

COURSE SYLLABUS

LAST REVIEW	Spring 2021
COURSE TITLE	Legal Considerations for Fire and Emergency Services
COURSE NUMBER	FRSC 0107
DIVISION	Health Professions
DEPARTMENT	Fire Science
CIP CODE	43.0203
CREDIT HOURS	3
CONTACT HOURS/WEEK	Class: 3
PREREQUISITES	None
COURSE PLACEMENT	Students must meet the correct placement measure for this course. Information may be found at: https://www.kckcc.edu/admissions/information/mandatory-evaluation-placement.html

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide students with an understanding of legal issues that are intertwined with the fire service. Topics covered will include pivotal questions confronting today's fire service including legal liability, sovereign immunity, overtime laws, collective bargaining, OSHA compliance, worker's compensation, physical abilities testing, medical examinations, drug testing, discrimination, and sexual harassment.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate physical skills needed for employment as a firefighter.
2. Explain fire behavior.
3. Apply emergency management skills to provide basic emergency medicine in the field.
4. Evaluate strategy and tactics related to fire safety, survival techniques, and fire management.
5. Explain legal issues related to fire services administration.
6. Demonstrate employability skills necessary for completing the job search process.

TEXTBOOKS

<http://kckccbookstore.com/>

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom.

Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Types and Sources of Law
 - A. What is Law?
 - B. Origin of Laws
 - C. Standards and Codes
 - D. Civil versus Criminal

- II. Courts and Court Systems
 - A. Courts in General
 - B. Jurisdiction
 - C. Trial Courts and Appellate Courts
 - D. Stare Decisis and Precedence
 - E. How Decisis is Decisis?
 - F. Lawsuits and the Media
 - G. Legal Research
 - H. Legal Arguments

- III. Types of Fire Departments
 - A. What is a Fire Department?
 - B. The Role of a Fire Department
 - C. Public Sector versus Private Sector
 - D. Types of Entities
 - E. Public Sector Fire Organizations
 - F. Private Sector Fire Organizations
 - G. Conclusions on Fire Department Authority
 - H. Volunteer Fire Company Authority

- IV. Administrative Agencies
 - A. Administrative Agencies
 - B. Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 - C. Getting the Job Done
 - D. OSHA Inspections
 - E. Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
 - F. OSHRC and OHSA
 - G. OSHA Violations and Sanctions
 - H. Administrative Agencies and Separation of Powers
 - I. Exhaustion of Remedies

- J. Jurisdiction and the Term "OSHA State"
- K. State and Local Agencies
- L. Administrative Law Making
- M. OSHA and the NFPA Standards
- N. Application of OSHA to Volunteers and Part-Time Personnel

V. Criminal Law

- A. Statutory and Common-Law Crimes
- B. Federal versus State Jurisdiction
- C. Crimes Must be Specifically Declared to be Criminal
- D. Felonies and Misdemeanors
- E. Elements
- F. Criminal Offenses

VI. Criminal Procedure

- A. What is Arrest?
- B. Authority to Make and Arrest
- C. Asserting the Authority
- D. False Arrest
- E. Asserting the Authority
- F. Firefighters and Arrest Powers
- G. Arrest Warrants
- H. Criminal Procedure
- I. Search and Seizure
- J. Chain of Custody
- K. Custodial Interrogations and Miranda Warnings
- L. Accomplice Liabilities: Parties to a Crime
- M. Conspiracy
- N. Attempts
- O. Criminal Defenses

VII. Civil Liability Issues

- A. Intentional Torts
- B. Battery
- C. Assault
- D. False Imprisonment
- E. Intentional Infliction of severe Emotional Distress
- F. Trespass to Land
- G. Trespass to Chattels
- H. Conversions
- I. Misrepresentation
- J. Bad Faith
- K. Defamation
- L. Invasion of Privacy

VIII. Negligence

- A. Elements of Negligence
- B. Fire Service Negligence Cases
- C. Emergency Medical Care and Negligence

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

- A. Identify the types and origins of laws in the United States.
- B. Define courts and court systems in the United States.
- C. Identify various types of fire departments.
- D. Identify administrative agencies and their authority.
- E. Define criminal law and its elements.
- F. Define and identify criminal law procedures.
- G. Identify and define civil liability issues.
- H. Identify and define negligence.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student progress is evaluated through both formative and summative assessment methods. Specific details may be found in the instructor's course information document.

COLLEGE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Student Handbook

<https://www.kckcc.edu/files/docs/student-resources/student-handbook-and-code-of-conduct.pdf>

College Catalog

<https://www.kckcc.edu/academics/catalog/index.html>

College Policies and Statements

<https://www.kckcc.edu/about/policies-statements/index.html>

Accessibility and Accommodations

<https://www.kckcc.edu/academics/resources/student-accessibility-support-services/index.html>.