

Centre for
Death & Society
(CDAS)



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Centre for Death & Society

January 2022 Newsletter

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Director's Note

Happy New Year from CDAS and we hope that this January 2022 edition of the newsletter finds our community in good health. We start the newsletter this month with the fantastic news that CDAS PhD student Diana Teggi has passed her viva with flying colours. Diana's PhD study is on end of life care in care homes, supervised by Kate Woodthorpe, Matt Dickson and Malcolm Johnson. All three supervisors are convinced that Dr Teggi has a long academic career in front of her and we cannot wait to see what she does next. Well done Diana from everyone in CDAS.

The good news doesn't end there though! Well done to Jana Kralova, Sam Carr, Chao Fang and John Troyer, who have been successful as part of a European Scientific Research Network led by a consortium of Universities in Belgium looking at ageing and end of life. And last but not means least, congratulations to CDAS Visiting Research Fellow Tamarin Norwood for winning the *The Lancet's* annual essay prize with her essay *Something good enough*. The Lancet is one of the most prestigious academic journals in the world, so this is an incredible achievement for Tamarin.

Beyond these successes, our big news for this month is the 2022 CDAS Conference call for papers, which is now open. The conference theme this year is Institutions and as an online conference we are explicitly seeking contributions that open up discussion to help our community network, engage, debate and share. Please do submit a proposal, details of the conference are on the next page with the full call at the end of the newsletter.

As always, there are some great CDAS events to look forward to in the next few months, including research seminars on disasters and pandemic with long time CDAS Associate Professor Lucy Easthope and a seminar on direct cremation by Hannah Rumble and Kate Woodthorpe. We're also delighted to welcome Professor Phil Olson from Virginia Tech to CDAS who is going to be doing an In Conversation with CDAS PhD student Sam Hooker.

The CDAS community continues to be very active, with calls for papers, book chapters, surveys and funding opportunities. This month also sees the launch of two new journals, *Jahrbuch für Tod und Gesellschaft* (Annual Review of Death and Society) and *Bereavement*, which CDAS members support through Advisory Board and Editorial Board membership. We wish both journals a prosperous future.

It's exciting times, as the global death studies community continues to grow. Here's to 2022, we hope it is a good year for you all.

John and Kate



Publications and Outputs

Lancet Essay Prize

We are happy to announce and congratulate CDAS Visiting Research Fellow Tamarin Norwood for winning the *The Lancet*'s annual essay prize with her essay *Something good enough*.

Norwood, Tamarin (2021). 'Something Good Enough'. *The Lancet* 398 (10318): 2305–6. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(21\)02690-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)02690-8).

In this personal essay, Tamarin reflects upon the skilful choreography of care she received in the labour ward following the neonatal death of her son. She observes the acute need for parents bereaved at birth to fill the void left by their deceased baby, and how at their best, research-based interventions can offer 'something good enough' to temper this feeling of emptiness. In this context, the research, design, and implementation of these interventions are experiences as institutional manifestations of love.

Funding news

ESRC SWDTP Postdoctoral Fellowships

For the attention of newly awarded PhD students in the UK, our local funding partnership the SWDTP has launched its funding competition for post docs. Come and work with CDAS for the next phase of your career! We're very open to conversations about your ideas and supporting proposals to work with us. Just send us an email to get the conversation started.

Deadline for expressions of interest (EOI) to Bath | 1 February 2022 | 16:00hrs (UK)

Deadline for applications to SWDTP | 23 March 2022 | 16:00hrs (UK)

The ESRC funded South West Doctoral Training Partnership (SWDTP) is advertising up to [seven postdoctoral fellowships](#) starting on 1 October 2022, based at either Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth or UWE Bristol.

The call is open to applicants who have completed their PhD or Professional Doctorate at a research organisation that is part of a Doctoral Training Partnership (not necessarily the SWDTP) and who are within 12 months of completing it. Applicants do not have to have been ESRC funded. Fellowships are aimed at providing a development opportunity for those

in the immediate postdoctoral stage of their career, to consolidate their PhD through developing publications, their networks, and their research and professional skills.

