

Mortuary Science

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The Mortuary Science Program, coordinated by the Natural Sciences Department, leads to an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree and career preparation as a funeral service practitioner.

The funeral service practitioner has responsibility for reposing and burial procedures carried out according to statutes, religious codes, and traditions. This includes embalming, restorative arts, and coordinating services. Students in the Mortuary Science Program are given both a theoretical and a practical understanding of funeral home operation and are taught the public health roles of the funeral director and embalmer.

Mortuary Science is a joint program between LaGuardia Community College and the American Academy-McAllister Institute in Manhattan. AAMI is nationally accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education.

Students spend their first year at LaGuardia completing 27 liberal arts and unrestricted elective credits. The second year of the program is taught at AAMI, where the necessary practical training and coursework in mortuary science are completed. At AAMI, students earn an additional 33 credits, completing the requirements for the AAS degree (courses taken at AAMI are not listed in the LaGuardia catalog). Graduates serve residencies at funeral homes, and take the National Funeral Services Board Examination for New York State Licensure.

During their first year at LaGuardia, students pay all tuition and fees to the college bursar; during the second year at AAMI, the students pay AAMI tuition charges to the AAMI bursar.

Students who need additional skill development in reading, writing, mathematics, and communication will be required to take basic skills and/or ESL courses. These courses are not listed in the curriculum. The particular courses students must successfully complete are determined by their scores on the college placement test. When basic skills courses or ESL are required, they are included in the program in place of unrestricted elective courses. For more information on basic skills requirements, see page 175.

Descriptions of courses in this major can be found on page 163.

Mortuary Science Curriculum: AAS Degree

Counseling	
New Student Seminar	0
English: 6 credits	
Composition I ENC/G101	3
Writing Through Literature ENG102	3
Humanities: 3 credits	
Oral Communication HUC101	3
Natural Sciences: 12 credits	
Fundamentals of Biology I SCB201	4
Fundamentals of Biology II SCB202	4
Foundations of Chemistry SCC210	4
Social Science: 6 credits	
Introduction to Sociology SSS100	3
General Psychology SSY101	3
Mortuary Science Courses: 33 credits	
<i>(to be taken at the American Academy-McAllister Institute of Funeral Service, Inc.)</i>	
Accounting 101	
Anatomy 131, 132, 133	
Business Law 101	
Chemistry 121, 122	
Clinical Embalming 122	
Computer Application to Funeral Service 101	
Funeral Service Principles 121, 122	
General Psychology & Dynamics of Grief 101	
History of Funeral Service 101	
Microbiology 121, 122	
Mortuary Law 101	
Pathology 121, 122	
Principles of Counseling the Bereaved 101	
Principles of Embalming 132, 133	
Professional Ethics 101	
Restorative Arts 121, 122	
Small Business Management 122	
State Rules and Regulations 101	
Thanatology and Society 101	

TOTAL CREDITS: 60

Notes:

- >Students must have a minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA to be considered for transfer to the second year of the program at the American Academy-McAllister Institute.
- >Students should consult with a counselor and/or faculty advisor in the selection of elective courses to ensure maximum transferability of credits taken.