excused by the instructor, they are expected to attend class. If a student's absences exceed one-eighth of the total course duration, (which equates to one hundred (100) minutes per credit hour in a face-to-face class) the instructor has the right, but is not required, to withdraw a student from the course. Once the student has been dropped for excessive absences, the registrar's office will send a letter to the student, stating that he or she has been dropped. A student may petition the chief academic officer for reinstatement by submitting a letter stating valid reasons for the absences within one week of the registrar's notification. If the student is reinstated into the class, the instructor and the registrar will be notified.   Please refer to the Student Handbook/Academic Policies for more information

3. Absences that occur due to students participating in official college activities are excused except in those cases where outside bodies, such as the State Board of Nursing, have requirements for minimum class minutes for each student. Students who are excused will be given reasonable opportunity to make up any missed work or receive substitute assignments from the instructor and should not be penalized for the absence. Proper procedure should be followed in notifying faculty in advance of the student's planned participation in the event. Ultimately it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of the planned absence.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

NCCC expects every student to demonstrate ethical behavior with regard to academic pursuits. Academic integrity in coursework is a specific requirement. Definitions, examples, and possible consequences for violations of Academic Integrity, as well as the appeals process, can be found in the College Catalog, Student

Handbook, and/or Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Student cell phones and other personal electronic devices not being used for class activities must not be accessed during class times unless the instructor chooses to waive this policy.

NOTE

Information and statements in this document are subject to change at the discretion of NCCC. Students will be notified of changes and where to find the most current approved documents.

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are a student with a disability who may need accommodation(s), in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, please notify the Dean of Student Services in the Student Services Office, Sanders Hall, 620-432-0304, on the Chanute Campus, or the Dean for the Ottawa and Online Campuses, 785-248-2798, on the Ottawa Campus as soon as possible. You will need to bring your documentation for review in order to determine reasonable accommodations, and then we can assist you in arranging any necessary accommodations.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The following link provides information related to the non-discrimination policy of NCCC, including persons with disabilities. Students are urged to review this policy.

http://www.neosho.edu/Departments/NonDiscrimination.aspx

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY (TITLE IX)

At NCCC, it is the responsibility of an instructor to help create a safe learning environment in the classroom, including both physical and virtual classrooms. All instructors are considered mandatory reporters at NCCC, therefore any information regarding sexual misconduct that is shared by a student in one-on-one meetings with the instructor must be reported to appropriate personnel at the College. Instructors will keep the information private to the greatest extent possible, but it is not confidential. Generally, climate surveys, classroom writing assignments or discussions, human subjects research, or events such as Take Back the Night events do not provide notice that must be reported to the Coordinator by employees, unless the reporting party clearly indicates that they wish a report to be made.

The following link provides information related to the sexual misconduct policy of NCCC, including resources, reporting options, and student rights. Students are urged to review this policy.

http://www.neosho.edu/TitleIX.aspx

COURSE NOTES

In order to achieve an optimum learning environment, students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner, and to avoid introducing hazardous materials or inciting disruptive behaviors into the classroom. These issues, as well as others, may be addressed in the Syllabus Supplement of each individual instructor.