

# Death and Dying Research Group 2017 Seminar Series



The Open  
University

## ***Future Seminar Dates....***

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August** 1.30pm Room CMR 11

*Palliative Care in New Zealand* with Prof Merryn Gott

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September** 1.30pm Room Library Seminar 1+2

*Palliative Care for People with Learning Disabilities* with Louise Jenkins, Strategic Liaison Nurse For Secondary & Tertiary care, Hertfordshire County Council

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October** 1.30pm Room Library Seminar 1+2

*Adult Vulnerability and the Adult Attitudinal Grief Scale:  
From Theory to Practice* with Dr Linda Machin

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** 1.30pm Room CMR 11

*Discussions Between Patients and Professionals on End of Life Issues*  
with Marco Pino

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** 1.30pm Room CMR 11

*Exploring End of Life Experiences and Care Needs in the Lives of Older Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) People* with Prof Kathryn Almack

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018** 1.30pm Room CMR 11

*A Debate on Assisted Suicide* with Lesley Close, Dignity in Dying and Dr Kevin Yuill

For more information and to book your free place please contact:

[wels-research-admin@open.ac.uk](mailto:wels-research-admin@open.ac.uk)

To find out more on teaching and research at the OU on Death and Dying  
please visit:

<http://wels.open.ac.uk/research/death-dying-and-bereavement>

# About our Speaker...



## Dr Michele Aaron

Michele Aaron teaches and researches on Film at the University of Birmingham and, from September 2017, at the University of Warwick.

She is author and editor of several books and has published widely on the cultural politics, and ethics, of representation and spectatorship. Her last two books focused on death and dying: the edited collection *Envisaging Death: Dying and Visual Culture* (2013) and the award winning monograph, *Death and the Moving Image: Ideology, Iconography and I* (2014).

She is currently redirecting her fascination with difficult images into collaborative projects with community groups, charities and artists to explore further the potential for film to affect personal, social and political change.

## About her Presentation

### ‘Love’s Revival: Film Practice and the Act of Dying’

Film provides a rich language with which to convey the vulnerability of dying, though within popular culture at least it has served mostly mythic ends or sensationalism or sentimentality. It has the potential, however, to do dying differently, to render it ‘shareable’ perhaps and requiring the spectator to face head-on and up to death.

In this presentation, I will explore this potential through a focus on the use of film within contemporary art practice. I will begin with a brief discussion of my recent project collaborating with a filmmaker and participants from John Taylor Hospice in Birmingham.

Then, through a close study of ‘A Record of Undying’ by George Saxon and *The Dad Project* by photographer Briony Campbell, I consider how their representation of real dying speaks to a more radical film language of human vulnerability.