

My name is Lucia Dickinson and I was raised in Jones, Oklahoma. I have been part of the funeral service program since 2009 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Funeral Service with a minor in Psychology in 2011. During my time here at UCO I was involved with Sigma Phi Sigma and was even a public relations officer. After passing the national board exams, I worked as a funeral director and eventually advanced to a location manager and then general manager over three funeral homes and a cemetery. I am considered by others to be a “bulldog of a funeral director,” since I strive to see that every family’s need is met accordingly and go beyond what is expected. The expectation for apprentices was no different. As a funeral director, I trained multiple apprentices as well as other employees, and also served as a preceptor to UCO practicum students as they prepared for graduation. Now that I am teaching at UCO, my goals and expectations have not changed. The benefit of teaching is that I am now privileged to work with more than just one student at a time. My goal for my students is to prepare them as much as possible in a classroom setting before graduation. By giving them real life scenarios and sharing personal experiences they will be better prepared. At the end of their college career the only thing that should separate them from being an educated and confident funeral director is their degree and license. I have enjoyed teaching ever since I was young, and am excited to be part of the UCO family and assist students with both their educational and professional careers. My passion and dedication to each student is what makes me stand out.