



Graduate Program in Theology & Ministry
School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Exploring the Human Encounter with Death

A Graduate Intensive

taught by Simcha Raphael, Ph.D.

There is a growing recognition among professionals working with the dying and bereaved that we are more adequately prepared for this task by investigating our own personal reactions and responses to death and dying. This *three-credit professional training graduate course* will explore contemporary psychological approaches to death, dying, and bereavement from a spiritual perspective. Through a variety of learning modalities including lectures, discussion, guest speakers, videos, personal sharing, journal writing, meditation and other self-awareness exercises, we will focus on four interrelated areas:

- 1) personal grief journey;
- 2) the psychology of death and bereavement;
- 3) specific skills in caring for the dying and bereaved, and;
- 4) human mortality, life after death and questions of “ultimate concern.”

In the final analysis, we will look at death as a teacher that gives us the opportunity for psychological and spiritual development. This week-long intensive class is for those in health care, the helping professions, and ministry who are working with the dying and bereaved.

SIMCHA RAPHAEL, Ph.D. is Founding Director of the DA'AT Institute for Death Awareness, Advocacy and Training. He is Adjunct Professor in Religion at LaSalle University, and Faculty on the New York Open Center's Art of Dying Institute. He works as a psychotherapist and spiritual director, affiliated with Mount Airy Counseling Center, in Philadelphia, and is also a Fellow of the Rabbis Without Borders network. With a background in hospice chaplaincy and bereavement counseling, he is author of numerous publications on death and afterlife including the groundbreaking *Jewish Views of the Afterlife*. His website is www.daatinstitute.net.

COURSE # RLE 730

DATES: JULY 8-12, 2019

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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