

## FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE

## COLLEGE CREDIT COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE NUMBER: FSE 2061

COURSE TITLE: Thanatology

PREREQUISITE(S): None

COREQUISITE(S): None

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOURS/WEEK: 3

## CONTACT HOUR BREAKDOWN:

Lecture/Discussion: 3

Laboratory:

Other \_\_\_\_\_:

FACULTY WORKLOAD POINTS: 3

STANDARDIZED CLASS SIZE  
ALLOCATION: 25

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course emphasizes the psychological and sociological dynamics of death, dying, and bereavement and the funeral director's role in counseling families through the process. Students will study the symbolic and ritualistic aspects of funerals and their impacts upon the emotional experience of the bereaved. A clear understanding of the grief process and its variations among individuals as influenced by psychological factors is addressed. The course also addresses the funeral director as a facilitating agent for effective mourning through personal interaction and the design and implementation of the funeral.

SUGGESTED TEXT(S): Canine, J. (1996). The psychological aspects of death and dying. Stanford, CT: Appleton & Lange. (Latest Edition)

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Spring Term, 2002

REVIEW OR MODIFICATION DATE: Fall Term, 2002 (20031)  
Fall Term, 2008 (20091) - Outline Review 2007

COURSE TOPICS	CONTACT HOURS <u>PER TOPIC</u>
I. Psychological and sociological dynamics of death and dying	4
II. Psychology of Funeral Service	6
III. Sociology of Funeral Service	6
IV. Family Structure and the Effects of Death	3
V. Understanding Death and Death Attitudes	4
VI. Stages of Grief	6
VII. Consideration of Special Circumstances (i.e. Traumatic/Accidental Death; Suicide; Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; Death of Children, Parents and Pets; Hospice; and Euthanasia)	9
VIII. Burnout and Stress	4
IX. Effective Communication Techniques	3

PROGRAM TITLE: Funeral Services

COURSE TITLE: Thanatology

CIP NUMBER: CIP: 1312030100 (AS); CIP: 0312030100 (AAS)

## LIST PERFORMANCE STANDARD ADDRESSED:

NUMBER(S):            TITLES(S):

- 08.0 TAKE CARE OF THE DEAD IN A MANNER WHICH RECOGNIZES THE INHERENT DIGNITY OF MAN --  
The student will be able to:
- 08.01 Give evidence of respect for human remains
- 10.0 INTERPRET AND COMMUNICATE THE PURPOSES, PROCEDURES, AND VALUES OF FUNERAL SERVICES -- The student will be able to:
- 10.01 Identify the purposes, which the funeral serves for the family, friends, church, occupational associates, and community of the deceased.
- 10.02 Identify the values of the funeral.
- 10.03 Define common terms used in funeral services.
- 10.04 Identify the psychological purposes and values of the funeral.
- 10.05 Identify the sociological purposes and values of the funeral.
- 10.06 Organize and be prepared to deliver a speech on the purposes and values of the funeral.
- 10.07 Identify the philosophical purposes and values of funeral service.
- 11.0 COUNSEL PEOPLE REGARDING FUNERALIZATION -- The student will be able to:
- 11.02 Identify the times or situations during which a funeral director will make use of counseling.
- 11.03 State the areas of counseling normally covered during funeralizations.
- 11.05 Describe contemporary opinions regarding psychology of death, grief, and bereavement.
- 11.06 Describe how the manner and cause of death affects the psychological needs of the bereaved.
- 11.07 List the information of importance to obtain during each type of counseling situation.
- 11.10 Describe contemporary opinions regarding sociology of death, grief, and bereavement.
- 11.11 Describe three or more types of counseling techniques applicable to funeral services and give reasons for the use of each in individual circumstances.
- 11.12 Describe recent developments pertaining to the theologies of death, grief and bereavement.
- 11.14 Identify and describe stages of dying.
- 12.0 PLAN, IMPLEMENT, AND DIRECT A FUNERAL ACCORDING TO THE SOCIOLOGICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND THEOLOGICAL NEEDS OF THE PERSON BEING SERVED -- The student will be able to:
- 12.01 Develop a warm, friendly and tactful attitude towards the family at the first meeting.
- 12.04 Identify the information to be secured from, and given to, the family upon initial family contact.
- 12.07 Identify the items and considerations usually included in the arrangement conference.

## LIST PERFORMANCE STANDARD ADDRESSED: (CONTINUED)

NUMBER(S):	TITLES(S):
12.09	Identify the appropriate times usually considered necessary to meet the funeral needs of those being served.
12.10	Identify the consideration normally involved in setting the order for the processional and recessional of a funeral service including casket, casket bearer, children, clergy, friends, fraternal orders, funeral directors, honorary bearers, next of kin, relatives and service organization.
12.11	Describe the multiple steps required between initial notification of death and removal of the deceased when the bereaved are not present at the time of death, regardless of the place or manner of death - including, but not limited to, the funeral director's determination of the need for a personal conference and/or counseling of the bereaved prior to the funeral arrangement conference.
12.14	Identify the reasons, which require a discussion involving the family, the officiating clergyman, and the funeral director regarding visitation hours, time of funeral, and other aspects of the service.
12.17	Identify the purpose and content of preselection counseling.
12.19	Describe considerations involved in the dignified movement of casketed remains.
12.20	State considerations for determining the order of the funeral procession.
12.22	Identify the psychological and sociological value of the funeral arrangement conference.
12.23	Identify methods of dealing with inter-personal conflicts among family members.