[Find out more information about eligibility and how to apply](#)

CDAS EVENTS

CDAS Conference

The CDAS team is delighted to announce the CDAS Conference 2022: Institutions and Death.

Running over two days, the 9 & 10 June 2022, this will be an online conference exploring institutions and institutional responses to death. The ways in which institutions themselves shape and inform understandings of death, loss and grief and the inequalities and disenfranchisement that can arise as a result.

The call for contributions is now open – please find full details attached at the [end of the newsletter](#). We are hoping to deliver an interesting and varied programme and are very open to original and diverse ideas for activities. Please make all submissions via [this online form](#) by Monday 31st January 2022.

We look forward to hearing your ideas and sharing more plans with you soon.

CDAS Research Seminar (online)


Direct Cremation: the post-pandemic future of funerals?

Hannah Rumble and Kate Woodthorpe

Date: 9th February 2022

Time: 19:00 (GMT)

In this online research seminar Dr Kate Woodthorpe and Dr Hannah Rumble will discuss the qualitative findings from their recent study on cremation choices and grief, specifically focusing on the reasons why people choose direct cremation, before opening up the seminar for a wider discussion about the future of funerals post-pandemic.



The findings that will be considered are detailed in their recent publication: Woodthorpe et al (2021) ['My Memories of the Time We Had Together Are More Important': direct cremation and the privatisation of UK funerals'](#), in the journal *Sociology*.

[Register here.](#)

SPS Department Research Seminar (online)

Researching Societal Relationships on Death: Predicting Global Pandemics for both the Living and the Dead

Professor Lucy Easthope

Date: March 1st

Time: 11:00 to 12:30 (GMT)

Professor Lucy Easthope has been associated with the Centre for Death and Society for over 14 years. During that time a particular focus has been readying for a pandemic and providing advice to government departments on the way in which they might recover from such a disaster. She predicted, through the insights provided by her work with CDAS, that a pandemic would shine a stark light on UK societal relationships with the dead and dying. In this presentation she reflects both on this work to date and the next steps for her research.

[Register here.](#)

In Conversation

The home funeral movements in the US and UK

Professor Phil Olson with Sam Hooker

Date: 3rd March 2022

Time: 18:00 (GMT)

In this In Conversation Phil and Sam will talk about the home death and home funeral movements in the US and UK and their efficacy. Join us for what should be a fascinating chat about relationships between families, professionals and practitioners, social movements, and power.

Phil Olson Biography

Professor Phil Olson is a technology ethicist and Associate Professor of STS at Virginia Tech, US. His work focuses on technologies of the body (especially the dead body), and on gender, labor, knowledge, and expertise. He has taught and published on a variety of topics, including funerary disposition technologies, US death care culture, civilian drones, philosophical ethics and epistemology, feminist pedagogy, and queer studies. Born into a four-generations-old funeral family, Phil has worked and lived with the dead and their caretakers all his life.

[Register here.](#)

In Conversation

Further Reflections on a Year of Turbulence: Holding Space for the Pandemic's Dead and the Living Left Behind

Professor Lucy Easthope with John Troyer

Date: March 23rd

Time: 19:00 (GMT)

Professor Lucy Easthope is the country's leading authority on recovering from disaster. In their second CDAS In Conversation event about the pandemic, CDAS Co-Director Dr John Troyer and Professor Easthope examine the last year, reflect on what it feels like having spent careers readying for these times, and discuss Professor Easthope's forthcoming book 'When the Dust Settles' (Hodder & Stoughton March 2022) on what the future holds.

Lucy Easthope Biography:

Lucy Easthope is a leading authority on recovering from disaster. For over two decades she has challenged others to think differently about what comes next, after tragic events. She is a passionate and thought-provoking voice in planning for pandemics, conflict and disaster, and has been a tactical advisor to UK disaster responders since 2001. Her research and practice portfolio includes mass fatalities planning, legal aspects of emergencies, identifying lessons post incident, the effectiveness of public inquiries, interoperability, and community resilience in practice. She holds an LLB (Bristol), Masters in Risk, Crisis and Disaster management (Leicester) and PhD in Medicine (Lancaster). Lucy is known globally for her work and holds an honorary position at the Joint Centre for Disaster Research, Massey University, New

