

**FIRE 61 Course Outline as of Fall 1981****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: FIRE 61 Title: FIRE INVESTIGATION

Full Title: Fire Investigation

Last Reviewed: 8/26/2024

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

Determining cause of fires (accidental, suspicious, and incendiary); types of fires; related laws; introduction to arson and incendiarism; recognizing and preserving evidence; interviewing witnesses and suspects; arrest and detention procedures; court procedures and giving court testimony.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for English 100A or equivalent.

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Recomm: Eligibility for Engl 100A or equiv. Types of fires; laws; evidence; interviewing witnesses and suspects; arrest and detention; court procedures and testimony.  
(Grade only) (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for English 100A or equivalent.

Limits on Enrollment:  
Transfer Credit: CSU;  
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

**ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective: Fall 1981	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**  
Certificate Applicable Course

**COURSE CONTENT**

**Outcomes and Objectives:**

To train fire personnel:

1. to fulfill the responsibility of determining fire cause.
2. to recognize, protect, and preserve evidence of fire cause.
3. in proper techniques relating to court procedures and giving court testimony.
4. in proper techniques for interviewing witnesses and suspects.
5. in laws relating to fire investigation.
6. proper arrest and detention procedures, adults and juveniles.

**Topics and Scope:**

1. Orientation and introduction to fire investigation.
  2. Laws relating to fire investigation.
  3. Fire cause (Natural-Accidental).
  4. Determining point of origin, char, heat, and smoke patterns.
  5. Identification, collection, and preservation of evidence.
  6. Firesetters, motives and methods.
  7. Cooperative investigating agencies and sources of information.
  8. Field notetaking, fire scene recording.
  9. Interviewing witnesses and suspects.
  10. Arrest and detention procedures.
  11. Reports and records.
  12. Courtroom demeanor and testimony.
- A MORE DETAILED OUTLINE IS AVAILABLE IN THE DEPARTMENT.

**Assignment:**

The student will:

1. Describe, in writing, the proper techniques relating to court procedures and giving court testimony.
2. Describe, in writing, the laws that pertain to fire investigation.

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework

Writing  
0 - 10%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems, Quizzes, Exams

Problem solving  
0 - 10%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class performances

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 10%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, Completion

Exams  
0 - 70%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category  
0 - 0%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

- FIRE INVESTIGATION by IFSTA.
- INVESTIGATIONS OF FIRES by Charles Robles and Brady Publ.