



Associate Degree in Funeral Service

Prepare for a rewarding career honoring life.

Goodwin University's associate degree in Funeral Service will prepare you for a rewarding, in-demand career in the field of funeral service. You will make a difference in the lives of families when they need it most. This esteemed service-oriented industry is looking for individuals just like you, who will ensure that the deceased are laid to rest with the utmost dignity and respect.

Goodwin University's Funeral Service program will train you to become a well-rounded industry professional, able to address funeral service processes from initial death call through to the final disposition of human remains. Our 65-credit program can be completed in as few as 24 months full-time, with part-time class options available. Coursework is offered in the evenings, comprised of on-campus lecture and laboratory training, as well as internship experience in the field.

You will gain real-world experience.

Internships are offered at funeral homes all across the state. Through your internship experience, you will gain exposure to embalming, restorative art, and business management. You are required a minimum of 180 hours at your internship, participation in ten embalming operations, as well as funeral directing, first calls, and removals.

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General Education Core - 22 credits		
ENG 101	English Composition	3
ENG 1XX	English Elective	3
CAP 1XX	Computer Literacy (CAP)	3
MATH 1XX	Mathematics (MATH)	3
BIO 120	Human Biology	4
PSY 315	Psychology of Death and Dying	3
	Humanities (HIS, PHIL, SPAN, HUM)	3
Non-Major Core Requirements - 13 credits		
ACC 101	Principles of Accounting I	3
BUS 101	Introduction to Management	3
SCI 124	Humans and Disease	3
BIO 235	Microbiology	4
Major Core Requirements - 30 credits		
First Semester		
FNS 202	Funeral Service Management and Communication	4
FNS 205	Restorative Art	4
Second Semester		
FNS 208	Funeral Service Law	3
FNS 218	Embalming I and Thanato-Chemistry	4
Third Semester		
FNS 216	Funeral Service History and Merchandising	4
FNS 219	Embalming II	3
Fourth Semester		
FNS 297	Funeral Service Internship	5
FNS 298	Funeral Service Seminar	3

Total Credits: 65

Admissions process

Our associate degree in Funeral Service is a selective admission program. Admission is based upon a point system, which is detailed in the Goodwin University catalog. You may apply into the program only after completion of all required prerequisite coursework.

Learn from faculty experts

Our Funeral Service faculty includes professors with decades of experience in funeral service, who are all members of the Connecticut Funeral Directors Association (CFDA) and the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) and actively working in the field.

Funeral service careers

Goodwin's associate degree in Funeral Service will prepare you to sit for the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. Upon successful completion of the Arts and Sciences sections of the boards, graduates will secure a one-year paid apprenticeship. Once you have completed your apprenticeship, you will be able to take your state board exam. Once you've passed your state board exam, you will be equipped for a career in funeral service as a:

- At-need and pre-need funeral arrangement consultant
- Funeral service practitioner
- Licensed embalmer
- Licensed funeral director
- Mortician
- Mortuary transporter

Goodwin University is a nonprofit institution of higher education and is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), formerly known as the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The Funeral Service Associate Degree Program at Goodwin University 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. ABFSE approved a change of sponsorship for Goodwin University to assume the accredited Mortuary Science Associate Degree program of Lincoln College of New England effective January 1, 2019. National Board Examination pass rates, graduation rates and employment rates for Lincoln College of New England and other ABFSE-accredited programs are available at www.abfse.org.

To request a printed copy of this program's pass rates, go to 211 Riverside Drive, East Hartford, CT to the office of Paula Dowd, Dean and Associate Professor in Health and Natural Sciences, or by email at pdowd@goodwin.edu or by telephone to 860.528.4111.