In order for some to live and thrive in the US, it is essential that others have to die or have to be allowed to die. But who decides these things? Whose death has meaning and whose does not? How do we die in the United States? How does this compare to marginalized Americans? What is a "good death" and how is it culturally understood and constructed? How is death more than just a bodily state? When does death become politicized? Our course will attempt to answer these questions and more as we explore the many dimensions of death and dying in the United States from brain death and assisted suicide to life-extending medicine, from our cultural fear of dead bodies to our economic reliance on death-making.

Course Description

WEST 2900

The Politics of Death and Dying

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Face to Face
Weds 1:40--4:20 pm
Loc. Columbine Hall 117
Dr. Sidne Lyon