

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

ADMISSION TALKS: TOPIC 1



Speaker: Prof. Chan Chi Ho, Wallace, Ph.D Associate Professor Department of Social Work The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Date: 11 May 2017 (Thu) Time: 09:30 am— 10:10 am

Venue: C1, T.C. Cheng Building, United College

Topic: From social work practice wisdom to practice-based research: Are we ready to work with death and bereavement?

Abstract

It is not easy to face death, dying and bereavement. Dying patients and bereaved families may experience different psycho-social-spiritual needs, and social worker is one of the helping professionals who may work with them in this journey. Yet, social workers may also be personally impacted by the death work, and whether they are ready to face these challenges becomes an important issue that calls for our attention.

In this presentation, participants will be introduced how social work practice wisdom in death work may turn into a research project which focuses on the "self" of helping professionals in working with death, dying and bereavement. Research findings indicated that helping professionals require not only knowledge and skills, but also "self-competence" in working with death and bereavement. A concept "Self-competence in death work" was developed which refers to the ability of helping professionals in coping with the personal challenges, including coping with the aroused emotions and existential queries.

After attended this presentation, participants may better understanding on how death is related to social work practice and research, and how social workers may prepare themselves to face the various challenges in working with death, dying and bereavement.

Speaker's brief biography

Dr. Chan Chi Ho, Wallace is Associate Professor and Chairperson of the Undergraduate Program and Curriculum Committee of the Department of Social Work at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Wallace's major interest in teaching and research is closely related to the death, dying and bereavement. He developed a social work course, "Living with grief" and hopes to have a chance to share the knowledge and reflections on life and death with students. "Time is limited" is his teaching motto, which reminds him to treasure the time being together with his students.