

Course Syllabus



Edit

FIRE77: Hazardous Materials for Public Safety: Section 0105, Fall 2025, Course Syllabus





Introduction to Hazardous Materials for Public Safety Syllabus is optional for your use. Available for review is the [Fire 77 course outline of record. \(https://portal.santarosa.edu/SRweb/SR_CourseOutlines.aspx?CVID=37904&Semester=20187\)](https://portal.santarosa.edu/SRweb/SR_CourseOutlines.aspx?CVID=37904&Semester=20187)

Course Description

Fire 77 is a 3-unit elective class in the Fire Technology AS program. Fire 77 is a comprehensive study of emergency response to hazardous materials (Hazardous Materials, or HazMat) incidents. Includes basic hazardous materials legal requirements; hazard recognition and safety; terrorism recognition and response; use of the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG); hazardous materials properties and effects; hazardous material classification; chemical monitoring equipment; reference materials and databases; isolation and notification requirements; incident planning, organization, command and scene management; response training levels, tactics and strategies; Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); countermeasures; protective actions; decontamination, documentation, and disposal requirements. Students who successfully complete the course requirements and pass state testing will receive certificates in Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations (FRO),

Decontamination, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), and Incident Command from the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI). This course certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) for the State of California.

It is a compilation of four California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) Hazardous Materials response classes. State certification is granted for successful completion (70% or higher on each of the four state exams) of each section:

- First Responder Operation (FRO)
- First Responder Operations/Weapons of Mass Destruction (FRO WMD)
- First Responder Operations Decontamination (FRO Decon)
- Incident Commander (hazmat IC)

Canvas will be used for assignments, discussion threads, exercises, quizzes, videos, and presentations for this class. Please go through the online readiness portions to test your computer prior to the start of class.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the use of the ERG to identify the hazardous materials name, hazard classification, suggested protective distances, primary and secondary hazards and/or chemical behaviors, appropriate PPE and necessary first responder actions.
2. Recognize the need for decontamination and demonstrate emergency, and technical decontamination of victims and responders.
3. Demonstrate the implementation of the Incident Command System for safe and competent response to a hazardous materials incident.

Class Meetings

In-person classes are mandatory and will occur on scheduled Wednesdays from 9AM until 12PM, including exam and skills testing at the Public Safety Training Center. The following dates below will be in-person class dates. The rest of the class is asynchronous and requires the completion of Canvas modules. Modules will be due on the assigned day by 11:59 PM. Do not wait until the last minute to complete the quizzes, discussions, and assignments.

In-person class dates:

- August 20, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)
- October 22, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)
- November 5, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)
- December 10, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)

Instructor Contact

Linda Collister | She, her, hers
Fire Technology Tenure Instructor
Public Safety Training Center
5743 Skylane Blvd.
Windsor, CA 95492
Office: (707) 836-2922
Mobile: (707) 477-8845

CANVAS INBOX: Please use the "Inbox" and select Fire 77 Collister, L for our primary communication. This is the PREFERRED method for communication to ensure any class issues are resolved promptly.

Phone: (707) 477-8845 or use the Pronto App in Canvas to text me.

Office Hours: Phone or ZOOM meeting. In-person meetings will be scheduled at the Public Safety Training Center, 5743 Skylane Blvd, Santa Rosa, CA 95492. Please email or call to set up an appointment.

I respond to emails within 24 hours.

You may also use the [Canvas Conversations Inbox \(links to an external site\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2670)  [\(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2670\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2670) to send me a message.

Course Web Site

Students will use the Canvas course web site for assignment instructions, submitting assignments, viewing classmates' work, sharing resources, taking part in discussions, and viewing grades. Additionally, our text and course reference the links listed under the Home Page picture. These include NFPA, and ICC Free Code References.

Textbooks


The following textbook will be required for class and the 2024 ERG will be required for testing. Mobile devices and computers are not allowed during testing. I expect everyone to have the "Hazardous Materials for First Responders, Sixth Edition" at the start of the class. I will supply the 2024 ERG's.

The textbook is available for purchase at the Santa Rosa Bookstore, and a copy will be available at the library.



Hazardous Materials for First Responders, Sixth Edition, IFSTA, ISBN:978-0-87939-757-9

You can locate and order textbooks online via the [SRJC Bookstore \(https://bookstore.santarosa.edu/\)](https://bookstore.santarosa.edu/).

