

# MORTUARY SCIENCE

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Division: Health Science

## Division Dean

Colin Preston

## Faculty

Lori Collins  
Damon de la Cruz  
Jolena Grande

## Counselors

Kelly Carter  
Marisa Lehmeier  
Denise Vo

## Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of an accredited program, students 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.

## Mortuary Science Program Aims

The Mortuary Science Program at Cypress College has as its central aim recognition of the importance of funeral service personnel as:

1. Members of a human services profession;
2. Members of the community in which they serve;
3. Participants in the relationship between bereaved families and those engaged in the funeral service profession;
4. Professionals knowledgeable of and compliant with federal, state, provincial/territorial and local regulatory guidelines in the geographic area where they practice; as well as
5. Professionals sensitive to the responsibility for public health, safety and welfare in caring for human remains.

## Mortuary Science Program Objectives

1. To enlarge the background and knowledge of students about the funeral service profession;

2. To educate students in every phase of funeral service, and to help enable them to develop the proficiency and skills necessary in the profession, as defined in the Preamble at the beginning of Chapter 9 of the Manual on Accreditation;
3. To educate students concerning the responsibilities of the funeral service profession to the community at large;
4. To emphasize high standards of ethical conduct;
5. To provide a curriculum at the post-secondary level of instruction;
6. To encourage student and faculty research in the field of funeral service; and
7. To qualify students for professional licensure examinations.

## Minimum Standards to Apply

1. Eligibility for admission to Cypress College.
2. Official High school transcripts, a GED test with a minimum score of 450 on the five-test battery, or high school proficiency examination.
3. Present evidence of good physical and mental health.
4. Completion of College Writing (ENGL 100 C or ENGL 101C, ESL110 C) with the grade of C or better, or in progress.
5. Completion of college BIOL 210 C Anatomy and Physiology or BIOL 231 C General Human Anatomy with a grade of C or better within the most recent 5 year time period prior to program application, or in progress.
6. Completion of/or in-progress of MATH 100 C, or 110 C, or 115 C, or 115PC, or 120 C, or 120PC, or 130 C, or 130-PC, or 141 C, or 141PC, or 142 C, or 150 with a grade of C or better.
7. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all college courses attempted.

## Application Procedures

1. In addition to the Cypress College application form, a separate application is required for admission into the Mortuary Science Program. Applications must be completed **online**. Please see the **Health Science Application link** on the Mortuary Science home page.
2. A total of 25 new students are selected for each cohort. Applicants may exceed the available seat space.
3. Applicants are responsible for submitting all official transcripts to Admissions and Records
4. All Official transcripts are required (high school and college).

## Selection Procedures

Students will be selected using a point system based on the number of general education/graduation courses completed at the time of application. Selection of students for acceptance is based on the **date** of completed application which includes submission of **all** transcripts and required documents.

## Mortuary Science Program Accreditation Statement

The Mortuary Science Program at Cypress College is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097 (816) 233-3747. Website: [www.abfse.org](http://www.abfse.org); Scholarship and general program information can be found on the ABFSE website. National Board Examination pass rates, graduation rates, and employment rates for this and other ABFSE-accredited programs are available at [www.abfse.org](http://www.abfse.org) in the Directory of Accredited Programs.

The National Board Examination is written and governed by:

International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc. (ICFSEB)  
1885 Shelby Lane, Fayetteville, AR 73704  
(479) 442-7076 - [www.theconferenceonline.org](http://www.theconferenceonline.org)

Study guide and preparatory information can be found on the ICFSEB website. National Board Examination pass rates, graduation rates, (beginning in 2015) and employment rates (beginning in 2015) for this and other ABFSE-accredited programs are available at [www.abfse.org](http://www.abfse.org).

To request a printed copy of this program's pass rates and rates, go to the Mortuary Science Office, Room 215, Technical Education III Building – Health Science Division or by e-mail at [mortsci@CypressCollege.edu](mailto:mortsci@CypressCollege.edu) or by telephone (714) 484-7278.

### Program Information

Year	No. of New Students	No. of Grads	Timely Grad <sup>1</sup>	Percent Employed	Left Before Completion <sup>2</sup>
2018	66	46	42/46	83%	13
2017	59	27	20/27	78%	23
2016	55	29	22/29	90%	9
2015	64	43	35/43	90	9
2014	38	30	23/30	100	7

<sup>1</sup> Timely graduation = complete program in 1½ times designated program length.

<sup>2</sup> Left before completing the program; did not finish.

### National Board Statistics

3-Year Avg	% Pass Arts	% Pass Sciences
2016-2018	89%	94%
2015-2017	92%	95%
2014-2016	95%	95%

Most Recent	# Takers	# Passed
2018 Arts	46	41
2018 Sciences	46	42

### National Board Examination - Arts

Year	No. of Takers	No. Who Passed	Percent Who Passed
2018	46	41	89%
2017	28	24	86%
2016	29	27	93%
2015	40	38	95%
2014	28	27	96%

### National Board Examination - Sciences

Year	No. of Takers	No. Who Passed	Percent Who Passed
2018	46	42	91%
2017	28	27	96%
2016	29	28	96%
2015	40	37	93%
2014	28	27	96%

- Funeral Service Bachelor of Science Degree
- Mortuary Science Associate in Science Degree

At Cypress College, there are Department Program Student Learning Outcomes and Degree & Certificate Program Student Learning Outcomes.

## Department Program Student Learning Outcomes:

The courses taught by this department contribute to the following ISLO/PSLOs: A-Breadth of Knowledge, Competencies, and Skills, B-Communication Skills, C-Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Information Competency Skills, and D-Personal, Academic, and Professional Development; specifically, the following ISLO/PSLO subcategories: A1-Health Sciences, B1-Reading, B2-Writing, B3-Communicating, B4-Presenting, C1-Analysis, C2-Computation, C3-Research, C4-Problem Solving, C5-Technology, D1-Personal Responsibility, D2-Global Citizenship, and D3-Equity.

A student who completes the Mortuary Science program will be able to:

- Enlarge the background and knowledge of students desiring to enter the funeral service profession.
- Educate students in every phase of funeral service, and to help them to develop proficiency and skills necessary for the profession.
- Educate students concerning the responsibilities of the funeral service profession to the community at large.
- Emphasize high standards of ethical conduct.
- Provide a curriculum at the post-secondary level of instruction.
- Encourage student and faculty research in the field of funeral service.
- Qualify students for professional licensure examination.

## Degree & Certificate Program Student Learning Outcomes:

The program student learning outcomes for each award can be found on the specific degree or certificate page.