

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction to the Fire Code

Course Description

FS 127. Introduction to the Fire Code. 3 hours credit. Prerequisite: FS 100 with a "C" or better or be currently enrolled in FS 100. This course will enable the student to conduct a fire inspection utilizing the 2003 International Fire Code. The emphasis will be on fire inspection requirements for occupancy types ranging from privately owned and operated properties to places of public assembly. The student will address current topics and requirements for hazardous materials storage, flammable liquid storage, emergency exiting, general fire and life safety enabling him/her to identify fire code violations and effectively take corrective actions in the abatement of violations. The importance of fire code enforcement, as it pertains to fire and life safety as well as property preservation, will be addressed.

Course Relevance

The principles learned in this course provide the student with a broad base of information on fire inspection requirements for a vast array of occupancy types. Code enforcement is vital to the student seeking a career as a firefighter, particularly a code enforcement official.

Required Materials

FS 127 Textbook:

International Code Council. (2003). *International fire code*. (1st ed.). Country Club Hills, IL: International Code Council Publications.

Learning Outcomes

The intention is for the student to be able to

1. Effectively and efficiently use the International Fire Code to identify various fire code violations commonly found during a fire inspection assignment
2. Identify corrective actions for code compliance by interpreting the intent of the International Fire Code

Primary Learning PACT Skills that will be DEVELOPED and/or documented in this course

Through the student's involvement in this course, he/she will develop his/her ability in the following primary PACT skill areas:

1. Problem Solving
 - Through gathering information and determining its relevancy, development of a workable solution, and communicating the best solution, the student will develop problem solving skills.
2. Critical Thinking

- Through identifying a task, gathering the appropriate information, processing the information, and generating an appropriate response, the student will develop critical thinking skills.

3. Reading

- Through examining, questioning, and interpreting fire code issues, the student will develop reading skills.

Secondary skills (developed but not documented):

Speaking
Listening
Leadership

Major Summative Assessment Task(s)

These learning outcomes and the primary Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by

1. Interpreting and applying the International Fire Code to a specific summative exercise and scenario.

Course Content

- I. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
 - A. Effective and efficient use of the International Fire Code
- II. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
 - A. Incorporation of current code standards to pre-existing / non-compliant occupancies
 - B. Achieving code enforcement through enforcement.
- III. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
 - A. Knowledge of the International Fire Code articles
 - B. Knowledge of the International Fire Code terminology
- IV. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
 - A. Identify occupancy classification types
 - B. Identify the requirements for a specific occupancy classification
 - C. Identify fire code violations
 - D. Identify type of compliance

Learning Units

- I. Administration
- II. General precautions, emergency planning, and fire service features
- III. Building services, systems, and construction
- IV. Fire protection systems
- V. Means of egress
- VI. Special facilities and operations

VII. Hazardous materials

Learning Activities

Activities will involve classroom discussions and lectures which will give the student a better understanding of the key principles in fire code enforcement and interpretation.

Grade Determination

The student will be graded on satisfactory completion of the assessment task(s), attendance, assignments, and examinations.