

INTRODUCTION

New developments in health care strengthen the promise of a better life for everyone. This process influences the way various societies deal with the end of life and with questions regarding the meaning of suffering and death. International debates, often centre around the question whether medically hastening death is a proper means to preserve human dignity and quality of life. The other side of this issue is palliative care, defined by the WHO as the active total care of patients whose disease is not responsive to curative treatment. The suggestion that adequate palliative care helps prevent the cry for euthanasia and assisted dying, needs careful investigation.

These questions require thorough conceptual interpretation as well as ethical reflection. Objective of the course is to educate the participants on two main aspects: ethical questions of palliative care and medically assisted death, and philosophical, theological and medical reflections on the concepts of death and suffering. Attitudes towards death and dying, and the ethical aspects of continuing or foregoing medical treatment, and of medically assisted death receive considerable attention in this course. In addition, the dimensions of spirituality, rituals and intercultural diversity are covered.

COURSE FEES and PAYMENTS

The course fee is € (Euro) 690 for registration before or on 15 December, 2014, € (Euro) 790 for registration from 16 December, 2014.

This price includes tuition and course materials, as well as refreshments, three lunches and a dinner. For cancellation after January 5, 2015 a banking and administrative fee of € 91,- will be charged. Fees are non-refundable if applicants cancel after January 26, 2014. You will be contacted with payment details after registration.

ERASMUS MUNDUS MASTER OF BIOETHICS

This course is part of the post initial Erasmus Mundus Master of Bioethics Program, a one-year master program for a group of international students from European and non-European countries. This program is organized by the Universities of Leuven (Belgium), Nijmegen (the Netherlands) and Padova (Italy). Because of this combination, participants of the course Suffering, Death and Palliative Care will be part of a diverse, international audience, which adds to the discussions in a unique way.

REGISTRATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Detailed information and an online [registrationform](#) can be found on our website: www.masterbioethics.org under *intensive courses*.

Or contact Simone Naber, course management:
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Radboudumc
university medical center

10-13
February
2015

Nijmegen
the Netherlands

Advanced European Bioethics Course

SUFFERING, DEATH AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Ethical Issues of Medically Assisted Death and Palliative
Care in a Pluralistic World



Keynote speaker: Sheila Payne

President of the European Association of Palliative Care,
Help the Hospices Chair in Hospice Studies Lancaster
University (UK).

FACULTY

KEYNOTESPEAKER: SHEILA PAYNE

Sheila Payne is a health psychologist with a background in nursing. She is president of the of the European Association of Palliative Care and has a long track record in palliative care research and scholarship. Her research agenda focuses on palliative and end-of-life care for older people and bereavement support. Dr. Payne holds the Help the Hospices Chair in Hospice Studies at Lancaster University (UK).

COURSE COORDINATOR: Gert Olthuis PhD, Assistant professor medical ethics, Radboudumc

LECTURERS:

- **Kris Vissers MD, PhD**, Professor in Pain and Palliative care, Radboudumc
- **Evert van Leeuwen PhD**, Chair of the section medical ethics, professor of medical ethics, Radboudumc
- **Ghislaine van Tiel PhD**, assistant professor of medical ethics, UMC Utrecht
- **Norbert Steinkamp PhD**, Assistant professor clinical bioethics, Radboudumc
- **Jeroen Hasselaar PhD**, Assistant Professor in Palliative Care, Radboudumc
- **Gerrit Kimsma MD, MPH**, General practitioner and philosopher, Radboudumc
- **Wim Dekkers MD, PhD**, Associate professor philosophy of medicine (em), Radboudumc
- **Jacqueline van Meurs**, Spiritual caretaker/ pastor, Radboudumc
- **Yvon van der Pijl PhD**, assistant professor cultural anthropology, University of Utrecht
- **Claudia Venhorst PhD**, postdoctoral researcher, Centre for Thanatology, Radboud University Nijmegen
- **Thomas Quartier PhD**, Assistant professor, Faculty of Religious Studies, Centre for Thanatology, Radboud University Nijmegen

PROGRAMME

Tuesday February 10th, 2015

14:30 - 15:30	Registration
15:30 - 16:00	Welcome and introduction
16:00 - 17:00	Introduction to palliative care, Kris Vissers
17:30 - 18:30	Keynote lecture: Sheila Payne
18:30 - 19:00	Discussion
19:00 -	Reception

Wednesday, February 11th, 2015

09:00 - 10:00	Autonomy and Dependence, Gert Olthuis
10:15 - 11:30	Parallel session: Autonomy and beneficence in terminal illness
11:45 - 12:45	Suffering, Evert van Leeuwen
14:00 - 15:15	Scientific research in palliative care: ethical issues, Hans van Delden (invited)
15:30 - 18:00	Film: 'Wit' and reflections on the film
18:00 -	Course dinner

Thursday, February 12th, 2015

09:00 - 10:00	Euthanasia: arguments pro and contra, Norbert Steinkamp
10:15 - 12:00	Film: 'Death on Request'
12:15 - 13:15	Palliative sedation, Jeroen Hasselaar
14:00 - 15:15	Suffering and medical friendship, Gerrit Kimsma
15:30 - 16:00	Presentation of the Nijmegen Method of Ethical Deliberation, Norbert Steinkamp
16:00 - 17:30	Parallel sessions: case discussion

Friday, February 14th, 2014

9:00 - 09:30	Quality of life and a good death in palliative care, Wim Dekkers
09:30-11:00	Case discussion: in search of a good death
11:15-13:00	Symposium on cultural issues in death and dying, Yvon van de Pijl, Claudia Venhorst, Jacqueline van Meurs
14:00 - 14:30	Introduction to rituals regarding death and suffering, Thomas Quartier
14:30 - 16:00	Interactive plenary session death, spirituality and rituals
16:00 - 16:30	Evaluation of the course

PARTICIPANTS

COURSE SUBJECTS AND METHODS

The course consists of a series of lectures, discussions, parallel sessions and audiovisual materials centered around a variety of topics: autonomy and dependence; palliative sedation and euthanasia; spirituality and palliative care; quality of life and a good death; scientific research in palliative care; moral deliberation.

The parallel sessions are devoted to in-depth small group discussions and moral deliberation on different real life cases and particular contemporary issues in the area of end-of-life decisions. Each group will consist of ten to fifteen participants, led by a faculty member.

The diversity among both faculty and participants stimulates fruitful exchange of ideas and enhances understanding of others' professional and cultural perspectives on suffering, death and palliative care. The course language is English.

PARTICIPANTS

The course is of interest to participants from diverse professional backgrounds, such as nursing, medicine, health care administration, ethics, philosophy, theology and pastoral care, and PhD students in these areas.

Prior to the course participants will receive a syllabus with introductory readings. Since the program schedule is strict, participants are advised to study these materials in advance. Lecturers will assume acquaintance with these basic readings.

At the conclusion of the course participants will receive a certificate. Participants are reminded that they may be eligible for continuing education credit hours through their professional association. Accreditation from the KNMG (Dutch Medical Association) and the SKGV (Dutch register for Chaplains) will be applied for. Please contact the program coordinators for further details (see information).