What can you do with a Thanatology degree?

Employers are interested in people who are able to assist individuals that have experienced life-altering change, loss, and transition. The Thanatology program prepares students to work in many different sectors and to engage in graduate studies across many fields. Current areas of potential growth and employment for Thanatology graduates focus on end of life care and decision making, bereavement support, immigration and displacement, environmental grief, political grief, and meeting the needs of an aging population.

Examples of places where our graduates have gone after graduation:

- Government positions
  - 911 dispatch
  - Police services
  - Victim Services
  - Victorian Order of Nurses (VON)
  - Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
  - Ontario Works

- Education
  - Community College instructor
  - University Faculty member
  - Primary/Secondary school teacher
  - Community educator

- For-Profit/Business sector
  - Financial planning
  - Insurance advisor

- Service sector positions
  - Journey Through Loss
  - Bereavement Support
  - Hospice support
  - Changing Ways
  - Funeral service
  - London Intercommuntiy Health-Centre
  - Volunteer coordination, spiritual care, and program development

- Non-Profit Sector
  - Alzheimer’s Society
  - Wellspring
  - Bereaved Families of London
  - The Memorial Boys and Girls Club
  - Ronald McDonald House
  - SARI therapeutic riding
  - Goodwill Industries
  - Parish bereavement ministries
  - L’Arche London
  - Daya Counselling Centre

- Online Resources
  - Kings University College Career Connect
  - Kings University College Job Board
  - Kings University College Alumni Services
  - Western University Student Success: Find Work
  - Pillar Non Profit for London Region Opportunities

On Online Resources
Kings University College Career Connect
Kings University College Job Board
Kings University College Alumni Services
Western University Student Success: Find Work
Pillar Non Profit for London Region Opportunities

Experience Guide

Thanatology: The study of loss, death, and grief

Thanatology literally means the study of death. However, it also encompasses many aspects of the human experience that involves loss and grief. Grappling with loss is an essential aspect of being human; the losses that we experience also help us to learn, grow, and deepen our appreciation of life. While Thanatology may be about the study of death, it is also about understanding that life is a precious gift, and every moment matters.

Learn more: kings.uwo.ca/thanatology

A Place to Be. A Place to Become.
The Thanatology program at King’s is the only program of its kind in the world. This program explores the many different areas of life and experience that can be affected by change, loss, and transition. The content and learning experiences that are offered through the various courses provide a diverse exploration of how individuals, communities, and government structures address death and grief. Students have opportunities for classroom-based learning, blended learning, online learning, experiential placements, all of which provide a multifaceted and integrated learning opportunity. The underscoring of the program is the integration of knowledge and a limited resource and change as a constant companion allow us to embrace life more consciously and fulfilling way.

**What you will learn:***

- **Theoretical perspectives on death, loss, and grief**
- **Develop skills for working with families and communities**
- **Gain a solid knowledge base in the fields of ethics, spirituality, popular culture, social justice, and government structures**
- **Develop critical thinking and research skills**
- **Enhance your communication and writing skills**
- **Gain experience in a variety of settings**

**About the Program:***

- **Hands-on skill building from practicum placement and experiential workshops**
- **Get involved with The Thanatology Club**
- **Be a notetaker through the King’s Library**
- **Volunteer and support your community at King’s**
- **Recognize the ways that grief and trauma can have an impact on individuals and communities**
- **Apply for student support grants**
- **Meet with career services to review your program progression**

**Skills and Experience:***

- **Bereavement education and support**
- **Foster life and choices decision-making**
- **Crisis response and trauma interventions at the individual and community level**
- **Developmentally-appropriate conversations about death, loss, and grief**
- **Ethical frameworks for different aspects of support and care at the end of life**
- **Hands-on skill building from practicum placement and experiential workshops**

**About King’s:***

- **Attend King’s International Inter-Cultural Programs**
- **Volunteer at the St. Joseph’s Hospitality Centre at University Hospital**
- **Consider joining the HCUCS as a first-year or program rep.**
- **Join the Thanatology Club for events and networking**
- **Join the Thanatology Club Facebook page**
- **Follow the Thanatology Facebook page**

**The King’s Annual Checklist:***

- **Meet regularly with the Academic Deans Office to ensure you are on the correct academic path**
- **Check out programs offered by Student Affairs**
- **Continually review your financial aid**
- **Check out opportunities to work on campus or off campus**
- **Volunteer and support your community at King’s**
- **Use the Library resources offered by the Cardinal Carter Library**
- **Check out Career Connect on a regular basis**
- **Meet with Faculty during their office hours**

**Alumni Profile:***

**Rachael Park**
2016 B.A. Thanatology and Criminology

**Current Career:***

- **Volunteer at a local hospital**
- **Conduct informational interviews with organizations you would like to work for**
- **Meet with your academic counsellor**
- **Meet with career services to review your program progression**
- **Submit a paper for presentation at a national conference**

**Why Study Thanatology?***

- **Deep understanding of death and grief**
- **Critical thinking and analysis of issues related to death, loss, and grief**
- **Hands-on skill building from practicum placement and experiential workshops**
- **Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Development**
- **Gain a solid grounding in the fields of ethics, spirituality, popular culture, social justice, and government structures**
- **Develop skills for working with families and communities**
- **Gain a solid knowledge base in the fields of ethics, spirituality, popular culture, social justice, and government structures**
- **Enhance your communication and writing skills**
- **Gain experience in a variety of settings**

**WELLNESS RESOURCES***

- **Student Affairs**
- **King’s Wellness**

**Next Career:***

- **Becoming an advocate for grief services**
- **Volunteer at a local hospital**
- **Conduct informational interviews with organizations you would like to work for**
- **Meet with your academic counsellor**
- **Meet with career services to review your program progression**
- **Submit a paper for presentation at a national conference**

**Learn More About Our Alumni:***

- **kings.uwo.ca/academics/thanatology/alumni-profiles**

**Learn More About the Thanatology Program:***

- **kings.uwo.ca/thanatology**
- **Contact the Thanatology Program at kings.uwo.ca/academics/thanatology/alumni-profiles**