

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Incident Safety Officer**

#### **Course Description**

FS 111. Incident Safety Officer. 1 hour credit. Pre-requisite: FS 200, FS 110, and FS 103 with a C or better. This course will enable the student to identify and understand the roles and responsibilities of the Incident Safety Officer by meeting National Fire Protection Association's Standard 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer and NFPA Standard 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program. The student will identify the roles, responsibilities, and characteristics of an effective Incident Safety Officer. The student will also identify direct and indirect hazards on an emergency scene.

#### **Course Relevance**

This course is designed for individuals who could be asked to assume the duties of the Incident Safety Officer. The student will also learn the importance of effective communication skills, and acquire self awareness and critical thinking skills that will allow him / her to effectively execute tasks that require immediate decision making. This course is designed to meet the concepts covered in the National Fire Protection Association's Standard 1521, Standard on Fire Department Safety Officer.

#### **Required Materials**

None

#### **Learning Outcomes**

The intention is for the student to be able to

1. Develop effective communication skills in relation to emergency scene operations
2. Recognize direct and indirect hazards in a variety of emergency scenes
3. Develop a written safety action plan to prevent loss during emergency operations

#### **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
  - The student will learn to observe emergency scenes to identify immediate and potential operational hazards.
2. Writing
  - The student will develop a safety action plan that will assist in the prevention of loss at emergency incident.

Secondary skills (developed but not documented):

Leadership

## **Major Summative Assessment Task(s)**

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

1. Completion of a Safety Action Plan requiring critical thinking, problem solving and application of principles related to emergency scene safety and loss prevention

## **Course Content**

- I. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
  - A. Safety
  - B. Incident stabilization
- II. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
  - A. Personnel safety
  - B. Loss prevention
  - C. Environmental conservation
- III. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
  - A. Understanding of the importance of safety standards
- IV. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
  - A. The student will learn to observe emergency scenes to identify immediate and potential operational hazards

## **Learning Units**

- I. Roles and responsibilities of the Incident Safety Officer
  - A. Function of the incident safety officer within the NIMS
    1. National mandate for the safety officer
      - a) NFPA 1521
      - b) Fire ground deaths
      - c) Responsibilities
    2. Safety within the incident management
      - a) Incident management
      - b) Command
      - c) Safety sector
      - d) Safety Assistants
    3. Advising the incident commander on safety issue
      - a) Face to face meetings
      - b) Emergency Authority
      - c) Safety action plan
  - B. Role and responsibilities of the incident safety officer
    1. Safe practices
      - a) Training and experience
      - b) Specialized training
      - c) Personal protective equipment
      - d) Tact
      - e) Accountability
      - f) Documentation
    2. Hazard Identification

- a) Effective observations
  - 3. Risk assessment and Risk management
    - a) Safety action plan
- II. Characteristics of an effective safety officer
- A. Important characteristics
    - 1. Communication skills
    - 2. Attitude of safety
  - B. Knowledge of duties
    - 1. Current codes
    - 2. Standards
    - 3. Laws
    - 4. Hazards
    - 5. Firefighting Techniques
    - 6. Department driving regulations
    - 7. Safety equipment
  - C. Ability to recognize potential hazards
    - 1. Initial Fire ground checklist
- III. Risk assessment
- A. Risk assessment
  - B. Identifying risk
- IV. The Safety Plan
- A. Safety action plan
    - 1. The safety action plan
      - a) Complexity of the operations and environment
      - b) Knowledge of on-scene personnel
      - c) Time constraints
    - 2. Risk Priority
      - a) Priority level 1
      - b) Priority level 2
      - c) Priority level 3
      - d) Priority level 4
  - B. Risk management
    - 1. Monitoring safety concerns
      - a) Protective clothing and equipment
      - b) Personnel Accountability
      - c) Rehabilitation
      - d) Fire and structural conditions
      - e) Apparatus
      - f) Safety zone
      - g) Medical units
      - h) Time factor

**Learning Activities**

The students will be engaged in classroom interaction and field applications.

**Grade Determination**

The student will be evaluated through written exams, skills proficiency assessments, and other methods of evaluation at the discretion of the instructor.