

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: FST 100

Credits: 3

Course Title: Principles of Emergency Services

Course Description: Provides an overview to fire protection; career opportunities in fire protection and related fields; philosophy and history of fire protection/service; fire loss analysis; organization and function of public and private fire protection services; fire departments as part of local government; laws and regulations affecting the fire service; fire service nomenclature; specific fire protection functions; basic fire chemistry and physics; introduction to fire protection systems; and, introduction to fire strategy and tactics. (Usually offered in fall only.) Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Describe and discuss the components of the history and philosophy of the modern day fire service;
- b. Analyze the basic components of fire as a chemical reaction, the major phases of fire, and examine the main factors that influence fire spread and fire behavior;
- c. Differentiate between fire service training and education; fire protection certificate program and a fire service degree program; and explain the value of education in the fire service;
- d. List and describe the major organizations that provide emergency response service and illustrate how they interrelate within the Incident Command System (ICS);
- e. Identify fire protection and emergency-service careers in both the public and in the private sector;
- f. Synthesize the role of national, state, and local support organizations in fire protection and emergency services;
- g. Discuss and describe the scope, purpose, and organizational structure of fire and emergency services;
- h. Describe the common types of fire and emergency services facilities, equipment, and apparatus;
- i. Compare and contrast effective management concepts for various emergency situations;
- j. Identify and explain the components of fire prevention including code enforcement, public information, and public and private fire protection systems; and
- k. Identify and analyze the major causes involved in line of duty firefighter deaths related to health, wellness, fitness, and vehicle operations.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. History and philosophy of the modern day fire service
- b. Components of fire as a chemical reaction, the major phases of fire, and the main factors that influence fire spread and fire behavior

- c. Distinction between fire service training and education and the value of education in the fire service
- d. Description of the major organizations that provide emergency response service and how they interrelate within the Incident Command System (ICS)
- e. Identify fire protection and emergency-service careers in both the public and in the private sector
- f. Role of national, state, and local support organizations in fire protection and emergency services
- g. Scope, purpose, and organizational structure of fire and emergency services
- h. Common types of fire and emergency services facilities, equipment, and apparatus
- i. Management concepts for various emergency situations
- j. Components of fire prevention including code enforcement, public information, and public and private fire protection systems
- k. Causes involved in line of duty firefighter deaths related to health, wellness, fitness, and vehicle operations

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: September 10, 2008