Online Ordering Information: [Hazardous Materials for First Responders, Sixth Edition](https://www.ifsta.org/shop/hazardous-materials-first-responders-6th-edition/36701) 
(<https://www.ifsta.org/shop/hazardous-materials-first-responders-6th-edition/36701>)



[2024 Emergency Response Guide \(ERG\)](https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/training/hazmat/erg/erg2024-pdf-accessible-english)  (<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/training/hazmat/erg/erg2024-pdf-accessible-english>)

[\(ERG\) Mobile App for Android](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.nih.nlm.erg2012&pli=1)  (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.nih.nlm.erg2012&pli=1>)

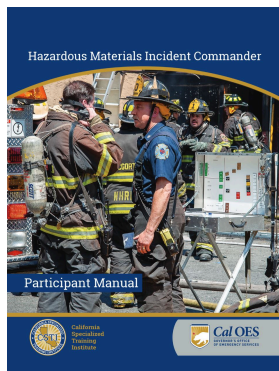
[\(ERG\) Mobile App for IOS](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/erg-for-ios/id1597142669)  (<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/erg-for-ios/id1597142669>)

The following text is required for Hazmat Incident Command and is available as a free download file in Canvas.

[CSTI Hazardous Materials Incident Commander Participant Manual](https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145227?wrap=1)

(<https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145227?wrap=1>) 

(https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145227/download?download_frd=1) 



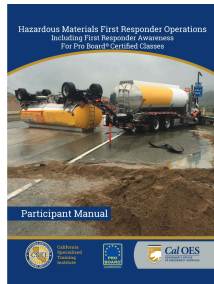
Below are texts available for free online from CSTI for download. **They are not required but recommended due to CSTI Exam question bank.** Our main text will be the IFSTA Hazardous Materials for First Responders. I have added links for the materials; however, large manuals may be expensive to print on your own. They are available as a free download file in Canvas.

[CSTI Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations Participant Manual](#)

<https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145135?wrap=1> ↓

https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145135/download?download_frd=1 ⚠

<https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145135?wrap=1> (PRO Board Certified Classes)

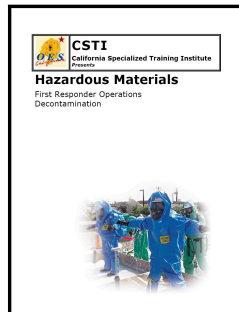


<https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145214?wrap=1>




[CSTI Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations Decontamination](#)

<https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145214?wrap=1> ↓

https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/79393/files/11145214/download?download_frd=1 ⚠



Required Software

- [Adobe Reader](http://get.adobe.com/reader/)  [\(http://get.adobe.com/reader/\)](http://get.adobe.com/reader/)
- [Open Office](https://www.openoffice.org/download/index.html)  [\(https://www.openoffice.org/download/index.html\)](https://www.openoffice.org/download/index.html)
- [Chrome](https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95346?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en-GB)  [\(https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95346?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en-GB\)](https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95346?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en-GB) is the recommended browser for Canvas
- [Adobe Express](https://www.adobe.com/express/)  [\(https://www.adobe.com/express/\)](https://www.adobe.com/express/)

Run this [computer readiness test](https://apps.3cmediasolutions.org/oei/tools/computer-readiness.html)  [\(https://apps.3cmediasolutions.org/oei/tools/computer-readiness.html\)](https://apps.3cmediasolutions.org/oei/tools/computer-readiness.html) to check your browser for plugins and versions.

Certificates

Upon completion of the class and passing the exams, you will receive four CSTI certificates. Hazardous Materials First Responder Operation (FRO), First Responder Operations- Decon (FRO Decon), First Responder Operations Weapons of Mass Destruction (FRO WMD), and Hazardous Materials Incident Command (hazmat IC). These certifications are not easy to obtain due to the lack of CSTI instructors.



Four CSTI certificates that a former student received upon completion of the class and passing the exams.

