

# Common Course Outline

## MORS 200

### Funeral Service Seminar

### 3 Semester Hours

#### The Community College of Baltimore County

#### Description

**MORS 200 – 3 Credits – Funeral Service Seminar** provides a capstone experience, a culmination of the Mortuary Science Major's preparation for entry into funeral service. Through experience and the application of knowledge, the student will demonstrate proficiency in funeral service theory and practice. The student demonstrates expertise by participating in authentic and/or simulated situations that are encountered upon entry into funeral service. The student will be required to take the National Board Exam (NBE) that is administered by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Board (ICFSEB) as the final exam of the seminar. The National Board Examination requires a separate fee; for details see [www.cfseb.org](http://www.cfseb.org)

**3 credits, 3 lecture hours per week**

**Prerequisites: Students are required to have completed all other required courses for the Mortuary Science degree with a grade of C or higher.**

#### Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. contrast the responsibility/duties of a mortician versus a funeral director;
2. demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of funeral directing using the basic elements related mortuary science courses;
3. show evidence of critical skills used in the funeral arrangement conference;
4. analyze the various types of funeral merchandise/sundries and their purposes;
5. differentiate the aspects of pre-need and pre-funded funeral arrangements;
6. discuss the importance of embalming using the basic elements related to science courses;
7. distinguish the various types of disposition;
8. elucidate the cremation process including the legal requirements that are essential for cremation;
9. explore the various options utilized in personalizing a funeral to the family needs; and
10. demonstrate effective listening skills.

#### Major Topics

- I. Mortician/funeral director roles
  - a. Arranging funerals
  - b. Conducting funerals
  - c. Embalming

- d. Restorative art
  - e. Cosmetology
  - f. Filing government forms
  - g. Military benefits
- II. Funeral Directing
- a. History
  - b. Current practices
  - c. Management
  - d. Law
  - e. Thanatology
- III. Arrangement conference
- a. Legal requirements
  - b. Federal Trade Commission
  - c. Maryland State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors
  - d. Disclosures
- IV. Funeral merchandise
- a. Caskets
  - b. Vaults
  - c. Markers
  - d. Sundry items
- V. Pre-need arrangements
- a. Prepaid
  - b. Trust accounts
  - c. Irrevocable trusts
  - d. Legal requirements
- VI. Embalming
- a. Thanatochemistry
  - b. Microbiology
  - c. Pathology
  - d. Human Anatomy
  - e. Restorative Art
- VII. Disposition
- a. Entombment
  - b. Interment
  - c. Cremation
  - d. Green burials
  - e. Promession

VIII. Personalization

IX. Listening skills

**Course Requirements**

Grading/exams:

A = 92 – 100

B = 85 – 91

C = 78 – 84

D = 77 – 70

F = 0 – 69

Grading procedure will be determined by the individual faculty member, but will include the following.

1. A minimum of 5 competency tests	70%
2. Final Exam = National Board Exam	10%
<u>Writing:</u>	
1. A minimum of 1 research paper approved by the instructor.	10%
2. A minimum of 3 reflection papers.	10%
	100%
<u>National Board Exam:</u>	

All students are required to take the National Board Exam as the final requirement of this seminar. In order to be eligible to take the National Board Examination, students must have completed the entire requirements for the mortuary science degree with a minimum grade of C or better.

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Individual faculty members may include additional course objectives, major topics, and other course requirements to the minimum expectations stated in the Common Course Outline.