

Minnesota State University Moorhead

PHIL 335: Death and Dying

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

Everybody dies. But is that a bad thing? Going back to Epicurus, philosophers have argued about this question. The implications should be obvious: if death isn't a bad thing, then what do we say about murder, war, suicide, and end of life issues? On the other hand, if death is bad, what makes it so? In this class, we will consider questions about what life is and what death is, what impact on life's meaning death has, whether death is bad or not, and how our answers to these questions will impact our thinking about procreation, suicide, and killing others. MnTC Goal 6 and 9.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 10/03/2015 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Evaluate arguments for the claim that death gives life meaning.
2. Evaluate arguments for the claim that death is bad.
3. Evaluate arguments for the claim that death is not bad.
4. Explain arguments for the claim that death gives life meaning.
5. Explain arguments for the claim that death is bad.
6. Explain arguments for the claim that death is not bad.
7. Explain the implications for questions of killing others in light of the above arguments.
8. Explain the implications for questions of procreating in light of the above arguments.
9. Explain the implications for questions of suicide in light of the above arguments.
10. Explain what different views of what death is.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted