

Course Description

FSE2106 | Funeral Service Microbiology | 3.00 credits

This course is a survey of the basic principles of microbiology as it relates to Funeral Science. It emphasizes the importance of sanitation, disinfection, and public health in the embalming practice.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will be able to explain the basic microbial morphology and physiology by:

- 1. Describing the size and shape of spherical (coccus) rod (bacillus) and spiral organisms
- 2. Describing the arrangements of cocci and bacilli organisms

Competency 2: The student will be able to explain the physiology of bacteria by:

- 1. Describing their typical reproduction
- 2. Describing the conditions that affect bacterial growth

Competency 3: The student will be able to explain the levels of controlling microorganisms in the preparation room by:

- 1. Describing the differences between sterilization, disinfection, and antiseptic treatment
- Demonstrating the methods of controlling microorganisms through scrubbing, incineration, and dry and moist heat disinfection
- 3. Demonstrating the methods of controlling microorganisms through chemical disinfectants
- 4. Demonstrating the use of disinfectants that are suitable for mortuary procedures

Competency 4: The student will be able to describe microorganisms and disease by:

- 1. Explaining the terminology for microorganisms and disease
- 2. Describing the various types and sources of infection and factors influencing virulence

Competency 5: The student will be able to demonstrate how to protect him/herself from contagious diseases by:

- 1. Explaining OSHA regulations in the preparation room
- 2. Explaining the portals of entry and exit of infectious diseases
- 3. Explaining the vehicles exiting pathogens

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment

Updated: Fall 2025