



*This is the
Mortuary Science section of the
2002-2004 Undergraduate Catalog
for the University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities campus.*

Mortuary Science

General Information	220
Admission	220
Orientation	221
Policies	221
Graduation Requirements	221
Certification/Licensure	221
Advising	221
Resources	221
Student Organization	221
Contact Information	221

Degree Program

B.S.	222
-----------	-----



Mortuary Science

General Information

The Program of Mortuary Science at the University of Minnesota, established in 1908, was the first program of its kind in this country to be organized at a state university. During the first 50 years of its existence, the program grew from a 6-week session to a 36-week course of study. In 1951, a two-year curriculum leading to the associate in mortuary science degree was approved. The course of study for the associate degree was expanded to three years in 1955. The bachelor of science degree with a major in mortuary science, granted upon satisfactory completion of a four-year curriculum, was approved by the Board of Regents in 1968. Impetus for the changes in program length and academic credentials resulted from changes in the philosophy and needs of the funeral service profession. Currently, the Program of Mortuary Science is part of the Medical School. The program is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education, an agency recognized by the United States Office of Education, and the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc.

Aims and Purposes

Upon completing the curriculum requirements, the graduate will have received a solid liberal arts foundation; synthesized the psychosocial aspects of grief and the funeral directing arts; developed technical competence in applying funeral service sciences; and identified business, legal, and ethical principles related to funeral service practice.

Objectives

The objectives of the program recognize an obligation to students, the profession, and the community. They have been adopted with respect to requirements of the Program of Mortuary Science, the University of Minnesota, the American Board of Funeral Service Education, the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc., and the Minnesota Department of Health.

Upon completing the curriculum requirements for a bachelor of science degree with a major in mortuary science, the graduate will have identified and applied principles and theoretical concepts in the following areas:

- public health
- business
- natural sciences
- ethics
- behavioral science
- law

In addition, program graduates will have met the educational requirements prescribed by the American Board of Funeral Service Education; and requirements to become eligible for admittance to the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc. National Board Examination.

Admission

Students usually enter the Program of Mortuary Science at the start of their junior year. Freshmen and sophomores interested in a mortuary science major are urged to contact the program office at A275 Mayo, MMC 740, 420 Delaware Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455, for counsel in planning an appropriate preprofessional program. On the Twin Cities campus, freshmen and sophomores usually register in the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) or General College (GC) for their premortuary science work. Admission criteria and other information related to CLA and GC can be found in their respective college sections in this catalog. Applicants transferring from any regionally accredited college or university are given the same consideration as those who transfer from within the University. Applicants seeking admission to the Program of Mortuary Science who will be earning their first baccalaureate degree must have completed:

- the University of Minnesota high school preparation requirements (see Freshman Admission in the General Information section of this catalog).
- 60 semester credits with grades of A, B, C, or S from a regionally accredited college or university.
- prerequisite coursework with a GPA of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale.
- the preprofessional requirements of the Program of Mortuary Science—(a) at least one course in each of the areas of English composition, introduction to computers, a course which satisfies the mathematical thinking core requirement, general biology, accounting, general psychology, general chemistry with laboratory, a course which satisfies the historical perspectives core requirement, introduction to sociology, speech, microbiology, human anatomy plus (b) sufficient electives to total 60 credits. (Students who already have a bachelor's degree may be exempt from certain preprofessional requirements.)

Prospective students who have completed a college degree or have more than 60 semester credits should consult their adviser to determine the most appropriate academic term for admission. A student who has completed all of the admission requirements, liberal education requirements, and upper division electives may be able to complete degree requirements in three semesters.

Liberal Education Requirements

For University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus liberal education requirements, see page 31 of this catalog.

Students entering the Program of Mortuary Science who have already completed a bachelor's degree, or have completed the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, are exempt from the liberal education requirements but must meet all other admission requirements.

Application Procedure

Transfer Within the University—Students already admitted and registered at one college or campus of the University of Minnesota must submit an *Application for Change of College* form, available from the One Stop Student Services Center on any campus. Application deadlines for internal transfer are March 1 for fall semester admission, October 1 for spring semester admission, and April 15 for summer session admission.

Transfer From Outside the University—Those who have completed their preprofessional work at another university must apply for admission to the University of Minnesota. Transfer students should obtain the *Application for Undergraduate Admission* from the Office of Admissions, University of Minnesota, 240 Williamson Hall, 231 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612-625-2008); complete the form; and return it to that office. An official transcript from each institution outside the University where college work was attempted or completed must be sent to the Office of Admissions. A nonrefundable application fee is also required.

Orientation

Various orientation activities are offered to help students get acquainted with one another, the campus, and the program. These activities include individual and group meetings for program planning, and presentations on University resources and regulations. Students are notified of orientation dates at the time they receive registration information.

Policies

Credit Load

Most students take about 15 credits of coursework each semester. To take fewer than 12 credits per semester requires permission from the Student Scholastic Standing Committee. Registration for more than 18 credits per semester must also be approved by this committee.

Scholastic Progress

The scholastic probation system identifies, advises, and, if necessary, expels students who are having problems meeting academic standards.

Students' work is considered unsatisfactory when they earn less than a C grade average (2.00 GPA) for all credits earned in a given semester or a given year.

If a student receives unsatisfactory grades in more than one course, either concurrently or in different academic terms, the matter is referred to the Student Scholastic Standing Committee for investigation and action. The student ordinarily is placed on probation. The student is then required to make a contract with the Student Scholastic Standing Committee, agreeing to complete a specified number of credits during the following academic term with grades of C or better. If terms of the contract are not fulfilled, the student may be declared academically ineligible to continue in the program.

