

AS Funeral Service Education

The Funeral Service Education degree prepares students for entry-level positions in funeral service. The student is exposed to theory-based and clinical experiences reflective of the current industry standards. It is designed to meet the prerequisites for licensure and employment in the field of funeral service as funeral directors or embalmers.

Information workshops are held in April and August for prospective students. For more information, please call the Science and Technology Division office at (650)306-3291.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Funeral Service Education program are able to seek careers in the following fields: Funeral Service Managers, Embalmers, Funeral Attendant, Mortician, Undertaker, Funeral Director.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students completing this program will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of funeral service professionals in developing relationships with the families and communities they serve.
2. Identify standards of ethical conduct in funeral service practice.
3. Interpret how federal, state, and local laws apply to funeral service in order to ensure compliance.
4. Apply principles of public health and safety in the handling and preparation of human remains.
5. Demonstrate technical skills in embalming and restorative art that are necessary for the preparation and handling of human remains.
6. Demonstrate skills required for conducting arrangement conferences, visitations, services, and ceremonies.
7. Describe the requirements and procedures for burial, cremation, and other accepted forms of final disposition of human remains.
8. Describe methods to address the grief-related needs of the bereaved.
9. Explain management skills associated with operating a funeral establishment.
10. Demonstrate verbal and written communication skills and research skills needed for funeral service practice.

AS Degree Requirements

Major: Core Requirements

Note: Students may take BIOL 101 at SKY or BIOL 110 (CAN) or BIOL 100(CAN) or BIOL 130(CAN).

Complete Core Courses:

Units

BIOL 110	Principles Of Biology	4 units
	OR	
BIOL 100	Introduction to the Life Sciences	3 units
	OR	
BIOL 130	Human Biology	3 units
BIOL 250	Human Anatomy	4 units
FSE. 210	Funeral Directing I	3 units
FSE. 200	Introduction to Funeral Service	2 units
FSE. 212	Funeral Service Science	5 units
FSE. 215	Funeral Directing II	3 units
FSE. 220	Funeral Service Law and Ethics	3 units
FSE. 225	Psychology of Death and Dying	3 units
FSE. 230	Merchandising in the Funeral Service Industry	3 units
FSE. 235	Funeral Service Management	3 units
FSE. 250	Restorative Art	5 units
FSE. 260	Embalming I	4 units
FSE. 265	Embalming II	2 units
FSE. 270	Funeral Service Counseling	3 units
FSE. 280	Funeral Service Education Practicum	5 units

A grade of "C" or better is required for progression through the program.

Graduates of the program will be permitted to take the Embalmer Examination offered by the Cemetery and Funeral Bureau of California.

The Funeral Service Education Program at Cañada College aims to be accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097 (816) 233-3747. Web: www.abfse.org.

For Institutions or programs that achieve initial accreditation, the effective date of that accreditation is the date initial candidacy was awarded by the Committee on Accreditation (COA). Students who complete all coursework after the date candidacy is awarded, but before initial accreditation is achieved, will be permitted, after initial accreditation is awarded, to take the National Board Examination (NBE) and with all requirements completed, be considered graduates from an ABFSE accredited program.



CAUTION: This program is pursuing accreditation but is NOT accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE). Until accreditation is achieved, students graduating from this program are NOT eligible to take any licensing examination that requires graduation from an ABFSE accredited program, including the National Board Examination.

For more information, please go to BLDG - 23-137C or email at hooperg@smccd.edu or by phone at 650-381-2218.

And required General Education coursework and electives as needed to meet the minimum 60 units required for the Associate degree.

