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Mortuary Law and Ethics

MORT2700 301

Instructor Information

Phone:
Email:
Office Location:
Office Hours
Best Time to Contact:

Course Description

Business/legal principles affecting mortuary practice are surveyed with specific emphasis on business organizational forms, law of sales, funeral disclosure rules, and the legal duties of a funeral service provider. Funeral service ethics are emphasized.

Prereq: MORT 1100

Semester: Spring

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Identify situations where legal and other professional services are required for death planning and estate administration.

- Differentiate and interpret funeral service law terminology used in various legal aspects of operating and working in a funeral home.
- Identify and evaluate legal issues to avoid liability.
- Identify specific situational rules and regulations affecting funeral service.
- Explain legal relationships, rights, duties and liabilities between the funeral director and/or embalmer, the deceased, and the consumer.
- Describe funeral director responsibilities to client-families, the decedent, the public, governmental agencies, and peers.
- Explain funeral service ethics.
- Interpret and explain the rules and requirements of the Federal Trade Commission as they relate to funeral service.
- Apply appropriate principles of business law applicable to funeral home operations, and identify the rights and responsibilities of client families.
- Distinguish between legal and ethical issues in funeral service.
- Compare and differentiate the various documents which are required to be completed in funeral service.
- Apply appropriate ethical behavior in funeral service and in his/her professional conduct.
- Identify and discuss ethical issues and practices in funeral service.

Course Prerequisites

Prereq: MORT 2400 and MORT 2405 and MORT 2600 and MORT 2605

Class Schedule

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|----------|---|-----------------|--------|
| | FTC Study Guide/Worksheet | Assignment | 50 |
| | Suggestion Box | Discussion | 0 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|-----------------|--|------------------------|---------------|
| 1/29 | Utah State Law Exam | Quiz | 100 |
| 1/30 | Utah State Law Case Study | Assignment | 20 |
| 2/1 | Utah State Law Case Study Presentation | Assignment | 10 |
| 2/20 | Midterm Exam | Quiz | 100 |
| 2/20 | Current Events Sumamry | Assignment | 20 |
| 2/22 | Current Events Presentation | Assignment | 10 |
| 3/12 | Ethics Case Topic Due | Assignment | 5 |
| 3/19 | Business Law Vocabulary Exam | Quiz | 80.5 |
| 3/21 | Ethics Case Presentation | Assignment | 15 |
| 3/21 | Ethics Case Paper | Assignment | 100 |
| 4/11 | Funeral Service Law and Ethics Vocabulary Exam | Quiz | 77 |
| 4/11 | Bernie Ethical Response | Assignment | 50 |
| 4/21 | Extra Credit Opportunity- up to 15 points | Assignment | 0 |
| 4/21 | Extra Credit Opportunity- up to 15 points | Assignment | 0 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|----------|---|-----------------|--------|
| 4/21 | Extra Credit Opportunity- up to 15 points | Assignment | 0 |
| 4/23 | In Class Final | Assignment | 25 |
| 5/8 | Attendance/Professionalism | Assignment | 30 |

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Current Events Presentation

You will present information pertaining to a legal and/or ethical issue pertaining to funeral service

- Needs to have happened or been a topic of concern from the past 5 years
- You can share anything you have learned that can help you or the industry
- Tell how it negatively/positively affected those involved and/or funeral service in general
- If it's an ethical issue, present different viewpoints, then tell which you would choose and why
- PowerPoint is optional - if you use one, please bring on a thumb drive
- Presentation, including time for classroom discussion, should take 5 - 10 minutes

FTC Presentation

You will be divided into groups to analyze the FTC Rules and give a presentation on your understanding of Federal trade Commission rules & regulations

- Be prepared to discuss/teach every part since your section will be assigned to your group on the day of your presentation

- You will need to demonstrate that you are familiar with and understand the information

Ethics Case Paper

You will select and write about a funeral ethics topic/situation that actually happened (MUST BE APPROVED BEFORE YOU BEGIN) • First page sets up the ethical issue to be discussed. Either relate the facts or create a fictional scenario • Following pages (3 – 5 pages) address each of the Steps for Ethical Problem Solving found below • The paper must double-space, 12 pt. font, paragraph format, 1” margins, Times New Roman font – Content of paper to start no further than 2” down on the first page

Grading Scale

100-95 = A

94-90 = A-

89-87 = B+

86-83 = B

82-80 = B-

79-78 = C+

77-75 = C

74-71 = C-

70-67 = D+

66-64 = D

63 and below =E

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

Additional Policies

Students are expected to be prepared, attend, and actively participate in all classroom, laboratory, clinical, and field trip activities. Attendance is vital to be successful in the SLCC Mortuary Science Program. Absences interfere with one's ability to meet required class /lab course objectives. Participation can only be attained by being present in class. Students can receive 150 participation points in each program course that meets twice a week and 75 participation points in each program course that meets once a week. Absences and tardies due to work obligations are not excused. A student will be marked tardy for being late to class or for returning late from a break. It is up to the instructor's discretion to excuse an absence or tardy and to determine if a student is sleeping. Students start each Program course with full participation points and will receive deductions for the following violations.

Cell phones must be put away during class and may not be on the desk. Using a cell phone without instructor approval during class is prohibited and can result in your being asked to leave the class and being counted absent from the class. If you have an emergency and must use your cell phone, please exit the classroom.

Please review the student handbook for more information.