COURSE INFORMATION FORM

DISCIPLINE Fire Science

COURSE TITLE Legal Aspects of the Fire Service

CR.HR 3 LECT HR 3 LAB HR CLIN/INTERN HR CLOCK HR

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course will address the Federal, State, and local laws that regulate emergency services and include a review of national standards, regulations, and consensus standards.

PREREQUISITES

None

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES IN THE COURSE (ESO)

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Define the different types of laws.
2. Discuss federal, state, and local laws and liabilities applicable to emergency services.
3. Explain the purpose of national codes and standards.
4. Discuss applicable court decisions that have influenced emergency services.
5. Recognize the legal issues and concerns affecting emergency services.
GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES (ESO)
Specify which general education outcomes, if any, are substantially addressed by the course. Numbers in parentheses identify the Expected Student Outcomes linked to the specific General Education Outcome.

1. Communication
   
   A. Reading Skills:
      • Determine the main idea and significant details in paragraphs and passages (1-5)
      • Draw appropriate conclusions (1-5)

3. Lifelong Learning

   B. Personal and Professional Development
      • Pursue structured learning opportunities, certification, and/or degrees (1-5)
PROGRAM-LEVEL OUTCOMES

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Specify which Career and Technical program outcomes, if any, are substantially addressed by the course by completing the “Career and Technical Education template” to show the relationship between course and program outcomes to assessment measures.

The student will be able to explain and demonstrate the ability to Investigate a fire scene as to its cause and origin
• Recognize the responsibilities of the firefighter and fire department as it relates to fire investigations
• Recognize the laws, statues’, case studies and standards (NFPA 921) that apply to fire investigations
• Demonstrate the ability to evidence preservation on collection related to fire investigations

The student will be able to explain and demonstrate the ability to conduct, fire inspection and public relation events and demonstrate the use and explain the requirement standards for residential and commercial sprinkler and detection systems
• Recognize the fire codes, elements and procedures relating to fire inspections
• Demonstrate the ability to prepare a residential and commercial pre-incident survey
• Demonstrate the ability to present fire safety lectures and educational classes for adults and children
• Recognize the elements and parts of a fire sprinkler and detection system

The student will demonstrate the ability to lead and manage emergency personnel and recourses
• Demonstrate the ability to develop professional development plans, hiring and promotional procedures, and recruitment/retention programs
• Demonstrate the ability to develop performance appraisals, productivity and performance surveys, and corrective/reward systems

CLASS-LEVEL ASSESSMENT MEASURES
Student accomplishment of expected student outcomes will be assessed using the following measures. (Identify which measures are used to assess which outcomes.)

1. Written exams (1-5)
2. Online discussions
Individual instructors may order this outline as fits the needs of their individual courses. In addition, they may place more emphasis on some areas than on others. What is assured is that this particular list is covered in the course. Other topics may be added to a course as the instructor sees fit, and as time and interest allow. An *asterisk can be used to mark an item as optional.

I. The Legal System of the United States  
   A. Foundations  
   B. U.S. Constitution

II. Civil vs. Criminal  
   A. Differences  
   B. Lawsuits  
   C. Punishments  
   D. Burden of Proof

III. Tort Liability

IV. Negligence

V. Judicial System  
   A. The Court System  
   B. U.S. Supreme Court  
   C. Special Courts  
   D. Local Courts  
   E. Penalties

VI. Federal Laws and the Fire Service  
   A. Fair Labor Standards Act  
   B. Americans with Disabilities Act  
   C. Age Discrimination  
   D. Civil Rights  
   E. Sexual Harassment

VII. Employee Relations  
   A. Physical Testing - Entrance Requirements  
   B. Residency Requirements  
   C. Grooming Standards  
   D. Promotional Testing  
   E. Psychological Examinations  
   F. Polygraphs

VIII. Fire Prevention and Fire Codes  
   A. Fourth Amendment  
   B. Certifications  
   C. Building Code vs. Fire Code  
   D. Civil vs. Criminal
IX. Mutual Aid

X. Hazardous Materials

XI. Volunteers/Contracts
   A. At-will Doctrine

XII. Arson