Pre-Mortuary Science is the track for a career as a funeral director and/or embalmer. The funeral director counsels families and next of kin with regard to the funeral service and the burial, disposition, or cremation of a deceased human body. The funeral director may also maintain a funeral establishment. The embalmer prepares deceased human bodies for funeral services and obtains burial or removal permits. Pre-Mortuary Science students work one to one with an advisor to reach their goals, and they do not need to choose a major while at Nebraska.

The Difference

WHAT IS PRE-MORTUARY SCIENCE?

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HOW TO GET THERE

1. Complete prerequisite courses at UNL (60 credit hours)
2. Complete a full course of instruction at an accredited mortuary science program
3. Successfully complete examinations to be a licensed funeral director and/or embalmer
4. Complete an apprenticeship
5. Become a funeral director or embalmer
6. Meet with your Pre-Health Advisor at New Student Enrollment
7. Apply for professional mortuary science programs
8. Become a funeral director or embalmer

OUR STUDENTS

“The Explore Center gave me the tools to make decisions for myself and feel confident that I will succeed in my future Pre-Health endeavors. They have helped me enjoy my time at UNL by encouraging me to study what I love, but also complete my Pre-Health requirements.” - Alex, ’19

UNL graduates more healthcare professionals than any other school in Nebraska
UNL students are accepted to professional health schools at higher rates than the national average

Encourage and inspire freshmen students by being a Pre-Health Peer Mentor
GET PAID TO DO RESEARCH AS AN UNDERGRAD
Live and learn with Pre-Health peers in a learning community
Share your Pre-Health story by becoming an Explore Center Ambassador
INTRO TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS COURSE
Become an undergraduate teaching assistant or tutor for important Pre-Health science courses
SUGGESTED COURSES

Required Course Work* | MIN. #
---|---
English Composition | 2
Accounting | 2
Psychology | 2
Biological Sciences with Labs
  - Must be relating to the human body | 3
Chemistry with Labs | 2

Required & Recommended Courses Only

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Chemistry I w/lab</td>
<td>General Chemistry II w/lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Composition I</td>
<td>English Composition II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Science course w/lab</td>
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<td>Accounting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounting I</td>
<td>Psychology II</td>
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* Specific requirements listed are those for licensure for the State of Nebraska. Students should contact the specific mortuary science program regarding course requirements for the school’s associate degree.

Note: Since students attending a mortuary science program will earn an associate’s degree, a baccalaureate degree from UNL is not required prior to admission. UNL offers coursework required at the undergraduate level as specified by the State of Nebraska licensure requirements for funeral directing and embalming. These hours must be earned in addition to a full course of instruction in a school of mortuary science; hours earned as part of the mortuary degree or diploma cannot be used towards meeting these 60 hours.

Professional School Requirements:

- **Undergraduate Credit:**
  60 hours

- **Entrance Exam:**
  None

- **Professional Schooling:**
  Associate’s Degree

- **Local Professional Schools:**
  None in Nebraska; Regionally - Kansas City, KS; Des Moines, IA; St. Louis, MO