

Collin College Syllabus

Course Number: FIRT 1303

Course Title: Fire and Arson Investigation I

Course Description: Basic fire and arson investigation practices. Emphasis on fire behavior principles related to fire cause and origin determination.

Course Credit Hours: 3 **Lecture Hours:** 3

Prerequisite: FIRT 1301 or consent of the Program Director.

College Repeat Policy: A student may repeat this course only once after receiving a grade, including "W".

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Identify causes and prevention of fire and fire hazards in and around a structure.
2. Identify and describe the process of combustion and define key terms associated with fire science.
3. Identify and interpret char and burn patterns.
4. Identify and explain indicators of incendiary fires.
5. Explain electrical theory and indicators of damage to electrical systems.
6. Identify sources of spontaneous heating and low temperature ignition.
7. Define terms associated with fire setting and describe motives encountered in fire setting.
8. Identify duties involved in performing a fire investigation to determine preliminary cause securing the incident scene, and preserving evidence, according to the following job requirements.
9. Evaluate available information, given a fire incident, observations, and interviews of first-arriving member and other individuals involved in the incident, so that a preliminary cause of the fire is determined, reports are completed, and if required, the scene is secured and all pertinent information is turned over to an investigator.
10. Common causes of fire, fire growth and development, and policies and procedures for calling for an investigator.

11. The ability to determine basic fire cause and the ability to conduct interviews and write reports.
12. Secure an incident scene, given rope or barrier tape, so that unauthorized persons can recognize the perimeters of the scene, are kept from restricted areas, and all evidence or potential evidence is protected from damage or destruction.
13. Types of evidence, the importance of fire scene security, and evidence preservation.
14. The ability to establish perimeters at an incident scene.
15. Determine the point of origin and preliminary cause of a fire, given a fire scene, photographs, diagrams, pertinent data / or sketches, to determine if arson is suspected.
16. Methods used by arsonists, common causes of fire, basic cause and origin determination, fire growth and development, land documentation of preliminary fire investigative procedures.
17. The ability to communicate verbally and in writing and to apply knowledge using deductive skills.
18. Identify and describe fire scene reconstruction.
19. Identify and describe causes of non-residential rural fires.
20. Identify and explain steps for case and trial preparation.

Attendance Policy:

Students are required to attend all scheduled class meetings and tours.

See the current *Collin Registration Guide* for the last day to withdraw.

Religious Holy Days: Please refer to the current *Collin Student Handbook*.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of Collin County Community College to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, State and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office SCC-G200 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) in a timely manner to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

Academic Ethics:

The College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree and/or the submission as one's own work material that is not one's own. Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to,

one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions, and/or falsifying academic records.

Plagiarism is the use of an author's words or ideas as if they were ones' own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.

Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else's work for assignments as if it were one's own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

Collusion is intentionally or unintentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to failing to secure academic work; providing a paper or project to another student, providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate during an examination or any other course assignment; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers.