

Course Syllabus

FFP 2610/ Fire Investigation Origin and Cause

HEALTH CAREER INSTITUTE

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Course Information

Course Number/Section FFP 2610
Course Title Fire Investigation Origin and Cause

Class Times:

On Line with two mandatory lectures
Lecture 1
Lecture 2 and Final Exam

Dates of Class:

TBA

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor TBA
Office Phone (561) 586-0121
Email Address TBA
Office Location 1764 North Congress Ave West Palm Beach, Florida 33409
Online Office Hours 08:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Other Information 3 Credits

About the Instructor

All Health Career Institute Instructors are Fire Instructors approved through the Florida State Fire College.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Must be a fire-fighter (Part of Fire Inspector I and Fire Safety Inspector))

Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with the fundamental technical knowledge needed for proper fire scene interpretations, including recognizing and conducting origin and cause, preservation of evidence and documentation, scene security motives of the fire starter and types of fire causes.

(Part of Fire Investigator I, Fire Inspector II, and Fire Officer II)

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. Identify and explain the responsibilities of the fire department from a firefighter's perspective when responding to the scene of a fire, including the possibility of incendiary devices often encountered.

2. Define criminal law and explain the constitutional amendments (4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 14th) as they apply to fire investigations.
3. Analyze the precedents set by constitutional law case studies that have affected fire investigations.
4. Define and explain the common terms used in fire investigations.
5. Describe the basic elements of fire dynamics and how they affect cause determination including fire behavior, characteristics of fuels and methods of heat transfer.
6. Analyze the relationship of building construction on fire investigations including types of construction, construction and finish materials.
7. Evaluate fire protection systems and building services and discuss how their installation affects the ignition of fires in buildings.
8. Discuss the basic principles of electricity.
9. Explain the role of the fire investigator in recognizing health and safety concerns including potential hazardous materials awareness.
10. Describe fire scene investigations and the process of conducting investigations using the scientific method.
11. Explain how an investigator determines the point of origin in a room.
12. Identify the types of fire causes and differentiate between accidental and incendiary causes.
13. Describe and explain the basic procedures used for investigating vehicle fires.
14. Identify the characteristics of arson and common motives of the firesetter.
15. Identify and analyze the causes involved in line of duty firefighter deaths related to structural and wildland firefighting, training and research and the reduction of emergency risks and accidents.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts

Kirk's Fire Investigation, John DeHaan, Brady, 6th Ed.,

Books can also be purchased from the school based available

Suggested Course Materials

Introduction to Fire Origin and Cause, Fire Protection Publications, 2005

User's Manual for NFPA 921; NFPA, 5th Ed., 2008

Practical Fire and Arson Investigating, David Redsicker, 2nd Ed., 1996

Textbooks and some other bookstore materials can be ordered online through online ordering sites. Required books not provided in the course cost are also available in stock at Health Career Institute Suite 405.

Course Policies

Exams

All students must maintain an average of 70% or higher to pass this course.

Late Work

As this is a combination of online and class attendance, late work can not and will not be accepted.

Class Attendance

School General Attendance Policy

Punctual attendance is required at all classes, training sessions and externships. Attendance is an absolutely crucial part of the training program and a requirement for graduation. Attendance is taken by instructors at every class for the entire time the class meets. Students will not be excused from part of a class to attend to personal business. The only excused absences are for illness and or emergency. Health Career Institute recognizes that there are many times when a student cannot attend class, or arrives late because of unusual circumstances. The attendance policies have been formulated to allow for those circumstances, while at the same time ensuring that each student attends class a sufficient amount of time to acceptably master the subject matter and to meet the minimum criteria. Makeup work is given at the discretion of the Instructor.

On-line Class Attendance Policy

For on-line classes there will be two scheduled class meetings where attendance is mandatory. There will be two opportunities to attend each of these mandatory meeting so there will be no excused absents permitted. The first meeting will be at the end of the first week. At that time, students will be expected to have completed a specific number of sections of the program and to submit or have submitted any materials as required by the instructor. The second meeting will be at the end of the second week. At that time the student will be expected to have completed the remaining section and to submit or have submitted any materials as required by the instructor. The final exam will also be administered at this time.

Student Resources

Access to school resources are available to students.

LIRN Library: All students will need a Student-ID number to access all of the library's electronic resources (journal articles, etc) from off campus. For more information on library resources go to www.hci.edu in the student service section under library resources.

Student Assessments

Grading Information

Weights- All students must maintain an average of 70% or higher to pass this course.

		%
On-Line Forum	5	%
On-Line Quizzes	20	%
Class Room Lecture	25	%
Final Exam	50	%
Total	100	%

Grading criteria

Score	Letter Equivalent	GPA Equivalent
90-100	A	4
80-89	B	3
70-79	C	2
60-69	D	1
0-50	F	0

Grading Policy

Students in this course may be taking it for college credit, in preparation for the Florida Fire Inspector examination, to further their career in the fire service, or as a re-certification class toward their license.

Accessing Grades

Students can check their grades by clicking “My Grades” under Course Tools on the www.hci.edu website after the grade for each assessment task is released. This will be released as the program becomes available to the students on-line.

School Policies

Student Conduct & Discipline

Health Career Institute has rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of the school. It is the responsibility of each student to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the HCI catalog which is provided to all registered students and available on www.hci.edu website.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per school policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester’s end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within 14 days from the final course date. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Course Evaluation

As required every student must complete an evaluation for each enrolled course at the end of the semester or course. These will be kept confidential.

Academic Calendar

Registration

TBA

This is the last day for students will register and obtain course text books

One Week

Sections 1- 8 along with all supplemental material will be available on-line. **Please note that these sections must be completed by January 22, 2010 at 11:59 PM and all supplemental course work submitted.**

Day 1

Mandatory Class Lecture 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Day 2

Mandatory Class Lecture 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Day 5

Mandatory Class Lecture and Final Exam 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Day 5

Mandatory Class Lecture and Final Exam 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Day 3 and 4 are on-line

Sections 9-17 along with all supplemental material will be available on-line and Sections 1-8 will be removed. **Please note that sections 9-17 must be completed by TBA at 11:59 PM and all supplemental course work submitted prior to scheduled day 5.**