

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: FST 121 Credits: 3

Course Title: Principles of Fire and Emergency Services Safety and Survival

Course Description:

Introduces the basic principles and history related to the national firefighter life safety initiatives, focusing on the need for cultural and behavioral change throughout the emergency services. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:

Presents an overview of firefighter safety as identified in the National Fire Academy.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- xDefine and describe the need for cultural and behavioral change within the emergency services relating to safety, incorporating leadership, supervision, accountability and personal responsibility;
- xExplain the need for enhancements of personal and organizational accountability for health and safety;
- xDefine how the concepts of risk management affect strategic and tactical decision making;
- xDescribe and evaluate circumstances that might constitute an unsafe act.
- xExplain the concept of empowering all emergency services personnel to stop unsafe acts;
- xValidate the need for national training standards as they correlate to professional development inclusive of qualification, certification and recertification;
- xDefend the need for annual medical evaluations and the establishment of physical fitness criteria for emergency services personnel throughout their careers;
- xExplain the vital role of local departments in national research and data collection systems;
- xIllustrate how technological advancements can produce higher levels of emergency services safety and survival;
- xExplain the importance of investigating all near-misses, injuries and fatalities;
- xDiscuss how incorporating the lessons learned from investigations can support cultural change throughout the emergency services;
- xDescribe how obtaining grants can support safety and survival initiatives;
- xFormulate an awareness of how adopting standardized policies for responding to emergency scenes can minimize near-misses, injuries and deaths;
- xExplain how the increase in violent incidents impacts safety for emergency services personnel when responding to emergency scenes;
- xRecognize the need for counseling and psychological support for emergency services personnel and their families, and identify access to local resources and services;
- xDescribe the importance of public education as a critical component of life safety

