

FUNERAL SERVICE EDUCATION (FSE)

Course Descriptions

FSE 101. History and Sociology of Funeral Service. 3 Credit Hours.

This course surveys funeral and burial customs associated with the beliefs and practices in various cultures from the early Egyptians to present day. In addition, the general principles related to customs, religions, human relations, social behavior, and their influences on funeral practices will be examined. Successful completion of this course is required for subsequent enrollment in all FSE courses in the AAS/FSE program.

Prerequisites: Admission to AAS/FSE program and Reading Proficiency

FSE 102. Dynamics of Grief Management. 3 Credit Hours.

Dynamics of Grief Management explores the topic of funeral service psychology, which includes the theories of grief, the purposes of the funeral rite, and the importance of interpersonal communication skills and basic helping techniques.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

FSE 103. Funeral Directing. 3 Credit Hours.

Funeral Directing introduces the primary duties and responsibilities of the funeral director. Special emphasis is placed on the funeral director's role in working with the family of the decedent, as they select options for funeral rites, ceremonies, and committal services. Legal and ethical obligations, as well as the value of effective communication skills, are also examined.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

FSE 104. Funeral Directing Practicum. 2 Credit Hours.

Funeral Directing Practicum is a course that introduces the practical aspects of funeral home operations, which includes local, state, and federal laws as they pertain to funeral service. In addition, students will participate in funeral arranging, funeral directing, and committal service procedures. All funeral directing functions will be performed under the direct supervision of a licensed funeral director and the St. Louis Community College Funeral Service Education faculty. Additional practicum hours may be required.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

Corequisites: FSE 103

FSE 105. Funeral Directing Practicum II. 2 Credit Hours.

This course is a continuation of Funeral Directing Practicum I and will provide additional experience with the practical aspects of funeral home operations, which includes local, state, and federal laws as they pertain to funeral service. In addition, students will participate in funeral arranging, funeral directing, and committal service procedures. All funeral directing functions will be performed under the direct supervision of a licensed funeral director and the St. Louis Community College Funeral Service Education faculty. Additional hours required.

Prerequisites: FSE 103 and FSE 104 with minimum grades of "C" and Reading Proficiency

FSE 106. Mortuary Law and Ethics. 3 Credit Hours.

Mortuary Law and Ethics introduces legal and ethical issues in the funeral service profession. This includes the sources of business law, mortuary law, rights and duties regarding disposition of dead bodies, state and federal regulation of funeral homes, funeral directors and cemeteries, probate law, and funeral professional ethics.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

FSE 107. Funeral Service Merchandising. 2 Credit Hours.

Funeral Service Merchandising introduces the practical aspects of product knowledge and merchandising for caskets, outer burial containers, and other related funeral service merchandise.