Zealand. She is a Professor in Practice of Risk and Hazard at the University of Durham and a co-founder of the After Disaster Network based in their Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience. She is a Fellow in Mass Fatalities and Pandemics at the Centre for Death and Society, University of Bath. She is a former senior fellow of the Cabinet Office Emergency Planning College. She has acted as the external examiner for a number of international disaster management postgraduate programmes. She is a member of the Cabinet Office National Risk Assessment Behavioural Science Expert Group and sits on the editorial board of the Australian Journal of Emergency Management. Her first book 'The Recovery Myth' proved definitive on the challenges facing the UK in disaster recovery and her next book 'When the Dust Settles' is published in March. @lucygobag on Twitter

Register [here](#).

CDAS COMMUNITY NEWS

Publications and Outputs

New Journals

Jahrbuch für Tod und Gesellschaft / Annual Review of Death and Society

<https://thanatologie.eu/fachtagung/aktuelles/>

Volume 1 will be published by in print and as an Open Access publication in 2022.

The Annual Review of Death and Society gives space to publications that deal with the phenomena of dying, death and bereavement from a sociological perspective or from the perspective of related disciplines. In addition to empirical contributions, theoretical discussions are also welcome. The aim of the *Annual Review* is to further develop the current thanato(socio)logical level of knowledge and to achieve national and international networking on a high scientific level.

The *Annual Review* is the result of a collaboration between the *Arbeitskreis Thanatologie* (Thanatology Working Group), which has organized several conferences and workshops since 2018 and presented various thanatological publications as well. Published at the University of Passau with editorial members at the Universities of Bonn, Hildesheim, Osnabrück, Weimar and Zurich, the *Annual Review* is supported by the following Scientific Advisory Board: *Clemens Albrecht* (Bonn), *Ronald Hitzler* (Dortmund), *Hubert Knoblauch* (Berlin), *Thomas Klie* (Rostock), *Gesa Lindemann* (Oldenburg), *Werner Schneider* (Augsburg), *Ursula Streckeisen* (Bern) und Tony Walter (Bath).

The contents comprise scientific articles in German or English. Manuscripts are double-blind reviewed. There will also be book reviews, conference reports, statements and presentations of classical standard works. In the long term, interviews with well-known actors from the field of thanatological research as well as a forum are planned in which current articles, related counter-positions and replicas of these positions will be compiled.

Contributions in the field of tension between dying, death and bereavement are welcome, both theoretically and empirically. Interested authors submit an abstract with 2 pages (max. 3 pages). Based on the abstracts, the editors decide within four weeks if the proposal is suitable for the *Annual Review of Death and Society* and will let the authors know about their decision. A stylesheet is then submitted. The peer reviewed manuscripts should contain approximately 45.000 characters.

For abstracts and correspondence please contact: tod-gesellschaft@unipassau.de
Arbeitskreis Thanatologie / Thanatology Working Group:

Thorsten Benkel • Ekkehard Coenen • Ursula Engelfried-Rave • Matthias Meitzler • Melanie Pierburg • Miriam Sitter • Michaela Thönnnes

Bereavement

Forty years on from first publication the journal *Bereavement* is today publishing a new open-access online edition in association with Cruse Bereavement Support. Cruse and the editorial board are excited to introduce *Bereavement: Journal of grief and responses to death*, previously known as Bereavement Care and renamed for the release of the latest issue.

The modernised publication has grown from its roots as an 8-page educational newsletter that provided vital support to Cruse volunteers. It will now be the online home to regular articles from leading experts, as they write about grief from a variety of perspectives including academia and research, innovation in the field and commentary on current practice.

Following the success of the journal's pioneering work as a printed publication from 1982, the magazine opened up its offering to everyone who helped bereaved people, and then soon expanded to include academic articles from experts on grief and bereavement. In 2009 it was taken on by the publishers, Routledge where it was also published online for its subscribers where it increased in popularity as it became available to an international audience.

