Instructor
Dr. Raymond Green
Office Phone #: 903-468-3001
Office Hours: Office hours will be held in the Honors College office. I will be available MW from 8:00-8:40 a.m. and Thursday from 11:00-11:45, or by appointment. I can also be reached by e-mail (raymond.green@tamuc.edu).

Course Description
This is the study of the processes of dying and the influence of the threat of death on human behavior.

Purpose
This class is designed to provide you with the opportunity to integrate knowledge from a number of disciplines. Although this course is a “Psychology” course we will also touch on the areas of biology, epidemiology, sociology, and law. The goal of this class is to understand a complex phenomenon by studying it from a number of different perspectives.

Readings


Grading
Class participation: I consider class participation to be one of the most important, yet underrated elements of a student’s education. There are numerous elements that go into class participation: (1) Attending and participating in all class meetings; (2) Somewhat frequent, and preferably intelligent, contributions to class discussion; (3) Treating others with respect and politeness. (“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)]. Furthermore, A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online
courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Total=10%**

**Exams:** Exams will constitute a major portion of your course grade. There will be 2 exams during the semester. Each of these exams is worth 20% of your grade. Exams are not cumulative (except where the course material itself is naturally cumulative). You are responsible for all lecture and reading materials. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN!!!!!!** I mean this. Exams may be rescheduled, without penalty, only when arrangements have been made in advance of the testing date. I expect people to come to me within the first week of class if they have conflicts with the exam dates. Make-ups will only be given in the case of verifiable medical or legal excuses. The final decision concerning make-up exams rests with the instructor.

**Total=40%**

**Papers and Homeworks:** The remainder of your grade will be composed of a combination of five small papers/homework assignments. Separate handouts will contain the full details of these assignments. Absence from class does not remove your responsibility for turning the assignment in on time.  

**Total=50%**

Your grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papers/HW</td>
<td>50%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

100%

Final grades are based on the total number of points earned during the term in accordance, generally, with the following levels of proficiency: A = 90-99; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 65-69; F = below 65.

**Other important information**

Often issues in this class will be personally relevant. If any of the material becomes distressing or raises concerns there are a number of help resources:

**The instructor** – Raymond Green. Prairie Crossing. Phone #: 903-468-3001.
The Counseling Center, Halladay Student Services Building, Room 204, 903-886-5145 (Day). After 5pm please call UPD (903-886-5868) and they will get you in contact with somebody from the Counseling Center. These services are free to TAMU-Commerce students.

Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library, Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148; StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Finally, I can not stress enough the importance of contacting me immediately if you find that you are having trouble with the course material. Come to my office hours, use my email, ask me questions before, during, and after class. If we catch a problem early, it can be cured. I can do nothing for you when approached after the semester has been completed.

Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/21 – Weds.</td>
<td>Class Introduction</td>
<td>The Syllabus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/23 – Fri.</td>
<td>What is Death and Dying?</td>
<td>HW#1 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/26 – Mon.</td>
<td>Key terms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/28 – Weds.</td>
<td>Key terms and ideas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30 – Fri.</td>
<td>Attitudes toward Death</td>
<td>Roach 2 HW#2 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2 – Mon.</td>
<td>Attitudes toward Death</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4 – Weds.</td>
<td>Death in America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/6 – Fri.</td>
<td>Death in America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9 - Mon.</td>
<td>Mass Death Events</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/11 – Weds.</td>
<td>Mass Death Events</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/13 – Fri.</td>
<td>Coping with Dying</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/16 - Mon.</td>
<td>Coping with Dying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/18 – Weds.</td>
<td>Coping with Dying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20 – Fri.</td>
<td>Helping the Dying</td>
<td>Tuesdays with Morrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/23 - Mon.</td>
<td>No Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25 -- Weds.</td>
<td>Helping the Dying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2/27 -- Fri.  Institutional Care
3/2 - Mon.  Institutional Care
3/4 -- Weds.  Hospices
3/6 -- Fri.  Bereavement and Grief
3/9 – Mon.  Bereavement and Grief
3/11 - Weds.  Helping the Grieving
3/13 -- Fri.  Exam #1
3/14-3/22  Spring Break
3/23 -- Mon.  Funeral practices  Roach, all chapters
3/25 - Weds.  Funeral practices
3/27 -- Fri.  Funeral practices  HW #3 Due
4/1 - Weds.  Children
4/3 – Fri.  Children
4/6 – Mon.  Adolescents
4/8 - Weds.  Adults
4/10 – Fri.  Adults
4/13 – Mon.  The elderly
4/15 – Weds.  Legal Issues
4/17 – Fri.  Legal Issues
4/20 – Mon.  Suicide
4/22 - Weds.  Suicide
4/24 – Fri.  Euthanasia
4/27 – Mon.  Euthanasia
4/29 – Weds.  Capital Punishment
5/1 – Fri.  HIV and AIDS
5/4 – Mon.  HIV and AIDS
5/6 – Weds.  HIV and AIDS
5/8 – Fri.  Meaning of Death

Exam 2: Wednesday, May13th, 8:00-10:00

Disclaimer: Minor changes may be made in this schedule.