

## COURSE DETAIL

### SUICIDE: RISKS, RESEARCH, AND REALITIES

**Country**

Hong Kong

**Host Institution**

University of Hong Kong

**Program(s)**

University of Hong Kong

**UCEAP Course Level**

Lower Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Health Sciences

**UCEAP Course Number**

53

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

SUICIDE: RISKS, RESEARCH, AND REALITIES

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

SUICIDE RESEARCH

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

5.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.30

## **Course Description**

Nothing surpasses life and death, and the complicated decision to take one's own life, as an issue of profound significance. Despite the advances in quality of life that have been achieved, the World Health Organization estimates one suicide death worldwide every 40 seconds. Why do some countries have higher suicide rates than others? What can explain the cross-border trends and discrepancies for suicides in Hong Kong in relation to Mainland China and the rest of the world? How are new trends in social media informing suicide research? What are the biochemical and neurological links between depression, substance abuse, and suicide? How is the suicide note being studied as a literary genre? And, finally, what new developments have occurred in the field of suicide prevention? This course provides a wide range of perspectives (social science, neuroscience, legal, policing, ethics, and community outreach) to enlighten understanding of suicide and its prevention. The course evaluates the outlets available for coping – both for high risk contemplators and those bereaved from suicide losses; examines the neurobiology of suicide, head trauma and suicide risk, and the genetic imprint of early life adversity as it relates to suicide risk; compares how suicidal thoughts and suicides are communicated via social media outlets, the suicide note, and the interactions between attempt survivors/the bereaved and healthcare professionals; and identifies challenges and opportunities for suicide prevention and harm reduction, with an aim for practical interventions.

## **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

## **Host Institution Course Number**

CCGL9053

## **Host Institution Course Title**

SUICIDE: RISKS, RESEARCH, AND REALITIES

## **Host Institution Campus**

## **Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

Common Core: Global Issues

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