



How to Teach a
Death & Dying Class
Module 1

What to Expect

- 4 Modules
- Resources
- Worksheets
- Assignments
- Optional Facebook private group



Module 1 Outline

- Goal Statement
- Choosing Students
- Class Structure
- Class Content
- Code of Ethics for Teachers
- Principles of Adult Learning



Goal Statement

My overall goal:

“To encourage death education in order to reduce fear and avoidance of death in society.”





Dr. Bernie Siegel:

“You have to be *credible*
before you can be
incredible.”

Objectives for this Course

- Discover what you are best suited to teach and your ideal students
- Create a syllabus for your course
- Write objectives and a course description that will attract students



Objectives for this Course

- Plan how to promote and market your course
- Be prepared to submit a course proposal to an organization for a community class OR a formal syllabus for a college/high school class
- Find community partners to help with your course



Students

- Age group
- Occupation
- Experience level
- Emotional needs
- Institutional requirements



Class Structure

- Single class
- Workshop
- Weekend retreat
- Multi-session class
- Full semester class



Choose a Structure to Match Students

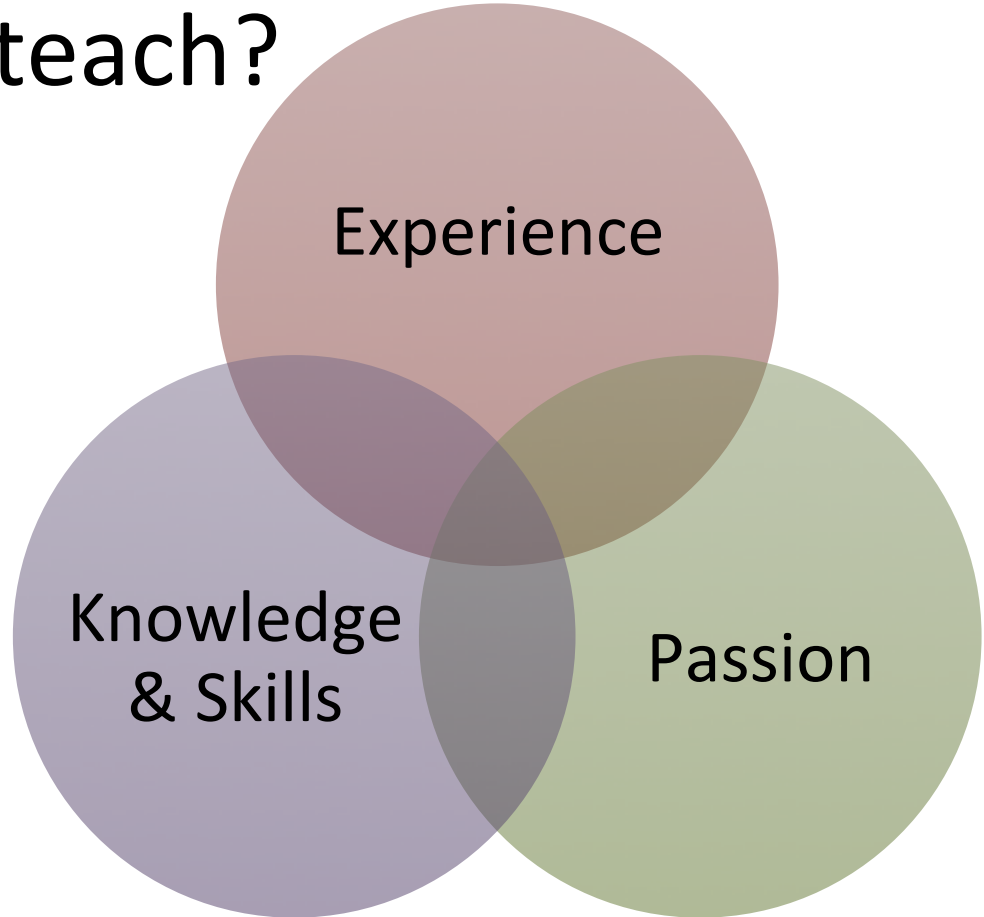
STUDENTS	STRUCTURE
High School/College	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Semester Class• Elective Class• “Club”• Module or Unit within another Class
Younger Adults 35-49	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop• Workplace Education• Meetup, Dinner Party, Death Cafe
Baby Boomers 50 +	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop• 4-6 Weekly Sessions• Senior Center Speaker Series• Film Series or Book Club

General Class Content

- Single subject focus (e.g. Advance Directives, Home Funeral, Green Burial)
- Overview of one aspect (e.g. EOL Choices, After-Death Options, Caregiving)
- Comprehensive (e.g. Death and Dying in History, Culture, Society, Religion, Medicine – including funeral/burial practices, metaphysical beliefs, etc.)

