

Death and Afterlife: Western Traditions

Dr. Angela Sumegi

Lecture Series Outline:

Lecture 1. Introduction: Death and the Journey of the Self

Debates and definitions: What exactly is death? Who dies? Where do we go from here?
Do we go anywhere?

Lecture 2. Primal Perspectives

A look at the basic world view of primal religious systems and their view of death and personhood.

Lecture 3. Death in the Ancient World

A look at the ancient empires of Egypt and Mesopotamia and the differences in their conceptions of death

Lecture 4. Jewish Perspectives

Overview of foundational beliefs, early Biblical ideas of death and later developments of the immortal soul.

Lecture 5. Christian Perspectives

Overview of New Testament approaches to death, the importance of Jesus' death and the Life Eternal.

Lecture 6. Muslim Perspectives

Overview of the basics of Muslim belief, the importance and details of Islamic eschatology, heaven, and hell.