Funeral Service Education A.S. Degree

FULL TIME

This program roadmap represents one possible pathway to complete the program. **Please see a counselor** to create an education plan that is customized to meet your needs. This roadmap is not a guarantee of course availability or financial aid applicability.

Catalog: 2026-27

GE Pattern: local AA/AS

Total Units: 74.5

Start Term: Spring

Prior to Enrolling in the Program

Prerequisite Courses — 6 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	BIOL 304 Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology	4		L5
Req	FSE 300 Introduction to Funeral Service	2		

This program has eligibility requirements and a selection process. Detailed information about the program and pre-enrollment applications may be found in the college catalog and on the college website.

First Year

Semester 1 (Spring) — 16 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	CHEM 130 Chemistry for Funeral Service	4		
Req	FSE 310 Funeral Directing I	3	FSE 300	
Req	FSE 320 Funeral Service Law and Ethics	3		
Req	FSE 335 Funeral Service Management	3		
RE	BUS 105[1] Business Mathematics	3		L2

[1] or MATH 300, or any 3-unit course meeting ARC GE Area L2 (Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning)

Semester 2 (Summer) — 2 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	FSE 340 Pathology for Funeral Service	2	CHEM 130	

Semester 3 (Fall) — 18 Units

2 YEARS

CAREER PATH

Career Options:

This degree prepares students to take the National and State Board examination to become a licensed funeral director in California. It also prepares students to take the National and State embalmer's examination.

Advising Notes:

- Students in majors (like this one) with 45 units or more of required coursework are exempt from the Area L7 general education requirement, so it is not included in this map. If you change your major you may be required to complete the L7 requirement.

Other Notes:

- Students must have a high school diploma or the equivalent to enter the program. Information about the program and pre-enrollment applications may be obtained at the Funeral Service Education website.
- The Funeral Service Education program currently accepts students once per year for the spring semester, which begins in January. The deadline to submit an application is the second Friday in November.

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	ANTH 310[3] Cultural Anthropology	3		L4
Req	BIOL 130 Microbiology for Funeral Service	3	CHEM 130	
Req	ENGL C1000 College Composition **or** ENGL C1000H[H, 4] Honors College Composition	3 3		L1A
Req	FSE 312 Funeral Directing II	3	FSE 310 and 320	
Req	FSE 330 Merchandising in the Funeral Service Industry	3	FSE 310 and 320	
Req	ACCT 101 Fundamentals of College Accounting	3		

[3] or any 3-unit course meeting ARC GE Area L4 (Social and Behavioral Sciences)

[4] or any 3-unit course from ARC GE Area L1A (English Composition)

Second Year

Semester 4 (Spring) 16.5 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	BUS 340 Business Law	3		
Req	FSE 350 Restorative Art	3.5		
Req	FSE 360 Embalming I	4	CHEM 130	
Req	RLST 301[5] Introduction to World Religions	3		L3
Req	ETHNS 300[6] Introduction to Ethnic Studies	3		L6

[5] or any 3-unit course meeting ARC GE Area L3 (Arts and Humanities)

[6] or any 3-unit course meeting ARC GE Area L6 (Ethnic Studies)

Semester 5 (Summer) 3 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
RE	COMM C1000[7] Introduction to Public Speaking	3		L1B

[7] or COMM 331

Semester 6 (Fall) 13 Units

- Only students who meet the pre-enrollment requirements and follow the pre-enrollment process will be considered for the program.
- The Funeral Service Education associate degree program at American River College is 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.

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	**FSE 297** Practicum in Funeral Service Education	5	(see below)	
Req	**FSE 365** Embalming II	2	FSE 350 and 360	
Req	**FSE 370** Funeral Service Counseling	3	FSE 350 and 360	
Req	**PSYC 390** Psychology of Death and Dying	3		

FSE 297 prerequisite: BUS 340, FSE 350 and FSE 360

H honors courses

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES		
Req	Required Core	A course that is required for this program
RE	Restricted Elective	A course selected from a list of elective courses specified for this program in the course list in the catalog, which can be replaced with another course from the same list

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