Earlier issues included articles that explored themes such as violent death and the media, bereavement among immigrant and refugee families, helping disaster victims and working with bereaved children. The journal has never shied away from covering important and sometimes controversial subjects. This exciting launch means an open access online resource freely available for everyone in bereavement research, policy or practice.

To continue the legacy of the journal's conversations and academic analysis on grief, this new edition includes articles covering: latest research on bereavement during the Covid-19

pandemic, the uniqueness of the loss of a twin, the role of culture and religion in the experience of stillbirth in Nigeria, grief support and therapy dogs for incarcerated women and hospital services that support families bereaved during the pandemic. It also asks the important question: do we need to decolonise bereavement studies?

Cruse will be publishing blog posts on key topics raised and discussed in the journal on its website, to widen the knowledge and understanding of bereavement beyond the academic research to practitioners and to the general public.

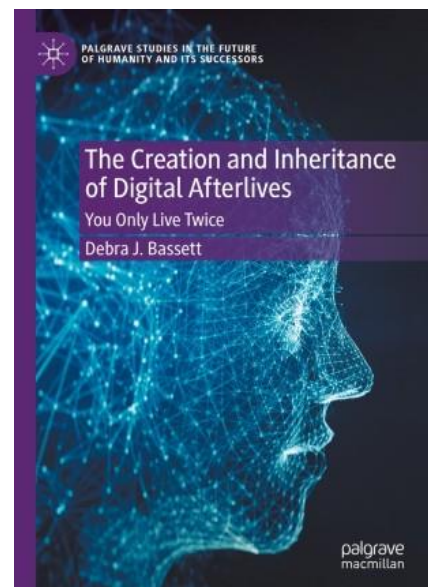
Check out the new open-access journal [here](#).

New Book:

'The Creation and Inheritance of Digital Afterlives, You Only Live Twice'

This book explores how social networking platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp 'accidentally' enable and nurture the creation of digital afterlives, and, importantly, the effect this digital inheritance has on the bereaved. Debra J. Bassett offers a holistic exploration of this phenomenon and presents qualitative data from three groups of participants: service providers, digital creators, and digital inheritors.

The book is available for purchase as an eBook [here](#).



Podcast:

Death Studies Podcast

We are happy to announce that our 5th episode featuring Dr Kami Fletcher has been released!

Dr Kami Fletcher is an Associate Professor of American & African American History and Co-Coordinator of Women's and Gender Studies at Albright College. She teaches courses that explore the African experience in America and unpacks social and cultural U.S. history all at the intersection of race, gender, class, and sexuality. Listen here: [Episode 5: Dr Kami Fletcher](#)

Calls for Contributions

Masters Thesis Survey

Research Question: Whether the pandemic has an influence on the risk to develop prolonged grief disorder.

This study is specifically looking at the effect of funeral/grief ritual restrictions. Every adult that has lost a loved one, in the past three years, can participate.

https://survey.uu.nl/jfe/form/SV_1XNDUgyt82Mqf5Q

Fair Funeral Alliance

If you have arranged a funeral within the last three years the Fair Funeral Alliance are seeking your views on the experience via a survey: <https://qsa.typeform.com/to/AhvLBUSr>

Living with Death – Learning from COVID

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented waves of premature deaths. Dying has been taking place under circumstances far from 'normal'. Modes of remembrance associated with a 'good death' have been impeded by public health measures. Restrictions and limitations on funeral arrangements are associated with many emergent – but largely un-researched – socio-economic consequences including for mental health and well-being for health, social care and death professionals, bereaved relatives, friends, and co-workers.

The 'Living with Death – Learning from COVID' multi-disciplinary research cluster will investigate, identify, understand, and suggest mitigations for the unintended medium-longer term consequences of socially distanced death to alleviate grief.

Below are the 5 fully funded PhD scholarships (COVID death related) currently available to apply to.

- <https://www.hull.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/phd/funded/digital-dimensions-of-covid-19-death-across-communities>
- <https://www.hull.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/phd/funded/dealing-with-socially-distanced-death-on-the-frontline>
- <https://www.hull.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/phd/funded/place-death-and-inequalities>

- <https://www.hull.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/phd/funded/language-in-corona-times>
- <https://www.hull.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/phd/funded/memorialising-pandemics>

Calls for Book Chapters

Sociological Futures

Eds: Sharon Mallon, Kate Woodthorpe and Laura Towers

Sociological Futures aims to be a flagship for new and innovative theories, methods and approaches to sociological issues and debates and ‘the social’ in the 21st century. This series of monographs and edited collections was inspired by vibrant wealth of BSA symposia on a wide variety of sociological themes.

