

Cañada College
Funeral Service Education
AS Degree Program

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.

Prospective students must complete a separate application to the program (available in November for the following Fall entrance) in addition to the regular college application. 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:

Upon Completion of Degree requirements, students will be able to:

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

AS Degree Requirements

Major: Core Requirements

Complete Core Courses, 44 units

	Units
FSE. 200 Introduction to Funeral Service	2
FSE. 210 Funeral Directing I	3
FSE. 212 Funeral Service Science	5
FSE. 215 Funeral Directing II	3
FSE. 220 Funeral Service Law and Ethics	3
FSE. 225 Psychology of Death and Dying	3
FSE. 230 Merchandising in the Funeral Service Industry	3

FSE. 235 Funeral Service Management	3
FSE. 250 Restorative Art	5
FSE. 260 Embalming I	4
FSE. 265 Embalming II	2
FSE. 270 Funeral Service Counseling	3
FSE. 280 Funeral Service Education Practicum	5

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

Program Entrance Criteria:

- A. Microbiology - BIOL 240*
- B. Human Anatomy - BIOL 250*
- C. Business Law - BUS. 201*
- D. Chemistry - CHEM 410*
- E. Reading and Composition - ENGL 100*
- F. Introduction to Funeral Service - FSE. 200*
- G. Intermediate Algebra - MATH 120*

Students must take the Arts and the Sciences section of the National Board Exam (NBE) as a requirement for graduation.

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

The annual passage rate of first-time takers on the National Board Examination (NBE) for the most recent three-year period for this institution and all ABFSE accredited funeral service education programs is posted on the ABFSE web site (www.abfse.org).

National Board Examination scores, graduation rates, and employment rates for this and other ABFSE-accredited programs are available at www.abfse.org. To request a printed copy of this program's scores and rates, go to BLDG - 23-137C or by email at thompsona@smccd.edu or by phone at 650-306-3322

Total Required Major Units

44

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

Please refer to the AA/AS Degree Requirements for more information.

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: November 2020

Effective Term: Fall 2021

Program Originator: Damon de la Cruz