Important Dates

In-person class dates:

- August 20, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)
- October 22, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)
- November 5, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)
- December 10, 2025, Room 706 (0900-1200)

Day Canvas is available Online: Friday, August 8, 2025

Monday, August 18, 2025	CLASSES BEGIN
Sunday, August 24, 2025	Last day to register/add semester length class without instructor's signature or add code
Sunday, August 31, 2025	Last day to drop semester length class and be eligible for a refund
Monday, September 1, 2025	Labor Day Holiday (No classes, District closed)
Sunday, September 7, 2025	Last day to register/add semester length class with the instructor's signature or add code
Sunday, September 7, 2025	Last day to drop a semester length class without "W" symbol
Monday, September 8, 2025	First Census Day
Wednesday, September 17, 2025	Constitution Day and Citizenship Day (Classes will meet)
Friday, September 26, 2025	Native American Day (No classes, District closed)
Monday, October 20 - Sunday, November 16, 2025	Midterm progress indicators posted in student portal
Tuesday, November 11, 2025	Veterans Day Holiday (No classes, District closed)
Sunday, November 16, 2025	Last day to drop a semester length class with "W" symbol
Thursday, November 27 - Sunday, November 30, 2025	Fall Break (No classes, District closed)
Friday, November 28, 2025	Professional Development 1/2 Flex Day (No classes or activities, District closed)
Friday, December 12, 2025	Last day to opt for P/NP for a semester length class
Saturday, December 13 - Friday, December 19, 2025	Final Examinations

Attendance

Directly from the college catalog: For classes that meet online, a No-Show is an enrolled student who has not logged on and initiated active participation by 11:59 PM Pacific Time of the second day of the class which is the first day of Unit 2.

Attendance is not optional for this course. If a student accrues nine hours (9) of absence, including not completing online assignments, tardiness and leaving early, they may be dropped from the class. Mandatory in-person days are required for testing and skills.

Extra assignments will not be given as a substitute for attendance. No distinction is made between *excused* absences and *unexcused* absences unless state or federal law requires the absence to be deemed *excused*. Students who add the course late are considered absent for those classes they missed.

Alternate Classroom Location(s):

An alternate classroom location may be announced in Canvas. Attendance is required at alternate classroom locations and will be documented. Transportation to the alternate classroom is the responsibility of the student.

Appropriate attire is required for field trips and at the PSTC. You are expected to exhibit a professional appearance and demeanor.

Teamwork

Students will be assigned to groups of 3-4 for purposes of group projects, student networking, and teamwork.

If you miss an assignment or have general class questions, please check with your group for any missing information before individually requesting assistance from the instructor. We will periodically break into our groups to work on review assignments, class discussions, presentation preparation, and other tasks.

Team work is not an option in the fire service.

Classroom Rules

1. Professional behavior is expected.
2. The classroom environment is to be a place of mutual respect.
3. **You are expected to arrive on time to the beginning of class and after all breaks**
4. Leaving early is a bad habit to get into. It is noticed by all instructors and not appreciated. Without prior approval, it may count as an absence from the entire class.
5. Participation is expected and encouraged.
6. No talking when the instructor or anyone else is addressing the class.
7. **No texting. No email. No Pagers.**
8. Computer note taking is allowed but computer use is restricted to class material.
9. Quizzes and exams are controlled and must **NOT** be taken from the classroom or copied.
10. Cheating of any type will result in failure of the assignment, suspension of up to two sessions, and/or an "F" semester grade. Plagiarism of another student's homework will result in discipline of **both** students.
11. No tobacco allowed.
12. Food is restricted to breaks outside of the classroom.
13. Park in student parking not the reserved parking area.

These are minimum rules. The expectation in this class and all others is enthusiasm for learning, respect for each other and the profession, and a commitment to ongoing learning.

Instructor Announcements and "Fire House Kitchen Table" Forum

The instructor will post announcements on the Announcements page in Canvas throughout the semester. Canvas notifies students according to their preferred Notification Preferences. A "Fire House Kitchen Table" is also available as a pinned Discussion to ask for help of your classmates.

Late Policy

All assignments, discussions and quizzes are due in Canvas at 11:59 PM [Pacific Standard Time] on the due date. A late submission will receive a 10% grade reduction per day up to 5 days. Any assignment not completed will receive a zero. Submissions more than one week late are not accepted without prior arrangement. There will be modules that allow you to go back and submit past due assignments for partial grades.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes will be in Canvas, while CSTI exams will be given in class. State certification requirements require this. Exams are based upon understanding hazardous materials, so reading and understanding the text, completing the Canvas exercises, reading the study guides, and studying for the quizzes are the best ways to understand the information after the Canvas module portion is completed.

