

The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology

Departmental Seminar

***On Suicidology: Some Introductory Observations
and Related Issues***

Date: October 29, 2014 (Wednesday)
Time: 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Venue: Room 8.13, 8/F The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus,
HKU
Speaker: Dr. Walter Hannak
Saint Paul University, Ottawa

This seminar aims to explore briefly a range of spectrum pertaining to a multitude of suicidal manifestations throughout history and cultures. The mental health focus, on depression in particular, is accompanied by inherent cross-disciplinary considerations on various levels. Epidemiological and cross-cultural considerations are indeed taken into account within this vast field of research. Recently the discourse on assisted suicide has gained momentum in various countries.

While psychological theories form the basis of this introduction in view of prevention, various representations of suicidal ideation are addressed, as well as the difficulties of research on suicide in general, e.g. assessment, access to information. For the clinician, caveats for treatment are pointed out. Suicide and suicide attempts intrinsically evoke ethical concerns which should also find adequate room for expression in the discussion.