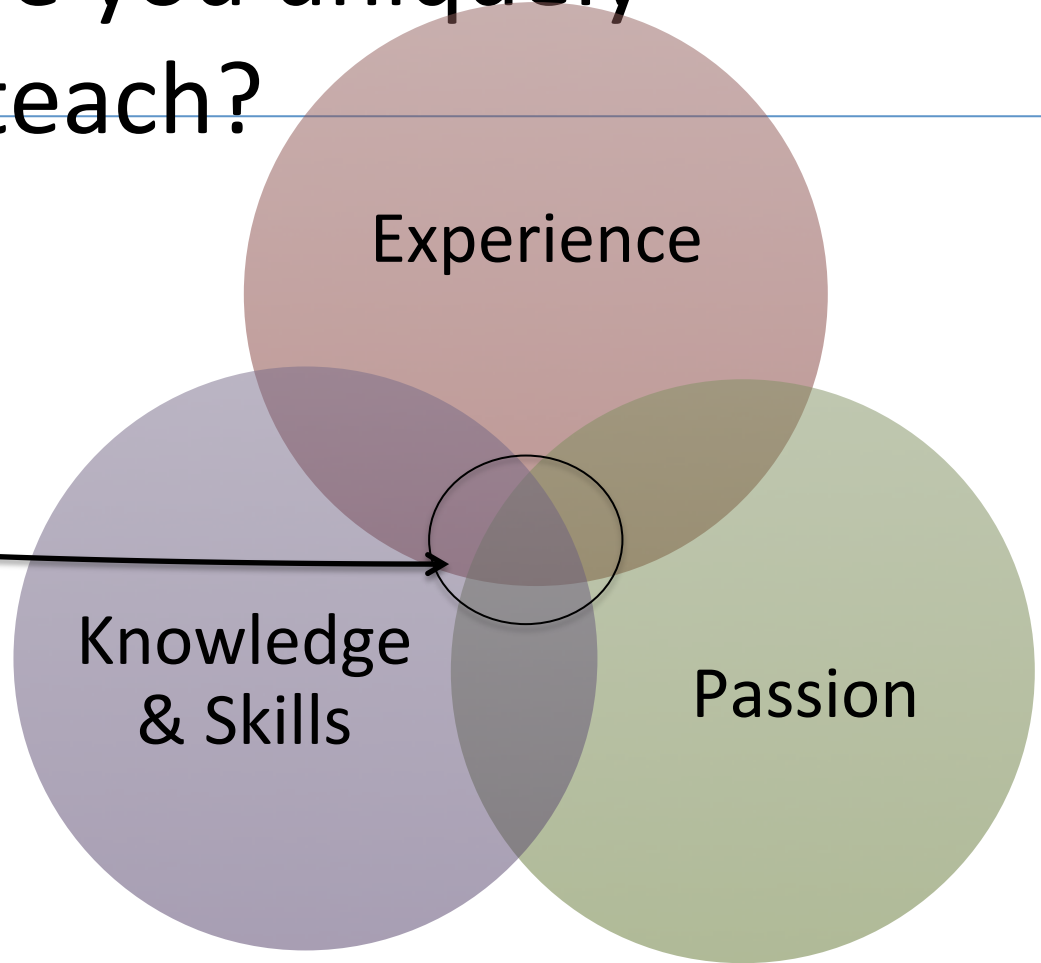


Topic: What are you uniquely positioned to teach?



Topic: What are you uniquely positioned to teach?

Your
"sweet spot"



Code of Ethics

“The professional educator endeavors to present facts without distortion, bias, or personal prejudice. “



Code of Ethics

- Be free of agendas
- Allow students to draw their own conclusions
- Know your limitations



Principles of Adult Learning

- Engage students in the learning process
- Link new material to existing knowledge and wisdom
- Teach relevant and practical information
- Have clearly defined goals



Principles of Adult Learning

- Show practical application of knowledge and action plans
- Emphasize why learning is important to increase motivation
- Present content as modules – 1 lesson per module
- Honor different learning styles



Learning Styles

- Visual
 - Slides, pictures, diagrams, tables, graphics, models, handouts
- Auditory
 - Lectures, verbal instructions, stories
- Kinesthetic
 - Hands-on activities, field trips



Principles of Learning for Millennials

- Use multimedia including social media platforms like YouTube, Facebook, Twitter
- Maintain a relaxed classroom and build rapport with students
- Creative assignments (record a podcast, write a blog, film a video)
- Service learning – volunteer as a group or assign as an individual project



Module 1 Worksheets

Self Analysis



Life Experience	Knowledge and Skills
Passion	Goals Personal Professional

Module 1 Class Planning Worksheet

- Goal Statement for Course
 - 1 sentence summary
- Students
- General Class Content
- Class Structure



Additional Assignment

- Start researching your community now to find potential partners, guest speakers, field trip locations, activities, and venues for your class



Private Facebook Group

Death & Dying Class Teachers:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/108217886676188/>



Request to join and I will approve you

Goals for Facebook Group

- Network with like-minded people
- Discover potential collaborators in your area
- Share ideas and resources
- Review what has or has not worked in the past for group members



Facebook Group Introduction

- Name
- Location
- What type of class you want to teach



Preview of Module 2:

- Course structure
- Writing objectives
- Creating modules
- Designing a lesson plan

