

Essentials of Thanatology: Death, Dying and Bereavement

Come explore the field of Thanatology – the socio-cultural and psycho-spiritual issues relating to illness, dying, death, and bereavement, and our personal attitudes in response to them.

Course Objectives

This course aims to give an overview and summary of the field of Thanatology.

It explores the social, cultural, psychological, legal, ethical, and spiritual issues raised by illness, dying, death and bereavement. It also explores the meaning of death and examines personal attitudes and fears to understand the grieving process and basic grief support throughout the life span.

All information is relevant to everyday life and most specifically to those practitioners providing death education, as well as those supporting the dying and bereaved.

Course Outline

The course will focus on applying theory and research to expand participants' cognitive knowledge and practical skills to develop the emotional competence required for working with dying and bereaved individuals.

It presents the essential topics and core knowledge for death-related counselling and death education using a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach:

- Death and loss in contemporary society
- The experience of dying
- End-of-life decision making
- Loss, grief and mourning
- Assessment and intervention
- Traumatic deaths
- Life and death education
- The future of thanatology

Target Audience

- Doctors, Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Nurses, Enrolled Nurses, Allied Health Professionals, Psychosocial Staff, Senior Management, Support Care Staff
- Chaplains, Funeral Directors, Police and Emergency Medical Technicians
- Individuals who are working as volunteers or support staff working with critically ill, dying or bereaved individuals

Training Methodology

Didactic lectures, experiential learning, group activities and discussions, reflective exercises

Trainer's Profile



Prof Andy Hau Yan HO, PhD, EdD, MFT, is Provost's Chair Professor of Psychology, Professor of Psychology and Medicine at the School of Social Sciences and the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, as well as Founding Director of the Action Research for Community Health

(ARCH) Laboratory, at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Singapore. He is also Deputy Director (Research) of PaIC, President of the International End of Life Doula Association (INELDA), Past President of the Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC), and Fellow of the prestigious International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement (IWGDDB).

Course Details

Date & Time: 21 and 22 May 2026, 9.30am – 5.30pm

Venue: Dover Park Hospice, Level 3 Training Room

TTSH Integrated Care Hub (Lobby C)

1 Tan Tock Seng Link, Singapore 307382

Course Fee: \$503.58 per person (Including 9% GST)

- **Eligible Community Care Organisations (CCOs) may tap onto the [Community Care Training Grant \(CCTG\)](#) to subsidize course fees.**
- **This course is not eligible for funding using SkillsFuture Credit.**
- **Registered doctors who are Singapore Citizens and currently in active primary care practice in Singapore may apply for the [Singapore Hospice Council Primary Care Palliative Champions \(PC2\) Training Award](#)**

Registration



Scan the QR code or click [here](#) to register!

Register by **07 May 2026**

For enquiries, please contact us at enquiries@palc.org.sg