As part of the Sociological Futures Book Series, the Death, Dying and Bereavement Subgroup of the BSA led by Dr Sharon Mallon, Dr Kate Woodthorpe and Dr Laura Towers are developing a proposal for a collection entitled, *Reimagining the value of Sociology in Understanding Death, Dying and Bereavement*.

Death is a subject that has continuously captured the sociological imagination. This text will provide sociologists with a platform to restate the importance of sociology for the study of death, dying and bereavement (DDB). It will attempt to reimagine death, by bringing together international sociologists in one collection, that will demonstrate how sociology can publicly and conclusively re-engage with debates in thanatology.

Embracing the ideas set out in Bauman’s (2014) “What use is sociology?” we invite authors to provide examples of how they have ‘done’ sociology in this area. Our focus will be on what sociologists working in this area can achieve and how we can set a sociological agenda that will drive this debate over the next decade. It will do so by not only tracking the emerging narratives of death as we endure Covid-19, but by also reflecting on impending transitional challenges, including those related to climate change and digital death practices, as well as continued threats to liberties that permit life and death decisions.

With this in mind, we would like to encourage contributors from a range of career stages and from across the globe. Common themes are expected to include, but not be limited to, how sociology can:

- Explore privileged notions of DDB in contemporary milieu, particularly around discussion of the impact and likely legacy of COVID-19
- Expose and challenge dominant narratives about DDB and reclaim the experiences that they disavow.
- Reconnect with the social, cultural and historical aspects of death dying and bereavement with respect to remembrance and memorialisation.
- Examine how the social contexts in which death, dying, bereavement, loss and disposal occur can impact on experiences.
- Contribute to the understanding of diversity in experiences of death around the world.
- Assist in the analysis of emerging issues related to death and dying including digital loss, climate change
- Respond to future threats and/or opportunities in area of digital death and dying, and the control and policing of death.

Submitting a Proposal

To be considered for inclusion in this collection please submit a chapter abstract of 300 words by Monday 31st January 2022 to the BSA DDB subgroup at BSA DDB bsaddb@gmail.com.

We anticipate being able to let potential contributors know of the outcome and proposed timeline by Monday February 28th 2022.

Men and loss

Eds: Kerry Jones, Lecturer in End-of-Life Care, The Open University and Martin Robb, Senior Lecturer in Health and Social Care, The Open University

Deadline for abstracts: 29th January 2022.

You are invited to submit a 300-word abstract for a chapter (5,000 words) in a forthcoming edited collection provisionally titled: ‘Men and loss.’ We welcome contributions from all disciplines within and beyond academia for example, in professional practice as well as men’s personal experience of bereavement.

This interdisciplinary collection seeks to examine a range of men’s experiences of loss as mediated by social and cultural representations and norms. With a focus on theoretical, empirical and practitioner perspectives, the collection will examine some of the difficulties and challenges of representing men’s bereavement and how men are challenged by societal and cultural expectations of expression of grief.

Context

Death, dying and bereavement are unavoidable events in life and can be challenging experiences that prompt a whole range of social processes and practices. In contemporary western cultures, socially constructed masculine ideals continue to dictate that men must be stoic following a loss, with grief manifesting in anger or despair. (Martin & Doka, 2000). Since expression of grief is highly gendered, it is also profoundly 'policed' and men who do not grieve in ways that embody socially assigned masculine traits can feel judged, alienated and disenfranchised (Doka, 2000). It can be deemed especially detrimental especially if men have fewer support networks than women and an experience of loss can be especially challenging without such support. Formal support has tended to focus on attracting women in the form of support groups and therapeutically.

