

## Fachbereich 9 - Medienstudiengänge

Department 9 - Media Courses

### Kommentar zur Lehrveranstaltung im WiSe 2019/20

Description of seminars and lectures

**Veranstalterin:** Dr. Anke Offerhaus

*Lecturer:*

**Titel (dt.):** Who wants to live forever? Digital Death, Mourning and Remembrance

**Titel (engl.):** Who wants to live forever? Digital Death, Mourning and Remembrance

#### Course description:

Even a digitalized society will not change the fact that sooner or later we will have to face death. Expressing the fear of death on weblogs, remembering friends and relatives on virtual cemeteries and memorial pages, evolving digital mourning rituals with a smartphone - what seems weird and incomprehensible to some, is already lived reality for others and expands possible actions beyond social institutions such as families and religious communities that are traditionally associated with death and mourning. Beyond that, thousands of profiles of deceased people in social networks are visible as well as those who see digitalization as a chance to finally overcome death and become immortal by using artificial intelligence from data traces of the living. They all testify to the extraordinary visibility of an existential topic that has been negotiated invisibly in people's private lives for a long time. The course gives an overview of different facets and phenomena of digital culture of death, mourning and memory. Being a research seminar in an interdisciplinary and new field of research, we primarily aim at elaborating the state of research and conceptualizing case studies and research projects.

#### References:

Arnold, Michael et al. (2017): Death and Digital Media. London: Taylor and Francis.

Christensen, Dorthe Refslund und Kjetil Sandvik (Hrsg.) (2014): Mediating and Remediating Death. Farnham: Ashgate Publishing Ltd.

Hanusch, Folker (2010): Representing death in the news journalism, media and mortality. Basington [u.a.]: Palgrave Macmillan.

Moreman, Chris und A. David Lewis (Hrsg.) (2014): Digital Death: Mortality and Beyond in the Online Age. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger.

Papacharissi, Zizi (Ed.) (2019): A networked self and birth, life, death. New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

Sofka, Carla J., Kathleen R. Gilbert und Illene Cupit Noppe (Hrsg.) (2012): Dying, death, and grief in an online universe: for counselors and educators. New York: Springer.

Walter, Tony (1999): On bereavement: the culture of grief. Buckingham [u.a.]: Open University Press.