

University of Illinois Fire Service Institute

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I

Course Duration: 32 hours

Program: Prevention

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description: This course is designed for firefighters, officers and non-commissioned fire department staff pursuing a certification as a Public Fire & Life Safety Educator I. The course is designed to train and equip students in a fire prevention and life safety education. Topics include: a history of fire prevention education, learning styles, methods for effective teaching, public relations, high-risk populations, professionalism, evaluation and assessment.

Students must meet the requirements as stated in NFPA 1035, Standard on Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist and Youth Firesetter Program Manager Professional Qualifications, 2015 edition.

One hundred percent of the 32 class contact hours and a passing score of at least 70% on the end of course exam is required for successful course completion. Any missed class time must be made up before a student can challenge the examination. Class hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (unless otherwise scheduled). Students must advise the instructor if they leave for emergency reasons.

Course Requirements and/or Recommendations: These can be divided into three categories: those completed prior to arriving in class (Pre-Course Work), those completed during class, such as homework assignments and quizzes (Course Work), and requirements completed after class but prior to receiving a certificate of completion (Post-Course Work).

Summary of Directions:

Pre-Course Work – None

Course Work – A student **MUST COMPLETE** all portions of this course, in order to challenge the end-of-course exam.

Post-Course Work – None

Required Textbook: Fire and Life Safety Educator Principles and Practices, 2nd Ed., 2018, J&B, Marsha P. Geisler (Provided in class)

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Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: IFSI requires students to attend (100%) or make up all course content that leads to certification. Students are expected to attend on time and to remain in class for the duration of the course. Students **MUST COMPLETE** all portions of a certification course, both classroom and practical, to be eligible to receive their certification.

If a student misses any portion of class with an accumulated absence of 20% or less of scheduled class time, it will be the student's responsibility to arrange the make-up of the missed course content with the instructor(s) or program manager. The student must make up the specific course content that s/he missed, not just the hours. Make-ups are limited to 20% of scheduled class time. Make-ups must be documented on the class roster. If a student's absence is greater than 20% refer to "True Emergencies" section of the IFSI Examination Policy.

Safety Policy: Students shall understand and follow all instructions pertaining to operational safety, as stated by instructors or as written in course materials. Instructors and students shall be mindful of safety at all times. Conduct judged to be unsafe shall be grounds for dismissal from the course.

Academic Integrity Policy: IFSI has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity so as to protect the quality of the education provided through its courses, and to protect those who depend upon our integrity. It is the responsibility of the student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. Any violation of the code of conduct is grounds for immediate dismissal from the course.

Grading Policy: Decisions regarding certificates of course completion shall be made solely by the lead instructor of the course. All grading of exams shall be conducted by the Curriculum/Testing Office. All grading of practical exercises shall be based upon the standards set by the regulatory agency referenced in the course material and IFSI.

Retesting: If a student fails to pass an exam, retesting takes place on set dates at regional sites across the state. More information is provided in the course completion e-mail and on the IFSI website.

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American Disabilities Act: As guaranteed in the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and in the American Disabilities Act, if any student needs special accommodations, they are to notify their instructor and provide documentation as soon as possible so arrangements can be made to provide for the student's needs. If arrangements cannot be made at the class site, the student will test at an alternative time and place where the special accommodations can be made.

Evaluation Strategy: The instructor will observe individual participation in the classroom and group discussions. The instructor will collect and review all required student materials. Students will be evaluated with an end of course exam.

Course Content:

Module: 1

Title: Historic Fires, Injury Prevention, and Community Risk Reduction

Module: 2

Title: Fire Behavior, Systems and Devices, and Fire Prevention

Module: 3

Title: Fire Department Basics and the Fire and Life Safety Educator

Module: 4

Title: Learning Styles and Theories, Teaching Methods, and Strategies

Module: 5

Title: Age Group Characteristics

Module: 6

Title: High Risk Audiences and Behaviors

Module: 7

Title: Messages for Different Age Groups

Module: 8

Title: Messages for Holidays, Special Circumstances, and Safety Campaigns

Module: 9

Title: Professionalism and Presentations

Module: 10

Title: Public Relations and Working with Media

Module: 11

Title: Evaluation, Assessment, and Reflection

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Reference List:

Fire and Life Safety Educator, 3rd Edition, 2011, IFSTA

Giesler, Marsha P., Fire and Life Safety Educator Principles and Practices, 2nd Edition, Jones and Bartlett, 2018

NFPA 1035, Standard on Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist and Youth Firesetter Program Professional Qualifications, Chapter 4, 2015 Edition.

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Course Schedule

DAY ONE

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Business/Introduction	1 hour
Module 1: Historic Fires, Injury Prevention, and Community Risk Reduction	4 hours
Lunch	
Module 2: Fire Behavior, Systems and Devices, Fire Prevention	3 hours

DAY TWO

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 3: Fire Department Basics and the Fire And Life Safety Educator	2 hours 30 min
Module 4: Learning Styles and Theories, Teaching Methods, and Strategies	1 hour 30 min
Lunch	
Module 4: Learning Styles and Theories, Teaching Methods, and Strategies	1 hour 30 min
Module 5: Age Group Characteristics	2 hours 30 min

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DAY THREE

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 6: High Risk Audiences and Behaviors	2 hours
Module 7: Messages for Different Age Groups	2 hours
Lunch	
Module 8: Messages for Holidays, Special Circumstances, and Safety Campaigns	2 hours
Module 9: Professionalism and Presentations	2 hours

DAY FOUR

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 10: Public Relations and Working with Media	3 hours 30 min
Module 11: Evaluation, Assessment, and Reflection	2 hours 30 min
Lunch	
Review	1 hour
Exam	1 hour