Online Discussion Attendance

Networking is extremely important for the students, firefighters and fire service professionals at all levels. We will have some seasoned firefighters and fire professionals in the class, so it's a great place to network and ask questions.

DIRECTIONS for Discussion Success:

Discussions will be shared throughout the class. You must participate in the discussion for the topic.

There may be discussions that you will be required to use Canvas Studio or be used for extra credit. The requirements for these discussions will clearly be spelled out on that Module's Discussion Page. Follow the Rubric for full points.

Grading

Skills Test:

Skills tests from both CSTI and State Fire Training will be conducted to give students a direct application for assorted topics and to prepare. All skills tests except the ERG skills test are dependent on outside agency participation and equipment;

therefore, no makeup will be accommodated. The decontamination skills test is required to earn the Decon certificate from CSTI.

Click the “Grades” link in Canvas to keep track of your grades. Assignments are graded weekly (usually on Mondays). Instructor comments are posted in the Canvas grade book. Modules may include the extra credit assignments.

Grades will be assigned as follows:

- A** 90%
- B** 80%
- C** 70%
- D** 60%

Instructor Feedback

The instructor will provide feedback to the student on graded assignments and discussions using the comments section of the grades. On assignments that are turned in as a document, the instructor may add comments to the actual document. The student must turn on account notifications. The instructor may send out an announcement to notify students of a change that may affect the entire class or group of students.

Standards of Conduct

Students who register in SRJC classes must abide by the SRJC Student Conduct Standards. Violation of the Standards is basis for referral to the Vice President of Student Services or dismissal from class or from the College. See the [Student Code of Conduct page. \(http://student-conduct.santarosa.edu/\)](http://student-conduct.santarosa.edu/)

Collaborating on or copying of tests or homework in whole or in part will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and result in a grade of zero for that test or assignment. Students are encouraged to share information and ideas, but not their work. These courses are for you to learn. Using Gen AI websites like ChatGPT to answer questions may result in a lower grade if the information is not properly cited and does not demonstrate critical thinking on your part. See these links on Plagiarism:

[SRJC's statement on Academic Integrity \(links to an external site\).](#) 

[\(http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/santarosa/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=A63TMC78051C\)](http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/santarosa/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=A63TMC78051C)

[SRJC Writing Center Lessons on avoiding plagiarism](http://srjcwritingcenter.com/research/plagiarism/plagiarism.html)  [\(http://srjcwritingcenter.com/research/plagiarism/plagiarism.html\)](http://srjcwritingcenter.com/research/plagiarism/plagiarism.html)

Homework:

Homework assignments will be given to supplement the in-class discussion in Canvas.

Quizzes:

Quizzes will be given during the semester at regular intervals and will be scheduled through Canvas. The quizzes will help prepare for the CSTI certification tests.

Midterm Examination:

A midterm exam will be your first CSTI FRO Exam. It will contain questions from all topics covered in the textbook, lectures, and other reference material. The exam will contain multiple-choice questions.

CSTI Tests:

Fire 77 is a compilation of four California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) Hazardous Materials response classes. State certification is granted for successful completion (70% or higher on each of the four state exams) of each section:

- First Responder Operations
- First Responder Operations WMD
- First Responder Operations Decontamination
- Hazardous Materials Incident Commander

CSTI Certification

CSTI requires that students participate in and complete the course curriculum and pass the final exams. If a student does not participate in the Canvas coursework to meet the course curriculum's hourly requirements, they will not be eligible to receive the CSTI certification. Students can take the exams to improve their grades and still pass the class without obtaining certifications. Passing the FRO exam is a prerequisite for the FRO Decon, FRO WMD, and Hazmat IC exams. Skills testing is required for FRO, FRO Decon, and Hazmat IC certification.

Special Needs

Every effort is made to ensure that all instructor-created materials conform to accessibility standards. Students should contact their instructor as soon as possible if they are unable to access any course materials. Students with disabilities who believe they require accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disability Resources at (707) 527-4278.

Student Resources

If you need any help or [Student Resources \(https://college-skills.santarosa.edu/student-resources\)](https://college-skills.santarosa.edu/student-resources), please reach out. There is [Online Students Services \(https://onlinestudentservices.santarosa.edu/free-or-affordable-technology\)](https://onlinestudentservices.santarosa.edu/free-or-affordable-technology) available for students that do not have computers or cannot afford internet services.

List of assignments

Note to students: To view all course content, go to Modules.