

# **Mortuary Science**

9200 Valley View St.

Cypress, CA

90630-5897

(714) 484-7278

The Mortuary Science Program at Cypress College prepares men and women for a career that cares for the dead and comforts the living. Students are prepared for employment as funeral directors and embalmers through courses in funeral service management, embalming, funeral directing, anatomy, restorative art, funeral service science fundamentals, funeral service counseling and mortuary law.

The Mortuary Science Department has been at Cypress College since 1977 and features the finest facilities, including on-site, up to date laboratories and instructional aids to help students develop and improve their personal and professional image. Some classes are held off campus in local funeral establishments; however, the majority of courses are taught on the Cypress College campus. Courses offered in the Mortuary Science Department are instructed by faculty members who are licensed embalmers and funeral directors in the State of California, with offices and classrooms in the Health Science Division, Tech Ed III Building.

## **Accreditation Statement**

Cypress College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, (3402 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa CA 95403; 707-569-9177), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. The college and its instructional programs are also approved by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and by the State Department of Education for training veterans. A college or university is accredited if it has been evaluated by recognized accreditors and determined by their peers to meet acceptance levels of educational quality. Courses offered at an accredited institution generally are transferable to other institutions and qualify for financial aid.

The Mortuary Science Degree Program at Cypress College is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097; Phone 816-233-3747. Web: <a href="https://www.abfse.org">www.abfse.org</a>. The ABFSE is the only agency recognized and approved by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit funeral service education programs. 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 <a href="https://www.abfse.org">www.abfse.org</a>. To request a printed copy of this program's rates, go to the Mortuary Science Department, Technical Education III Building, Room 215 or by e-mail



Division of Health Science

## **ACCREDITATION STATISTICS**

## **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Year	Total enrolled	# of New Students	# of Grads	Timely Grad*	Graduation rate	Did not finish**	Overall % Employed	Employed In FS
2017	111	59	27	20/27	46%	23	78%	78%
2016	102	55	29	22/29	53%	7	90%	62%
2015	71	64	43	35/43	90%	9	90%	96%

#### NATIONAL BOARD STATISTICS

3 year Average	% Pass Arts	% Pass Sciences
2017 - 2015	92%	95%
2016 - 2014	95%	95%
2015 - 2013	96%	97%

- \* Timely graduation: complete program in 1.5 times designated program length
- \*\* Left before completing the program

#### **NATIONAL BOARD EXAMINATION - ARTS**

Year	First-Time Test Takers	First-Time Test Takers who passed	Passing Rate
2017	28	24	86%
2016	29	27	93%
2015	40	38	95%
2014	28	27	96%

#### NATIONAL BOARD EXAMINATION - SCIENCES

Year	First-Time Test Takers	First-Time Test Takers who passed	Passing Rate
2017	28	27	96%
2016	29	28	96%
2015	40	37	93%
2014	28	27	96%

#### PROGRAM AIMS

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

- 1. As members of a human service profession;
- 2. As members of the community in which they serve;
- 3. As participants in the relationship between bereaved families and those engaged in the funeral service profession;
- 4. As professionals knowledgeable of and compliant with federal, state, and local regulatory guidelines and;
- 5. As professionals sensitive to the responsibility for public health, safety and welfare in caring for human remains.

## **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 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 research in the field of funeral service;
- 7. To qualify students for professional licensure examination.

#### ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE

Upon successful completion of the Mortuary Science major coursework, the general education requirements, and the National Board Examination, the student will be eligible for an Associate in Science Degree in Mortuary Science. Graduation from the ASMS Degree Program will enable students to write the California Embalmer's Examination and the California Funeral Director's Examination.

Many out-of-state licensing agencies require successful completion of the ASMS Degree and compliance with statutory pre-mortuary science requirements of the state in question. Eligibility to write the licensing examinations in some states may be contingent upon compliance with additional statutory requirements in those states. These requirements may also include apprenticeship/internship/residency and examination. Check with the Mortuary Science Department regarding particular states.

## MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR APPLICANTS

## Effective Fall 2014:

- 1. Eligibility for admission to Cypress College.
- 2. Official high school transcript, GED test with an average score of 450 on the five-test battery, or high school proficiency examination.
- 3. Evidence of good physical and mental health.
- 4. Completion of English 100C College Writing with a letter grade of "C" or better.
- 5. Completion of BIOL 210C Anatomy & Physiology (WITH LAB) or completion of BIOL 231C Anatomy (WITH LAB) with a letter grade of "C" or better within the last 5 years.
- 6. Completion of MATH 040 Intermediate Algebra or higher with a letter "C" grade or better.
- 7. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all college courses attempted.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

1. Applications must be completed **online**. Please see the "How to Apply" link on the Health Science home page.

http://www.cypresscollege.edu/academics/divisions-special-programs/health-science/

- 2. A total of 30 new students are selected for each fall semester. Applicants may exceed the available seat space. Applicants will be selected using a point system based on completed General Education/ Graduation requirements at the time of application and the date of completed application.
- 3. Applicants must submit signature page of application in person or by US mail. Please bring photo ID.
  - □ Official high school transcripts, GED or High School Proficiency sent directly from the institution you attended.
  - □ Official transcripts (EXCEPT CYPRESS AND FULLERTON COLLEGES) sent directly from the institution you attended.

