

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO PROVIDE US WITH YOUR ANSWER TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTION  
(use the Q&A tab to share your response, please):

**What fears or concerns do you have about Advance Care Planning?**

(If you don't know about Advance Care Planning, no worries. Just share that too!)

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Become a **VCU** Gerontologist

**Advance Care Planning & Difficult Conversations**  
A Five-week Course

**Instructor: Enid Walker Butler, MSG, CT**  
Adjunct Instructor

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**MIND DUMP**

PARKING LOT      BE HERE NOW

Before we get started please take out a piece of paper. Draw a line down the center.  
On the left side write Parking Lot. On the right side write Be Here Now.  
On the **Parking Lot** side write down all the things swirling in your mind that you need to remember to do but not right now (shopping list, friends to reach out to). On the **Be Here Now** side write down the things that are on your mind about tonight's class (topics of interest, questions you have, ideas to share).

**Take this moment to come into this learning space.**

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<h2>Course Objective</h2>	<p><b>To recognize the importance of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Self-determination</li><li>The uniqueness of the individual</li><li>The individuality of death</li></ul>
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<p><b>COURSE INSTRUCTOR</b></p> <p><b>Enid Walker Butler, MSG, CT</b></p> <p>Adjunct Instructor</p> <p>Department of Gerontology College of Health Professions Virginia Commonwealth University</p>	
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The Course				
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Week 1</b> Death and Dying - an Overview	<b>Week 2</b> Death and Dying in the COVID19 World	<b>Week 3</b> The Cultural, Spiritual and Psychosocial Aspects of EOL	<b>Week 4</b> Advance Care Planning & Difficult Conversations	<b>Week 5</b> Models of Care Loss and Grief

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**WEEK 4  
AGENDA**

- Focus
- Welcome & Stage Setting
- Death and Dying
- Practice Pause
- Discussion
- Wrap up

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**We all die...**  
every last one of us.

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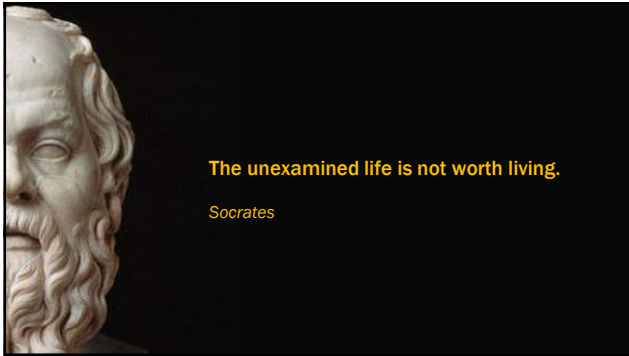
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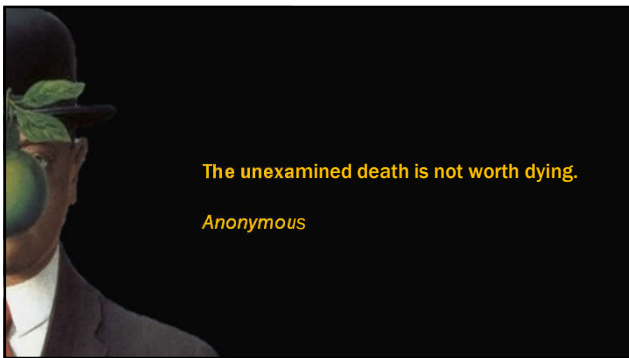
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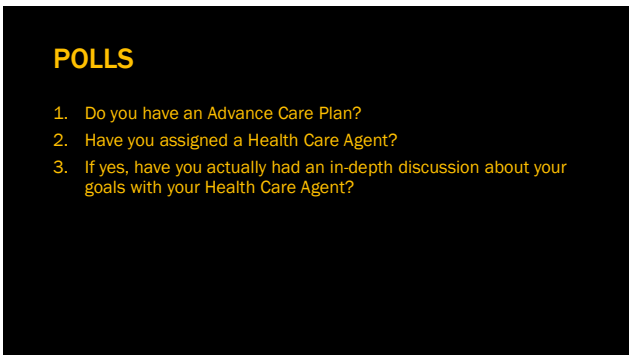
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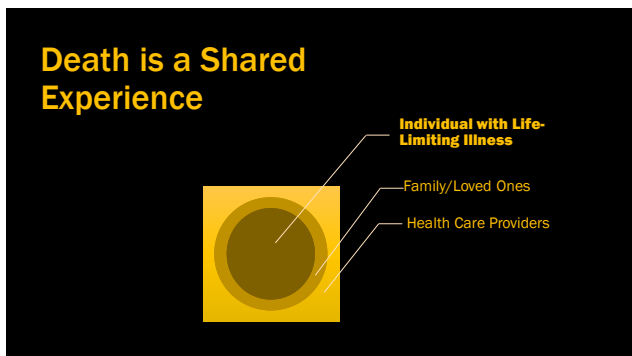
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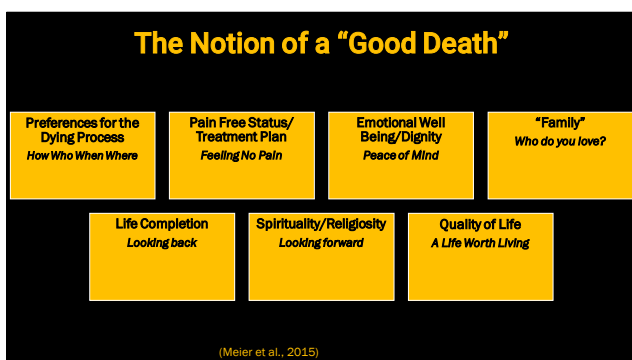
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### The Ethical Principle of Autonomy