Due in part to the persistence of these gendered expectations, little research has been undertaken which explores men's grief or indeed, examines some of the ways men navigate through loss and grief and how they mediate their identities after a loss. It is hoped that this edited collection will contribute to improving understanding of men's experiences of loss, and to improving services and support for men following bereavement. While the locus of much writing about loss and bereavement has hitherto been within the field of Death Studies, we intend that this collection will be interdisciplinary and invited contributions from all relevant academic and professional backgrounds and perspectives.

Possible questions and topics may include but are not limited to:

- A cultural and social understanding of men's experience of loss
- Models of grief and how they contribute/ don't contribute to understanding men's experiences of loss
- Disenfranchised grief and stigma
- Grief activism
- Grief in prison
- Young men and grief
- Grief in later life
- Men's experience of loss following
- Death of a spouse/ partner
- Suicide
- Death of a friend
- Death of a child
- Perinatal loss
- Supporting men
- Formal therapy
- Informal support
- Support through sport

- Online support

At this stage, we are exploring possibilities for publication of the book and have initial interest from a number of publishers. A full proposal will be submitted once chapter abstracts have been received and approved. Authors will be contacted by March 31st to confirm whether their chapter has been approved and will be kept and informed and updated throughout the process.

Please send any queries to Kerry.jones@open.ac.uk

Training opportunities

Before I Go Solutions® Certified and Licensed End of Life Plan Facilitators Programme

Applications from every country are invited for the next intake of our reputed End of Life Plan Facilitators Programme, the only training in the UK that trains, equips and supports you to become a Facilitator, and help others to get their end of life plan done.

New research led by Cardiff University's Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Centre shows that 90% of people think end of life planning is essential, but only 14% actually had done anything formal about it. Hence the need for this very valuable service.

It will be primarily of interest to health professionals, counsellors, coaches, educators, celebrants or others interested in helping people to prepare well for a good end of life, no matter how it happens, and to take this planning beyond the conversation stage to getting decisions taken and written down.

Divided into 4 parts, you begin with creating your own end of life plan. Part 2 covers the practicals of doing death differently, part 3, the practicing of facilitating in this arena, both 1:1 and in groups, and offline and online. Part 4 is about the promoting of your service in a culture where the topic is still somewhat taboo.

By the end of the course, graduates will be able to successfully support others in creating their own plans. Ongoing mentoring and support resources are then available.

For more information, see <https://beforeigosolutions.com/end-of-life-facilitator-programme/>

CDAS COMMUNITY EVENTS

Marie Curie Research Conference

We are pleased to announce that the Marie Curie Research Conference is back for 2022. **From Sunday 30th January to Friday 4th February 2022** join us to hear the latest evidence and innovation within palliative and end of life care. Featuring an inspiring series of presentations, posters and talks focusing on improving experiences for everyone affected by dying, death and bereavement.

Presentations will be held virtually from 17:00-19:00 on Sunday, and between 12:00 – 14:00 on Monday – Friday.

Registration is free – reserve your place now: [Marie Curie Research Conference 2022 - Good Grief \(goodgrieffest.com\)](#)

To register - click into an individual session you're interested in attending and press 'register now'. On the 'register now' page you can then sign up to multiple sessions if you'd like to.

You can find more information about the conference on the Marie Curie website too - [Palliative Care Research Conference 2022 \(mariecurie.org.uk\)](#)

And to keep up with the latest Marie Curie research and conference news, please follow **@MarieCurieEOLC** on Twitter.

The Hidden History of Bath Jewish Burial Ground

Date: 7th February

Time: 19:30 to 21:00 (GMT)

Location: Queens Square, Bath

Register [here](#).

Local History Hour: From Front Parlour to Funeral Parlour: looking after the dead in England c.1850-1950

In this two part talk Dr Brian Parsons and Dr Helen Frisby will tell the story of how people cared for the dead, and how this changed, between c.1850 and 1950.

Date: February 24th, 2020 (Virtually)

Booking: [£5 for non-members and £0 for BALH members](#)

For more information visit the BALH website [here](#).

Conference: Bereavement and Grief in Europe – Emerging Perspectives & Collaborations

In partnership with the Danish National Center for Grief, Aarhus University and the Irish Hospice Foundation, the Bereavement Network Europe (BNE) will host the first European Grief Conference called “*Bereavement and Grief in Europe – Emerging Perspectives & Collaborations*”.