Health Science Applications Office
Health Science Building/TE3-217
Cypress College
9200 Valley View St.
Cypress, CA 90630-5897

## **APPLICATION DEADLINES**

Applications and supporting documentation must be received between **September 1** and **March 31** for Fall enrollment.

Application deadlines may be extended depending on space availability. Visit the "How to Apply" link on the Health Science home page for current application dates:

http://www.cypresscollege.edu/academics/divisions-special-programs/health-science/

## COURSE MAJOR CURRICULUM

The Mortuary Science Program courses that make up the full time two-year Associate in Science program are listed below:

Semester I (Fall)

MORT 201C MORT 202C MORT 203C	Funeral Directing Funeral Service Administration I Methods of Disposition	5 <sup>†</sup> 4 4 [ <b>13</b> ]
Semester II (S MORT 204C MORT 214C MORT 234C	pring) Funeral Service Administration II Funeral Service Sciences Funeral Service Ethics and Laws I	4 5 4 [ <b>13</b> ]
Intersession (S	<u>summer/Winter)</u>	6 <sup>†</sup>
MORT 248C	Funeral Service Thanatology	[ <b>6</b> ]
Semester III (F	Fall)	5
MORT 215C	Embalming	4
MORT 236C	Funeral Service Ethics and Laws II	<b>[9]</b>
Semester IV (S	Spring)	5
MORT 216C	Restorative Art	4
MORT 288C	Funeral Service Capstone	<b>[9]</b>
	ion Categories A through E** I Diversity and Reading Proficiency	[25]

TOTAL UNITS Required for	75
Graduation	75

Note: MORT 288C must be taken in the last semester prior to graduation.

- † Requires funeral home clinical site.
- \*\* See listing in college catalog.

## CYPRESS COLLEGE

Located in northwest Orange County, near Los Angeles, California, Cypress College is a dynamic, top-quality publicly supported institution of higher learning offering degree programs. Students at Cypress College can earn an Associate Degree, prepare for transfer to a four-year institution or retrain for career changes.

The faculty at Cypress College is dedicated to providing the best education possible, by helping all students learn about themselves and the world as well as specific academic and professional disciplines. The college also offers numerous support services to all students, and the community offers numerous opportunities for part-time employment.

The Cypress College campus consists of multi-level buildings on 11 acres. Extensive landscaping enhances the attractiveness of the campus, which also includes a beautiful campus lake, numerous trees and grassy knolls where students can study and enjoy the comfortable California climate at the same time. Cypress College is located near Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm is a short drive from the mountain recreation areas and Pacific Ocean. Students have year round opportunities for relaxation and recreation.

The campus is also served by regularly scheduled bus service and has ample parking for students who drive their own cars. Numerous apartments and shopping centers are also in the immediate area.

## **EXPENSES**

Textbooks, Supplies, Equipment and Examinations: Textbook, supplies and laboratory equipment for individual use are required in the program and vary from year to year. The National Board Examination fee may be obtained from the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc. or by visiting their website (www.theconferenceonline.org). The California Department of Consumer Affairs Cemetery and Funeral Bureau regulates the California Embalmer's and Funeral Director's examination. The fee for those exams may be obtained from the Bureau's website (www.cfb.ca.gov).

Non-Resident Tuition: Students who have been determined to be non-residents of California shall be required to pay a non-resident tuition fee per semester unit plus the regular student enrollment fee. These fees vary from year to year so any out-of-state person interested in attending Cypress College should call the Office of Admission and Records for a quote of the current fees.

ENROLLMENT FEES: While all efforts have been made to present complete and accurate fee information, uncertainties in state funding may result in fee changes. See the Cypress College Schedule of Classes or the official school website (www.cypresscollege.edu) for current information.

HEALTH FEE: Pursuant to the Education Code of California and District policy, Cypress College has a mandatory health fee. The health fee is currently a nominal fee for each student regardless of the number of units the student might be taking. See catalog for exemptions.

CAMPUS ID CARD: There is a \$2.50 non-refundable service fee for campus ID Card. This fee is payable at time of registration.

Parking: Only those students who wish to use campus parking are required to pay the optional parking fee.

## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Each graduate of the Mortuary Science Program at Cypress College has great opportunities for success and financial independence in service to others. Those who enter the funeral service profession gain the skills and satisfaction that comes from bringing strength and comfort to families during their time of need as well as to the community as a whole.

Funeral directors do more than sell caskets. They know more than just how to create a memorable service. Funeral directors are professionals who show others by example how to respect the deceased and maintain proper dignity, compassion, and efficiency in service to humankind. They are protectors of public health, working with people of all ages and ethnicities.

Caring for people is what life is all about, and in Funeral Service, there are numerous opportunities for those who believe that they have something to give. A career in Mortuary Science is for a caring professional who wishes to share his or her knowledge and compassion.

The North Orange County Community College District, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State Laws, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, religion, disability, sex, or sexual orientation in any of its policies, procedures, or practices. The district is also committed to maintaining campuses that are free of harassment, drugs and alcohol.