

Miami Dade College
FSE 2061 – Thanatology

Course Description: This course is the study of psychological and sociological dynamics of death, dying and bereavement. Dynamics of counseling are demonstrated through role playing video critique and analysis.

3 Credits

Prerequisites and Corequisites: None

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will describe the application and purpose of sociology in Funeral Service by:

- a. defining the funeral rite as a social function.
- b. identifying the phenomena that occur at the time of death to make the funeral rite a cultural universal.

Competency 2: The student will discuss the types of family structure in America by:

- a. identifying five types of family units.
- b. identifying how each family unit will react to a death of a loved one.

Competency 3: The student will examine the issues dealing with children and death by:

- a. explaining how each age group views death.
- b. explaining how family, friends, and the funeral director should relate to each of the age groups when they have encountered death.

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate basic skills and techniques utilized in counseling and their application in Funeral Service by:

- a. role playing as funeral directors and family.
- b. developing counseling techniques that are comfortable for the student to use in the future.