Students may be expelled from the program for one of the following reasons:

Dropped for Low Scholarship—Students who fail to meet the terms of their probation.

Hold for Committee Clearance—Students who have scholastic difficulties that indicate they should interrupt their studies for the time being even though their record may not require official drop action.

The Student Scholastic Standing Committee must approve a subsequent return to the program in such cases.

A student admitted to the program on probation must achieve satisfactory academic status during the first academic term of enrollment.

Graduation Requirements

To be recommended for the bachelor of science degree with a major in mortuary science, students must complete the University's graduation requirements (see Policies section). In addition, students complete a minimum of 120 credits outlined in Degree Requirements.

Certification/Licensure

Students planning to practice in a state other than Minnesota should determine the qualifications for licensure by writing to the licensing agency in the state in which they intend to practice. These regulations vary from state to state, are frequently changed, and students should make certain they have accurate information. **National Certification**—Program of Mortuary Science graduates are eligible to take the National Board Examination for Mortuary Science. The program arranges to have the test given on campus by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards.

Advising

Advisers assist students with program and career planning. It is recommended that the student's academic advisers approve student registrations for each academic term.

Resources

For information concerning financial aid available to all University students, visit the Office of Student Finance. Students may obtain materials for mortuary science scholarships by contacting the Program of Mortuary Science, University of Minnesota, MMC 740, 420 Delaware Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455 (phone 612-624-6464; fax 612-626-4163). Offices are located at A275 Mayo Memorial Building, 401 Church Street S.E.

Student Organization

Student Association of the Program of Mortuary Science—Mortuary science majors automatically become members of this association, a forum for expressing student opinion and developing a liaison between students and faculty, and an organization to foster and support mortuary science education.

Contact Information

Program of Mortuary Science, University of Minnesota, MMC 740, 420 Delaware Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455 (phone 612-624-6464; fax 612-626-4163; e-mail mortsci@umn.edu). Offices are located at A275 Mayo Memorial Building, 401 Church Street S.E.

The Program of Mortuary Science is the only program in the world housed in a medical school at a major research institution.

Mortuary Science

Degree Program

B.S.

The program combines coursework in basic and behavioral sciences, business, and liberal arts. Students usually enter the program at the beginning of their junior year.

Degree Requirements

Students must complete at least 120 credits to graduate, including at least 56 credits in the major. All courses must be completed with A, B, C, or S grades. The 120 credits include admission, preprofessional, liberal education, and required mortuary science courses.

For students earning their first baccalaureate degree, a minimum of 60 credits must be earned at 3xxx or higher. Students must also satisfy the University's writing intensive course requirement. At least four courses in a student's program must be classified as writing intensive (courses with a "W" following the course number), two (or more) of which must be at 3xxx or higher. Students also are responsible for satisfying the University's liberal education requirements.

For students who have completed their first baccalaureate degree from an accredited college, admission with advanced standing status is often possible. These individuals, as well as those who have completed the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, are exempt from the liberal education requirements, but must meet all other admission and degree requirements as outlined by the University and the program of mortuary science.

A typical schedule for a student matriculating into the program as a junior is outlined below. Please note that students who apply for spring semester admission, or those who apply having already completed their first baccalaureate degree, would likely plan a different schedule that takes into consideration their previous coursework and other academic preparation.

Junior Year

Fall Semester

Mort 3005—History of Funeral Service (2 cr)
Mort 3012—Organization and Management of Funeral Business (3 cr)
Mort 3021W—Funeral Service Psychology (3 cr)
Mort 3379—Clinical Funeral Service Rotation (2 cr)
Phar 1002—Health Sciences Terminology (2 cr)
Electives/other courses

Spring Semester

InMd 3002/3302—Human Anatomy Laboratory (1 cr)
Mort 3016—Funeral Service Marketing and Merchandising (3 cr)
Mort 3022W—Funeral Service Counseling (3 cr)
Mort 3379—Funeral Service Clinical Rotation (2 cr)
PubH 3001—Personal and Community Health (2 cr)
Electives/other courses

Senior Year

Fall Semester

Mort 3014—Funeral Service Rules and Regulations (3 cr)
Mort 3025—Mortuary and Business Law (3 cr)
Mort 3051—Restorative Art (2 cr)
Mort 3061—Embalming Theory (3 cr)
Mort 3151—Restorative Art Laboratory (1 cr)
Mort 3161—Embalming Laboratory (1 cr)
Electives/other courses

Spring Semester

Mort 3018—Funeral Practice (3 cr)
Mort 3050—Embalming Pathology (3 cr)
Mort 3055W—Complicated Grief (3 cr)
Mort 3065—Embalming Chemistry (2 cr)
Mort 3370—Funeral Service Seminar (1 cr)
Electives/other courses

Summer Session

Mort 3380—Funeral Service Practicum (8 cr)

Elective Courses within the Major

Mort 3090—Independent Study in Funeral Service (non-writing intensive) (1-4 cr)
Mort 3091W—Independent Study in Funeral Service (writing intensive) (1-3 cr)

Final Project

Mort 3380—Funeral Service Practicum

In addition to (a minimum of) two semesters of clinical rotations at the start of their academic program, all students are required to complete an off-campus practicum following the completion of all other degree requirements. The practicum requires 320 clock hours of work at a University-affiliated mortuary and typically lasts for eight weeks. As with all clinical rotations, students are not allowed to be paid for the hours they work at their training sites and should budget accordingly when planning their academic program.

