COURSE OUTLINE

FIR 205

Fire Department Organization

Course Number

Course Title

3

3 Lecture Hours

Credits

Hours: lecture/laboratory/other (specify)

Catalog description:
Study of the history, methods, types, and principles of fire department organization and management. Emphasizes supervisory responsibilities and functions.

Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

Is course New or Modified? No

Required texts/other materials:
Fire and Emergency Services Administration by L. Charles Smeby, Jr. (Jones & Bartlett)

Last revised: Fall 2015

Course coordinator: James McCann, (609) 799-3245 or mccannj@mccc.edu

Information resources:

U.S. Fire Administration
Publications: http://www.usfa.fema.gov/applications/publications
See EMS, Fire Safety and Public Education, Fire Administration, Fire Service Operations, Health and Safety
Applied Research:
http://www.usfa.fema.gov
Research Reports:
http://www.usfa.fema.gov/research
Topical Fire Research Series:
http://www.usfa.fema.gov
Learning Resource Center:
http://www.lrc.fema.gov

National Institute for Standards and Technology

References
Other learning resources:
Lessons Learned Information Sharing:
https://www.llis.dhs.gov/member/secure/index.cfm

Current Events/News
http://www.firehouse.com
http://www.fireengineering.com
http://www.withthecommand.com

Course goals:
This course introduces the student to the organization and management of a fire department and the relationship of government agencies to the fire service. Emphasis on fire service leadership from the perspective of the company officer.

The student will be able to:
- Identify career development opportunities and strategies for success.
- Explain the need for effective communication skills both written and verbal.
- Articulate the concepts of span and control, effective delegation and division of labor.
- Recognize appropriate appraising and disciplinary actions and the impact on employee behavior.
- Examine the history and development of management and supervision.
- Evaluate methods of managing available resources.
- Identify roles and responsibilities of leaders in organizations.
- Compare and contrast the traits of effective versus ineffective supervision and management styles.
- Identify and assess safety needs for both emergency and non-emergency situations.
- Identify the importance of ethics as they apply to supervisors.
• Identify the role of a company officer in Incident Command System (ICS).

• Describe the benefits of documentation.

• Identify and analyze the major causes involved in line of duty firefighter deaths related to health, wellness, fitness and vehicle operations.

Course-specific General Education Core Competencies and Goals.

General Education Knowledge Goals

Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

History. Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical issues and situations.

MCCC Core Skills

Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.

Ethical Decision-Making. Students will recognize, analyze and assess ethical issues and situations.

Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

Units of study in detail.

I. New challenges and opportunities
   A. Duties
   B. National Standards
   C. Career Opportunities
   D. Education and Training

II. Communication Process
   A. Verbal
   B. Written
   C. Active Listening Skills

III. Management Principles
   A. Span of Control
   B. Delegation/Division of Labor
   C. Unity of Command
   D. Chain of Command
   E. Organizational Structure
IV. Tools for Employee Development
   A. Evaluation and Appraisal of Employees
   B. Rewards and Motivation
   C. Progressive System of Discipline
   D. Grievance Procedures

V. Management and Supervision
   A. Theories
   B. History

VI. Managing Resources for Emergency and Non-emergency
   A. Equipment
   B. Personnel
   C. Time

VII. Leadership
   A. Managers
   B. Leaders
   C. Roles and Responsibilities

VIII. Supervision and Management
   A. Styles
   B. Traits
   C. Effectiveness

IX. Safety Assessment
   A. Non-Emergency
   B. Emergency

X. Ethics
   A. Harassment
   B. Conflict of Interest
   C. Public Trust
   D. Code of Ethics
   E. Diversity
   F. Morality

XI. Incident Management System
   A. Duties and Responsibilities
   B. Transfer of Command

XII. Records Management
    A. Formal Documentation
    B. Informal Documentation

**Evaluation of student learning:** Students will be evaluated for mastery of learning objectives by methods of evaluation to be determined by the instructor. Periodic tests or quizzes as well as a final exam may be utilized. Other methods such as a research or group projects are encouraged.

**Academic Integrity Statement:** Mercer County Community College and the Fire Science program are committed to Academic Integrity -- the honest, fair and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud.
or deception. This implies that students are expected to be responsible for their own work and that faculty and academic support services staff members will take reasonable precautions to prevent the opportunity for academic dishonesty. The Fire Science program affirms its support of the Academic Integrity Policy as printed in the Student handbook and approved by the College Board of Trustees March 18, 2004.