

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Intended Audience: Researchers, Clinicians, Practitioners, General

Welcome to *Threshold*

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Editor-in-Chief, Threshold

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the inaugural issue of *Threshold: Journal of Interdisciplinary Consciousness Studies*! With a focus on the interdisciplinary study of consciousness as it relates to dying, death, and what comes next, *Threshold* stands at the forefront of contemporary research into our complex relationship with mortality—especially those areas of this relationship where our experiences begin to cross into the unknown.

The articles we have chosen to highlight in the first issue set the tone for our future explorations of this enigmatic domain, including guidelines for end-of-life caregivers providing direction on how to approach potential anomalous experiences that may be encountered during the dying process, the integration of afterlife studies into lifespan development methodologies, a presentation of research into the impact of near death experience narratives on non-experiencers, and implications for social research developed from the application of text analysis to experiencer requests for anomalous investigation.

Each selection demonstrates the exciting possibilities that empirical approaches hold for helping us to better understand the experiential dimensions of dying and death. Together, they develop a starting point for powerful approaches integrating these themes with broader questions of evidence-based medicine, applied sociology, and public policy.

Most importantly: the topics addressed in these articles help to highlight the significant role that science can play in deepening our experience with areas of life that remain taboo for the culture at large.

Threshold serves as a vehicle to support the vital need for dialogues that address the full range of emotional, cognitive, and experiential effects which are so integral to our interactions with dying, death, and the burning question of what comes next.

Thank you for joining us in this journey. We look forward to seeing what develops from our conversations as we seek to step into the exciting possibilities that lie beyond the threshold of our understanding.

About the Journal

Threshold: Journal of Interdisciplinary Consciousness Studies (TJICS) is a free, online-only, open access journal that disseminates information focusing on interdisciplinary studies of consciousness as it relates to dying, death, and what comes next. Articles include original peer-reviewed research, review articles, research briefs, conference presentations, education and training aids, essays, editorials, case studies, and book reviews. Content is tailored to meet the needs of specific audiences including researchers, clinicians, practitioners, and the general public. For more information, visit: www.tjics.org

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