MTS MORTUARY SCIENCE

Courses

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MTS.110 History of Mortuary Science
Funeral practices and beliefs of all major Western cultures from pre-Egyptian times to the present are reviewed with special emphasis on Judeo Christian tradition as the primary basis of modern belief. The origin and development of present day practices including embalming and disposition are discussed. Special emphasis is placed on modern development in funeral service education and professional organizations. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.) Admission to the Mortuary Science program is required to enroll in this course.
Offered: Fall
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.120 Mortuary Law
Instructional material will include the study of the laws as they pertain to the everyday operation of a licensed funeral home within each of the various states. This information will include such issues as trust funds, pre arrangement laws, employment laws and rules, laws regarding cremation, and disinterment. Licensing rules will also be addressed in this course as well. This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program. Admission to the Mortuary Science program is required to enroll in this course.
Offered: Fall
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.130 Introduction to Microbiology - Mort Sci
This eight-week course is designed to introduce the student to the principles of microbiology as they relate to the mortuary science profession. Areas of study will include the role of diseases and types of pathogens and microbes which will infect and attack the human body. Study will include issues pertaining to both the spread of infectious agents, as well as their control. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: BIO.111 and CHM.100 with grades of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.140 Embalming 1
The student will be introduced to the techniques of embalming and preparation of the deceased for public viewing. Instruction covers knowledge of the skills necessary to embalm a normal case. Theory, practices and techniques of sanitation, restoration, and preservation of the deceased human remains are included. Laboratory experience will consist of a dissection laboratory and other related activities. Pre-embalming, embalming and post-embalming treatments will be covered in depth. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Fall
Prerequisites: BIO.111 and CHM.100 with grades of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.150 Psychology of Grief & Death
This course has been designed to look at many perspectives of death, dying, grief, bereavement, and the human experiences and difficulties that each of us face. This course is a comprehensive study of the patterns of death and dying that the funeral profession will face. Some of the course will include past history of the mourning process, last rites, death in children's lives, and special cases. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Fall
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable
MTS.160 Funeral Service Administration  
This course is designed to teach effective funeral home management skills. Instruction includes recognizing, analyzing, and solving funeral service management problems and establishing and implementing policies regarding funeral home management. Funeral home operation and records, ethics, and professional regulations are examined. Laws that govern the practice of funeral services, the Illinois License Law, Vital Statistics Act, transportation rules and Social Security are studied. Responsibilities and relationships to local boards of health and the State Department of Public Health are emphasized. The student also develops product knowledge which includes caskets, vaults, monuments, and urns. This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.
Offered: Fall
Prerequisites: MTS.120 and BUS.201 with a grade of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.170 Restorative Art  
Instruction covers the restoration of the deceased for public viewing. Every aspect of performing a partial or total restoration is covered. Students will study the structure of the cranial and facial areas of the human skull and gain an appreciation of each facial feature’s physiognomy, as well as its parts in the overall composite. Laboratory experience will consist of doing partial or total restorations for normal cases. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Fall
Prerequisites: BIO.111 with a grade of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.210 Funeral Service Counseling  
Current theories in personal counseling with an emphasis on bereavement are covered. The student is taught counseling skills and is introduced to disaster management and crisis intervention skills. Counseling in grief resolution is examined. Funeral service counseling needs are examined in relation to a variety of cultural, religious, and ethnic groups and their individual needs. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program).
Offered: Spring
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.215 Introduction-Mass Fatalities Incidents  
This course is designed to introduce the student to the effective management of a mass fatalities incident. This course will include formal lecture and training involving all aspects of handling a mass fatality. This includes various types of incidents as well as information regarding the cooperative agencies that will be involved with the operation. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.) Must have second year student status in the Mortuary Science program to enroll in this course.
Offered: Fall
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.220 Funeral Directing  
This course is designed to introduce the student to the various types and styles of service that the funeral director must provide to the families that are served by the funeral home. These will include the various religions, as well as ethnic, social, and fraternal influences. The students will also have an opportunity to participate in making mock funeral arrangements, as well as directing those mock funerals. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: MTS.150 and MTS.160 with grades of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.225 Thanatochemistry  
This course will offer an in-depth study of the basic principles of chemistry as they specifically relate to funeral service. Especially stressed are the chemical principles and precautions involved in sanitation, disinfection, public health, and embalming practice. Emphasis is placed on selected aspects of general chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry as they relate to decomposition, disinfection, and the process of embalming. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Fall
Prerequisites: CHM.100 with a grade of C or better Take MTS.140;
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.230 Embalming  
This course offers an in-depth study of the various problems of embalming and proper chemicals used for each. Emphasis is placed on providing the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to care for any deviation from normal as it pertains to the preparation of the deceased for public viewing. Laboratory experience will consist of a dissection laboratory and other related activities.
Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: MTS.140 with a grade of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable
MTS.240 Funeral Service Seminar  
This course is designed to allow for extensive testing of the student's knowledge, both theoretical and technical. Reviews of the material for the National Board Examination will take place at this time and examinations will be administered. These examination topics will be announced ahead of time and will be selected from the various subjects of study as listed within the curriculum outlines from the American Board of Funeral Service Education. This course will further prepare each student prior to graduation for the successful completion of the National Board Examination. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: MTS.160 with a grade of C or better
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.250 Funeral Service Practicum  
15 3
Students will be assigned by the program coordinator to an approved funeral home for an eight week period learning from actual practice situations. Students will not be allowed to return to either a present or former employer for this eight week period. This practicum will serve as an actual practice situation involving organization and administration of procedures and policies of the establishment. Students will perform duties as assigned by the preceptor and coordinator to include the participation in the execution of not less than 10 total funeral services rendered to a family. Service reports and other assignments are also required to be completed by the student. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Student must have permission of program coordinator to enroll in this course.
Offered: Spring
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.260 Restorative Arts/Embalming Practicum  
15 3
Students will be assigned by the program coordinator to an approved funeral home for an eight-week period learning from actual practice situations. Students will not be allowed to return to either a present or former employer for this eight week period. The students will learn embalming and restorative art techniques by active participation in these experiences under the supervision of an approved clinical instructor or preceptor. Service reports and other assignments are also required to be completed by the student. (This course must be completed with a grade of C or above to continue in the Mortuary Science Program.)
Requirement: The student must pass a practical examination on embalming techniques at the conclusion of their practicum in order to successfully pass this course. Student must have permission of program coordinator to enroll in this course.
Offered: Spring
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable

MTS.270 Exam Review Seminar  
This seminar course is designed to assist each student in identifying weak areas of study as well as allow for a comprehensive review of educational materials that will be contained within the National Board Examination that each student must take. This will aid each participant in the study of material as a review. Student must have permission of program coordinator to enroll in this course.
Offered: Spring
Applicable toward graduation at Sandburg where program structure permits:
Degree or Certificate: AAS, AGS and Certificates where applicable (1.2).
General Education – Not Applicable