

Miami Dade College
FSE 1105 – Funeral Service Chemistry

Course Description: A survey of the basic principles of chemistry as they relate to Funeral Service. Especially stressed are the chemical principles and precautions involved in sanitation, disinfection, public health and embalming practice.

3 Credits

Prerequisites and Corequisites: None

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will define the potentially harmful chemicals used in the preparation room by:

- a. listing the major hazardous chemicals and how they could effect the embalmer.
- b. explaining the hazards of mixing formaldehyde and sodium hypochlorate together.
- c. explaining how hazardous materials are to be maintained in the prep room.

Competency 2: The student will be able to specify the representative embalming chemical used in the preparation room by:

- a. listing the major ingredients in arterial, cavity and accessory fluids.
- b. explaining how and when the various types of arterial fluids should be used.
- c. describing the various types of accessory embalming chemicals and how they can be used to enhance the embalming process.

Competency 3: Students will explain the characteristics of carbohydrates, proteins and lipids by:

- a. relating how the above compounds are effected by decomposition.
- b. describing how formaldehyde reacts with them.