**Autonomy – self-determination;**  
"An individual's ethical right to receive care consistent with their preferences." (Houska & Loucka, 2018)

Autonomy has a deeper, more contextualized meaning with terminally ill individuals.

Review of literature reveals the need to view autonomy not just as the ability to make one's own treatment choices but to be supported in the process of living through a terminal illness.

**Being Normal  
Taking Charge**

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**Presenters**



Ken Faulkner, MDiv, MS      Angela Flack, MDiv      Jason Callahan, MDiv, MS, BCC

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**Exercise**

The chaplain visited the patient because of her request for an Advance Directive. As the encounter began, the patient moved from the Advance Directive to telling her story.

How did the chaplain respond to her need to talk?

The chaplain demonstrated several, which allowed for a more in-depth conversation. What skills can you identify?

Was the visit effective, even though the Advance Directive was not completed?

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**Q&A**

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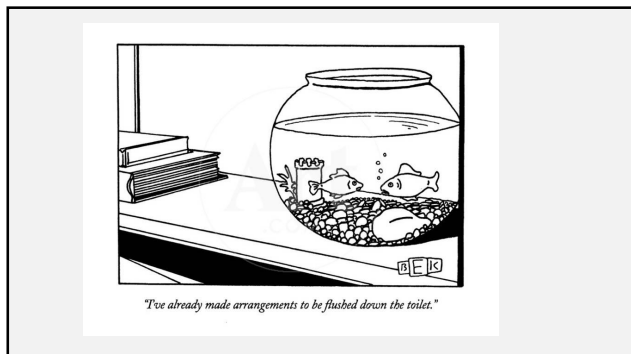
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**Reflection for the Week**

You have a serious accident or sudden illness that leaves you unable to communicate. You are receiving all the medical care required to keep you alive, but the doctors believe there is little chance (less than 5%) you will ever recover the ability to know who you are or those around you.

Would you want life sustaining treatments to continue?

Or, would you prefer care focused on keeping you comfortable without using medical interventions to keep you alive?

In your own words, what does this situation mean to you?

*An email will follow with an invitation to share these thoughts.*

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**References**

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What does a 'good death' really mean? (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.medicatoday.com/articles/308447>

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