

Module 3: Book Review Assignment

Sometimes when we are enrolled in a rigorous academic program, we never take the time to read a book for pleasure. Choose one palliative care-related non-fiction book to read over the next seven weeks. Some of my favorites are:

- Being Mortal, Atul Gawande
- When Breath Becomes Air, Paul Kalanithi
- The Four Things That Matter Most, Ira Byock
- Staring at The Sun, Irvin Yalom
- The Top Five Regrets of the Dying, Bonnie Ware

More ideas from my reading list:

- Bearing the Unbearable: Love, Loss and the Heartbreaking Path of Grief, Joanne Cacciatore
- Exit Strategy: Depriving Death of its Strangeness, David Oliver
- With the End in Mind: Dying, Death, and Wisdom in an Age of Denial, Kathryn Mannix
- That Good Night, Life and Medicine in the Eleventh Hour, Sunita Puri
- The End of Your Life Book Club, Will Schwalbe
- The Wisdom of Listening, Mark Brady
- Awake at the Bedside, Koshin Paley Ellison
- Moral Resilience, Cynthia Rushton
- My Father's Wake: How the Irish Teach Us to Live, Love, and Die, Kevin Toolis
- Grieving While Black: An Antiracist Take on Oppression and Sorrow, Breeshia Wade
- Living Well with a Serious Illness: A Guide to Palliative Care for Mind, Body, and Spirit, Robin Bennett Kanarek
- The Story of a Heart: Beyond the Beating Heart, Rachel Clarke
- Farewell: Vital End-of-Life Questions with Candid Answers from a Leading Palliative and Hospice Physician, Edward Creagan

These lists offer suggestions, feel free to choose another non-fiction palliative care-focused book. Email us if you have a question about your book choice. Feel free to read the book or listen to an audiobook. Your local library probably has several of these titles if you do not wish to purchase a book.

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INSTRUCTIONS

Write a 1-2-page response paper on the book you read this semester. A response paper allows the use of first-person statements. Apply APA 7th edition style and formatting; an abstract is not required. Use scholarly writing free from spelling and grammatical errors. A template of the paper has been provided if you wish to use it.

Please note: The use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology for learning activities and written assignments in this course is prohibited as it violates the principle of academic integrity.

Address the following prompts in your book review.

- In the introduction, provide information on the book you chose and why you selected this book.
- Demonstrate in your writing that you actually read the book!
- Share something you learned by reading this book and relate it to palliative care communication in nursing care.
- Conclude with your recommendation – is the book worth the read?
- Provide the citation for the book on a reference page using APA style and formatting.
- Include one additional in-text and reference page citation from a peer-reviewed journal article on palliative care. You may use any of the articles in the *Optional Readings* folders or use library resources.

SUBMITTING YOUR ASSIGNMENT

- **Save your paper in Word**, using the file naming convention:
M3_BookReview_lastname
- **Submit** your paper via Moodle, under the Assignments tab. Other file types are not accepted and will not be graded.
- **Due: 10/11/25 by 11:55 pm**

GRADES

The assignment is worth 100 points (15% of your total grade). Refer to the grading rubric as you prepare your assignment.

The following late point deductions will apply: five points for each day after submission deadline. No work will be accepted beyond five days after the original due date.

Module 3: Book Review Grading Rubric

Category	Excellent exceeds standards	Good occasionally exceeds standards	Acceptable meets standards	Unacceptable below standards	Your Score
Introduction (10 points)	Relevant to purpose of paper. 10 9 8	Content relevant to purpose of paper. 7 6 5	Conveys purpose but may be missing information. 4 3 2	Does not adequately convey topic. 1 0	
Body of Paper (25 points)	Addresses all discussion prompts. Clear organization of main points and ideas. Strong transitions linking main points. 25 24 23 22 21 20	Addresses most discussion prompts. Good organization of main points and ideas. Good transitions linking main points. 19 18 17 16 15 14	Addresses most discussion prompts. Organization of main points may be inadequate. Transitions linking main points may be missing. 13 12 11 10 9 8	Missing content on one or more of the discussion prompts. Content lacks organization. Transitions are missing or unclear. 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0	
Conclusion (10 points)	Strong review of key points. 10 9 8	Good review of key points. 7 6 5	Review of key points. 4 3 2	Conclusion is inadequate or missing key points. 1 0	
Grammar and Mechanics (15 points)	The paper is free from spelling and grammatical errors. 15 14 13	Spelling and grammatical errors are rare and do not detract from the paper. 12 11 10 9	Very few spelling and/or grammatical interfere with reading the paper. 8 7 6 5	Spelling and grammatical errors interfere with reading the paper. 4 3 2 1 0	
APA Style and Formatting (20 points)	APA style and formatting flawlessly applied. Scholarly tone. Writing is flowing and easy to follow. 20 19 18 17 16	Rare errors in APA style and formatting. Scholarly tone in most sections. Writing has minimal awkward or unclear passages. 15 14 13 12 11	Errors in APA style and formatting are noticeable. Conversational tone. Writing has a few awkward or unclear passages. 10 9 8 7 6	Errors in APA style and formatting detract substantially from the paper. Informal tone. Writing is choppy or unclear. 5 4 3 2 1 0	
Citations and References (20 points)	All in-text citations and references are correctly written. Exceeds minimum requirements. 20 19 18 17 16	Most in-text citations and references are correctly written. Includes each type of required reference. 15 14 13 12 11	In-text citations and references have some errors. Missing one of the required type of references. 10 9 8 7 6	In-text citations and reference errors detract significantly from the paper. Missing two or more of the required type of references. 5 4 3 2 1 0	
Comments:				Total	