

PACE at a Glance

What course am I taking?

PSYC 175 Special Topics in Psychology, subtitled "13 Reasons Why - The Truth About Suicide," is a one-credit, undergraduate course that takes an honest look at suicide and provides resources for those struggling with suicidal thoughts.

What is it about?

This course is a response to the Netflix series "13 Reasons Why," a drama about a teen suicide that contains several dangerous myths and very few facts. By exposing these myths and presenting the facts, this course ultimately makes a case for why life matters.

What will I learn?

Within the context of "13 Reasons Why," this course intends to separate from dramatic fiction the truth about suicide by coupling science-based facts with theological reflection. This course will broaden your understanding of suicide, present you with tools and resources to help those struggling with suicidal thoughts, and equip you to be a positive force in a world grappling with the effects of sin, which can destroy the sense of hope we all need to survive.

What will I do?

In this course, you will learn in the following ways: (1) reading articles and essays, and (2) viewing video presentations. All of these materials are in Blackboard and easily accessible. The course is four weeks in length with a section for each week. You will also notice that there is a section titled "Week 0: Getting Started;" this section will help you become acquainted with online learning and Blackboard.

There are two basic types of graded assignments in this course: discussion forums and a final paper. There are four (4) discussion forums in which you will be asked to answer questions and share your responses with classmates. In addition, you will write a brief 600-word final paper. As this is a one-credit course, you should be prepared to spend about 10-11 hours per week on reading, viewing, studying, and completing assignments.

When will I do it?

You will have something to do each week. Here is a brief overview (check the Syllabus and Blackboard for due dates and more details):

Week	Study	Activities/Assignments	Due
1	Read 7 articles (27 pages) Watch 2 video presentations (15:36 & 15:25)	Group Dialogue Week 1 Quiz	Check the syllabus
2	Read 7 articles (23 pages) Watch 1 video presentation (14:10)	Group Dialogue	Check the syllabus
3	Read 7 articles (55 pages) Watch 1 video presentation (12:17)	Group Dialogue	Check the syllabus
4	Read 2 articles (8 pages) Watch 1 video presentation (10:21)	Group Dialogue Final paper	Check the syllabus