



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

Department of Philosophy

PHIL 321J Winter 2023

The Philosophy of Palliative Care

Thursday 18:30-21:20 SJ2 1002

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Adam Woodcox
Office: SH 2114
Phone: 884-8111 (extension 28343)
Office Hours: Thursday 17:00-18:00 or by appointment
Email: awoodcox@uwaterloo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An exploration of the principles and approaches of the hospice-palliative care movement as it was developed by its founders in the 20th century and as applied today. Topics may include the principles of pain and suffering management, holistic care of patients and their families, value of life at all stages, and integrating palliative care into mainstream medicine.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students should be familiar with the development and distinctive features of the hospice-palliative care (HPC) movement in Europe and North America up to the present day.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Mannix, Kathryn. *With the End in Mind: Dying, Death, and Wisdom in an Age of Denial*. New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company, 2018. ISBN: 978-0316504485

Vanderpool, Harold Y. *Palliative Care: The 400 Year Quest for a Good Death*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2015. ISBN: 978-0786497997

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

First Essay	20%	March 2 nd
Second Essay	30%	April 6 th
Final Examination	40%	TBD
Attendance & Participation	10%	

Essays: Essays will be 6-7 pages in length, double-spaced, 12pt font, etc. Students will develop an argument to support a thesis in response to a question assigned ahead of time.

Examinations: The final examination will be scheduled to be written during the end-of-term exam period (April 13th to April 28th).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1

January 12 Introduction to the Philosophy of Palliative Care

Reading: Mannix 7-58; Vanderpool 5-38

Week 2

January 19 Caring for the Dying in the Past (Pre-1960s)

Reading: Mannix 59-106; Vanderpool 39-75

Week 3

January 26 Origins of the Modern HPC Movement: Key Aspects of “The Philosophy” I

Reading: Mannix 107-166; Vanderpool 76-111

Week 4

February 2 How the Vision Unfolded: Key Aspects of “The Philosophy” II

Reading: Mannix 167-220; 112-139

Week 5

February 9 Palliative Care as a Medical Specialty

Reading: Mannix 221-274; Vanderpool 140-172; Clark “Specialty Recognition and Global Development”; Curlin “Hospice and Palliative Medicine’s Attempt at an Art of Dying”

Week 6

February 16 Palliative Care in Various Settings Today

Reading: Mannix 275-322; Vanderpool 173-205; Health Canada *Framework on Palliative Care in Canada*; Centeno "Organization of Palliative Care in Different Parts of the World"

Week 7

February 23 READING WEEK — NO CLASS

Week 8

March 2 The Public Health Approach to Palliative Care

Reading: Abel and Kellehear "Palliative Care Reimagined: A Needed Shift" Noonan et al. "Developing Death Literacy"; Sallnow et al. "The Impact of a New Public Health Approach to End-of-Life Care: A Systematic Review"

FIRST ESSAY DUE

Week 9

March 9 The Philosophy of Pain & Suffering (Management)

Reading: Cassell "Suffering, Whole Person Care, and the Goals of Medicine"; Svenaeus "To Die Well: The Phenomenology of Suffering and End of Life Ethics"; den Harogh "Suffering and Dying Well: On the Proper Aim of Palliative Care"

Week 10

March 16 Person-Centred Holistic Care: Patients & Families

Reading: Mount "Whole Person Care: Beyond Psychosocial and Physical Needs"; Mount et al. "Healing Connections: On Moving from Suffering to a Sense of Well-Being"; Hutchinson et al. "The Healing Journal"; Oliviere "Cultural Issues in Palliative Care"

Week 11

March 23 The Dignity, Quality & Value of Life at all Stages

Reading: Chochinov "Dignity and the End of Life"; Sulmasy "More than Sparrows, Less than the Angels: The Christian Meaning of Death with Dignity"

Week 12

March 30 HPC and Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada

Reading: Sumner “What is the Case Against?”

Week 13

April 6 Faith, Religion, Spirituality & Pluralism

Reading: Balboni & Balboni “Religion and Spirituality in Palliative Medicine”; Sulmasy “Spiritual Issues in the Care of Dying Patients: ‘...It’s okay between me and God’”; Best et al. “An EAPC White Paper on Multi-disciplinary Education for Spiritual Care in Palliative Care”

SECOND ESSAY DUE

April 13-April 28 FINAL EXAMINATION

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 20: Last day to add a class
- January 27: Last day to drop a class, no penalty
- March 24: Last day to drop, receive a WD grade

POLICY ON LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, AND MAKE-UP TESTS

If you require accommodation for this course, please let me know as soon as possible and we will work together to ensure that you are properly accommodated. There will be make-up examinations only if exams are missed for valid and documented reasons. Unless arrangements are made with the professor beforehand or an official doctor’s note is provided, late essays will be deducted a 5% penalty per day.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance and participation are expected and will be evaluated at 10% of your final grade. If you cannot attend a class due to self-isolation, please let me know ahead of time and I will be sure to excuse your absence. I will not provide a recording of the class you miss, but I will be happy to meet to review the material once you have recovered.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Students are not permitted to use cellphones during class, but may use laptop computers for

the purpose of notetaking.

CORRESPONDENCE

Please contact me by email. Be sure to include your name and the course code. I will try to respond within 24 hours.

COVID CONTINGENCY PLAN

In the case of short-term or long-term cancellation of in-person classes, we will switch to synchronous online meetings using MS Teams. Course requirements and assessment will remain unaffected. In the case of cancellation of in-person (midterm or final) examinations, I will provide alternative take-home examinations to be written within a designated period of time.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71, Student Discipline. For typical penalties, check the Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals.

Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services, located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

All of us need a support system. The SJU faculty and staff encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed. On Campus:

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 x32655
- **MATES:** one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7:

- **Good2Talk:** Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 x6880
- **Here 24/7:** Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- **OK2BME:** set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 x213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts [website](#).

Download [UW and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#)

Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. St. Jerome's University is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

CHOSEN/PREFERRED NAME

Do you want professors and interviewers to call you by a different first name? Take a minute now to verify or tell us your chosen/preferred first name by logging into [WatIAM](#).

Why? Starting in Winter 2020, your chosen/preferred first name listed in WatIAM will be used broadly across campus (e.g., LEARN, Quest, WaterlooWorks, WatCard, etc). Note: Your legal first name will always be used on certain official documents. For more details, visit [**Updating Personal Information**](#).

Important notes:

- If you included a preferred name on your OUAC application, it will be used as your chosen/preferred name unless you make a change now.
- If you don't provide a chosen/preferred name, your legal first name will continue to be used.