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark, September 21st – 23rd, 2022.

For further information click [here](#).

CALLS FOR PAPERS

“Democratizing caring, dying and grieving: participation, action, understanding and evaluation” - 7th Public Health Palliative Care International Conference 2022

There is increasing recognition that the challenges around serious illness, caregiving, dying and bereavement go beyond the scope of professional health care services. Promoting health and wellbeing in these domains entails societal and civic responses complementary to health service responses. For instance, governments, health and wellbeing organizations, workplaces, schools, churches, neighborhoods and health care services can collaborate to develop supportive social environments, policies, health services, skills and community action.

In order to bring together the state of the art in science and practice of public health and palliative care, the international association [Public Health Palliative Care International](#) is organizing every second year a world congress.

The conference brings together leading innovators, researchers, practitioners, policy makers, representatives of civic society in the public health palliative care approach. There is a significantly growing body of evidence about public health approaches at the end of life and this conference signals a new era for international research and practice. The PHPCI2022 conference will provide a critical platform for sharing best-practice examples and evidence from research from around the world and across Europe.

More details, including the call for papers, can be found [here](#).

Redesigning Deathcare Conference

Format: In person and online, The University of Melbourne, Australia

Date: October 27-29, 2022

Deadline: EOIs close 28th February 2022, full submissions close 31st May 2022.

Website: www.redesigningdeathcare.org

The Redesigning Deathcare Conference aims to bridge the divide between research and practice at the end of life and death, through dynamic conversations about the challenges facing deathcare and how to build a better system.

The acute threat posed by COVID-19 over the last two years compounds more long-term threats to contemporary models of deathcare, including climate change and an ageing population. People today are presented with ever-expanding individual choice around the end-of-life, but are also forced to navigate complex, fragmented systems of care that fail to provide equitable and meaningful outcomes. As it stands, deathcare is artificially separated into silos, organised around different stages (dying, death, commemoration, etc.), different professions (medical clinicians, funeral directors, counsellors, etc.), and academic disciplines (medicine, anthropology, law, etc.).

Redesigning Deathcare invites contributions from diverse backgrounds to collectively imagine and build a holistic system of deathcare. The conference asks delegates to consider:

- How do we remake our deathcare system so that it better meets community needs, not just today, but for future generations?
- How do we bridge long-standing divides in how we imagine and manage the end-of-life?
- How might contested views of the future be productively and equitably debated and resolved?
- How are the future of the planet and the future of deathcare intertwined?

We seek contributions from diverse disciplinary perspectives, including (but not limited to) anthropology, death studies, history, palliative medicine, public health, taphonomy & forensic sciences, and philosophy. Sessions that incorporate different stages of death, different professional backgrounds, and disciplines are encouraged. There are several submission formats, including presentations or ‘papers’, roundtables, posters, and artistic/non-traditional outputs.

Submission is a two-step process. Expressions of Interest (a call for panels and roundtables) close 28th February 2022. Organisers will curate the program on the basis of EOIs and call for individual submissions within each session. Full submissions close 31st May 2022.

Contact Us

Visit the CDAS [website](#) for more information.

Email: cdas@bath.ac.uk

Web: www.bath.ac.uk/cdas

Facebook: www.facebook.com/centrefordeath

Twitter: [@cendeathsociety](https://twitter.com/cendeathsociety)

To unsubscribe, please email cdas@bath.ac.uk

CDAS Conference 2022: Institutions and Death

Dates: 9 and 10 June 2022

Location: University of Bath, UK ONLINE

Institutions and institutional responses to death vary radically and are quite often riddled with inequality and disenfranchisement. As a result, the end of life, dying and bereavement in institutional settings deserve further exploration and critique, along with the ways in which institutions themselves shape and inform understandings of the death, loss and grief.

