

GER515 End of Life Policies, Issues and Care

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

Synopsis:

GER515 End of Life Policies, Issues and Care examines the issues and challenges in the design and delivery of end of life care in the context of an ageing population. The course explores the meaning and purpose of palliative care, tracing the history and development of this discipline both in the global as well as in the Singapore context. The medical, social, psychological and spiritual dimensions are examined with due recognition of the role of the informal e.g. family and friends, and the formal e.g. hospice, geriatric wards of hospitals, settings. Values and beliefs about death, afterlife, and superstitions will be also discussed. Concepts and theories related to bereavement, grieving and mourning in different cultural contexts are emphasised and applied to the local Asian context. Skills development and explorations of suitable programme interventions for bereaved older adults and their families conclude the course.

Topics:

- Values Clarification
- Ethical issues
- The social context of dying, grieving and mourning
- Theories of grieving and mourning
- Palliative and hospice care
- The Palliative Care movement
- Guest speaker on issues and challenges of working in palliative care
- Developing skills set
- Communication and assessment
- Case Study discussion to help students to understand the complexity of end-of-life issues, care arrangements and ethical dilemmas confronting caregivers
- Interventions with bereaved older adults and their families
- Review of module

Textbooks:

Faull, C., Caestecker, S D., Nicholson, A & Black, F.: Handbook of Palliative Care (eText) John Wiley
ISBN-13: 9781118426845

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Learning Outcome:

- examine the legal, ethical and medical dimensions of end of life issues
- analyse the growth of the palliative care movement within the context of global ageing
- develop a high level of self-awareness and explain the death and dying process
- execute skills in assessment and evaluation of clients
- discuss benefits of working in an interdisciplinary team setting
- improve cultural competency skills and attitudes for working with terminally ill patients and their families
- plan with seniors at the end of life and their families to seek medical and social interventions appropriate for their needs

Assessment Strategies:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	25
GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT	25
Sub-Total	50

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
ECA	50
Sub-Total	50

Weightage Total **100**