COURSE DETAIL

DEATH AND THE DEAD IN MODERN HISTORY, 1800–2000
Country Hong Kong
Host Institution University of Hong Kong
Program(s) University of Hong Kong
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) History
UCEAP Course Number 126
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title DEATH AND THE DEAD IN MODERN HISTORY, 1800–2000
UCEAP Transcript Title DEATH HIST 18-20C
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units 3.30

Course Description

This course examines how attitudes toward death and the management of the dead transformed during the 19th and 20th centuries. It explores the effects of scientific and medical developments, secularization, imperial expansion, nationalism, and urbanization on how societies understood death and treated the dead. Through comparative case studies from Asia, Europe, and Latin America, the course considers whether death has become increasingly invisible in the modern age and whether the dead continue to hold sacred or social power. Emphasis is placed on analyzing historical sources to uncover past emotions, attitudes, and cultural norms surrounding death.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HIST2214

Host Institution Course Title
DEATH AND THE DEAD IN MODERN HISTORY, 1800–2000

Host Institution Course Details
https://arts.hku.hk/file/upload/6090/BA_syl_2025-26.pdf

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Arts

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
History

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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