But what exactly *are* institutions, institutional responses and institutional(ised) deaths? How are institutions and institutionalised deaths (re)presented? And how do institutional spaces come to form and define the experience of loss? The 2022 CDAS Conference seeks to address some of these questions and more, taking a broad outlook on what we mean by the term institution(s), both formal and informal, organised or anti-, structural or spatial. As an interdisciplinary conference we welcome presenters and participants from all academic backgrounds, and we particularly encourage students and early career researchers to share their work with our highly engaged audience.

The 2022 CDAS Conference will be online, and we are mindful that after spending much of the last two years in front of computer screens many of the CDAS community would value the opportunity to chat more freely with one another. While we cannot facilitate that in person this time round, we are instead actively seeking contributions that are empirical, theoretical, abstract, artistic or dialogic to create the most interactive and engaging online conference that we can. We want to organise a conference that encourages a plethora of opportunities to discuss, debate, imagine, innovate and learn.

To this end, along with a topic that fits the thematic call we are asking that you think creatively about the type of format in which you would like to present your research, and to select your chosen format when you submit your abstract. Please write your abstract with your chosen format in mind. You will be asked to select a format when you submit your abstract.

Formats include:

- **Panels:** A group of short presentations followed by a long(er) discussion. We suggest no more than four papers per panel with each paper a length of 5-10 minutes max with time for an extended discussion between panellists and attendees. For this, you could host a panel or be one of the presenters.

- Debates: Short presentations by debaters followed by a long(er) discussion between debaters and attendees. For this we suggest you identify two presenters and a facilitator to manage the debate and discussion.
- Reading group: Where you ask attendees to read a particular book, article or series of works in advance and come prepared to discuss, analyse and unpick. An opportunity to debate the works of your favourite death studies writer perhaps?
- Film group: As above, but with film.
- Workshops and masterclasses: A group of people working on a particular task. This could be an opportunity to learn about research in an interactive way where attendees participate; or it could be a creative workshop, for example poetry, storytelling and fictional writing, or photography; or it could be a masterclass where you discuss, share and learn about a particular skill, for example communicating your research to the media or volunteering within institutional settings such as hospitals or prisons. Please give some details of how the workshop or masterclass will be structured/what it will include in your abstract. Support will be available should you want assistance in designing your online workshop or masterclass.
- Talking Circles: Where you share research, experiences, ideas and perspectives in a respectful, ordered and facilitated way. You can learn more about talking circles [here](#). Focuses might include, for example, experiences of loss in the workplace or experiencing (sacred) deathscapes.
- Conference papers: A traditional presentation of research with opportunity for question and answers. Even though we are inviting alternative formats for this year, we're still open to this more conventional approach as an important opportunity for you to present your research to an interested audience and receive their feedback on your work.
- Sandpits: Brainstorming sessions focused on a particular research area with a view to producing an action plan and next steps. This is a great way to bring people together around a social problem or a research project.
- Other: surprise us!

We're open to other suggestions for formats and activities within the conference, so if you have an idea you'd like to discuss with us informally in advance of submitting an abstract then get in touch at cdas@bath.ac.uk.

Looking for inspiration? Possible topics could include:

- Health systems, health settings
- Migration, statelessness, globalisation and nationality
- Socio-legal processes of death investigation
- Assisted dying; debates about life, death and personhood
- Social movements and activism (eg. AIDS, ACT-UP, Black Lives Matter, LGBTQ)
- Institutional structures and systems (eg. patriarchy and structural racism)
- Criminal justice: prisons, the Carceral state at the end-of-life and when bereaved, state ordered executions and capital punishment
- Deathscapes, institutional(ised) spaces at the end of life and post-death
- Museums, heritage and dark tourism
- Processes and practices of institutionalisation
- Death technologies of control, discipline, and preservation
- Commemoration and memorialisation, the construction and institutionalisation of death narratives and scripts
- Institutional appropriation and commodification of death culture
- Human Rights Law and genocide
- Families as institutions, the conceptualisation of historical and contemporary death in family life
- Political protests and dead political leaders, acts of remembrance
- Institutional responses to COVID-19
- Feminist critiques of institutions and death
- The politics of post-mortem evidence in policy making and with policy makers
- Urban planning, urbanisation
- Media (re)presentations of death, dying and bereavement

Please submit applications via the [online form](#) by 31 January 2022.