University of Illinois Fire Service Institute

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Basic Operations Firefighter – Module C

Course Duration: 60 hours within Six Weeks

Program: Firefighting

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description:
The Basic Operations Firefighter Online Modules Course is designed to give new firefighters the cognitive and practical training needed to operate safely and effectively on the fire ground. IFSI's Basic Operations Firefighter Online Modules Course exceeds the requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal for entry-level firefighter training. This course utilizes the convenience of online learning and allows for the local completion of hands-on skills which promotes both skill competency and an understanding of the fire ground. Students complete numerous online activities which build the foundation for the in-person skill acquisition.

Reference List:

Essentials of Fire Fighting, 7th Edition. Fire Protection Publications, 2018 (Not Provided)

NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 2019 Edition (Not Provided)

How the Course Works:
Online course content will be delivered each week. Students will be required to complete a series of activities for each lesson which include a required reading assignment, a Virtual Learning Session (VLS), homework assignments, and a weekly quiz. Students should expect to spend approximately 10 hours each week on this course.

Course Schedule:
The course is separated into six individual weeks, each dedicated to specific topics. Each week will begin on Monday at 12:01 AM and end on the following Sunday at 11:59 PM. The student will be responsible for completing all assigned weekly work before the Sunday deadline.

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Assignment Deadlines:
The student must successfully submit all his/her weekly assignments before the Sunday deadline. **All assignments are mandatory and cannot be skipped or left incomplete.** Once the deadline passes, any incomplete assignment(s) will be closed and locked. An incomplete assignment is any assignment that was never started or was started but did not meet all assignment objectives. At this point, the student will be unable to submit the assignment.

Incomplete Assignment Policy:
Once an assignment has been locked, it will require the student's Academic Instructor/Mentor to send an email to the Technology Based Learning department and the Online Modules Program Manager to request the assignment be unlocked. If this request is approved, the student will be given an extension of seven days from the original due date to complete the assignment. If the assignment is not successfully completed by this extended deadline, the student will be removed from the Modules Program. **Throughout the entire six-week program, a student may not accrue more than five assignment extensions. Once a student exceeds five assignment extensions, he/she will be removed from the Modules Program.**

Poor Performance:
If a student begins to demonstrate a pattern of poor performance at any time during the program, the Online Program Manager may contact the student's Training Officer and/or Chief to discuss the student's issues and assist in creating a plan for correction. **A student's poor attitude or a continued clear lack of effort may result in the student's dismissal from the Modules Program.**

Academic Instructor/Mentor
Each student will be placed into a small group called a company.   Each company will be led by an Academic Instructor/Mentor. This instructor will be responsible for guiding his/her company through this course. He/she will also be the student's first point of contact should a question or issue arise.

Throughout the duration of this course, email will be the primary means of communication between the student and his/her assigned Academic Instructor/Mentor. To ensure timely communication, the student and the Academic Instructor/Mentor are expected to check his/her email daily. Many instructors work full-time jobs outside IFSI and may not be able to respond immediately. Please allow up to 24 hours for a response. Likewise, the instructor will expect a response to his/her emails within 24 hours.

All official course communication must be done via email.

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Weekly Coursework:

Virtual Learning Sessions (VLS):
Each week students will attend a mandatory live lecture called a Virtual Learning Session on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. During the lecture, an instructor will discuss and expound upon the current week's course material. The lectures will include interactive features such as chat rooms and polls that students must participate in. Each student will receive a grade based upon his/her attendance and participation. The grade will be reflected as a score between 0.00 and 100.00. A passing score is 70.00 or greater. A student must attend 70% or more of the session to receive a passing grade. If a student misses the Wednesday evening session OR leaves a session for any reason (including fire/EMS calls) before attending 70% or more of the total duration, he/she must complete the VLS Makeup Assignment described below.

Virtual Learning Session (VLS) Makeup Assignment(s):
A Virtual Learning Session Makeup Assignment is only required when a student fails to attend the live Virtual Learning Session on Wednesday evening OR fails to attend 70% or more of the total duration of the session. This assignment requires a student to watch the entire archived Virtual Learning Session AND write a four-paragraph summary of subjects the instructor discussed. The student's Academic Instructor/Mentor will grade the assignment and provide feedback based upon the assignment's accuracy and the effort put forth by the student. The grade for this assignment will be reflected as a score between 0.00 and 100.00. A passing score is 70.00 or greater. This assignment must be completed and submitted before the weekly deadline of Sunday at 11:59 PM. If the assignment isn't successfully completed by the weekly deadline, it will be addressed according to the "Incomplete Assignment Policy."

Student Assignments:
Each week, students will be required to complete three homework assignments. The homework assignments will correspond with the weekly topic(s) and subject matter. Each assignment is comprised of definitions and critical-thinking questions derived exclusively from the required IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting Seventh Edition textbook. This textbook will serve as the sole resource for these assignments. Students are expected to thoroughly and completely answer each question and meet each objective. Students will also have assignments based upon their department and apparatus. The student's Academic Instructor/Mentor will review each assignment, assign a grade, and provide feedback. The grade will be based on the accuracy of the answers and the effort put forth by the student. The grade will be a "0" for failed assignment and a "1" for a passed assignment. If an assignment doesn't meet all the assignment objectives, the student's Academic Instructor/Mentor will provide feedback on what the assignment is lacking. Students may use this feedback to correct the assignment and resubmit before the weekly deadline. This assignment must be successfully completed and submitted before the weekly deadline of Sunday at 11:59 PM.

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Failed Weekly Homework Assignments after Weekly Deadline:
If after the weekly deadline, a student has failed to submit a weekly homework assignment(s), has submitted an assignment(s) missing one or more objectives, or has submitted an assignment(s) with a clear lack of effort, the student will receive a "0" for a failed assignment. The student's Academic Instructor/Mentor will provide feedback via email to the student on why the assignment was given a failing score. This email will also be sent to the Technology Based Learning department and the Online Modules Program Manager to request the assignment to be unlocked.   If this request is approved, the student will be given an extension of seven days from the original due date to complete the assignment. If the assignment is not successfully completed by this extended deadline, the student will be removed from the Modules Program. **Each failed weekly homework assignment after the weekly deadline will count as an assignment extension in accordance with the "Incomplete Assignment Policy."**

Weekly Quiz:
Each week, students will be required to complete a weekly quiz. The quiz will correspond with the weekly topic(s) and subject matter. The quiz is untimed and can be taken as many times as necessary before the weekly deadline (Sunday at 11:59 PM) to achieve a passing score of 70.00 or higher. The quiz is automatically scored from 0.00 to 100.00. If the quiz is taken multiple times, the online classroom automatically records the highest score achieved. **All weekly quizzes must be completed with a score of 70.00 or better to successfully complete this course. If the quiz isn't successfully completed by the weekly deadline, it will be addressed according to the "Incomplete Assignment Policy."**

Module C Final Quiz:
At the conclusion of Module C, there will be a Final Quiz. **This is not the OSFM State Exam**. This quiz will serve as a review of the subject matter covered throughout the six weeks. The quiz will consist of 50 questions and will have a time limit of one hour. Students will only have one attempt to achieve a passing score of 70.00 or higher. The quiz is automatically scored from 0.00 to 100.00. If a student does not achieve a passing score of 70.00 or higher, he/she must reach out to his/her Academic Instructor/Mentor and request another opportunity. **If the quiz isn't successfully completed by its weekly deadline, it will be addressed according to the "Incomplete Assignment Policy."**

OSFM State Exam:
This Exam is administered by the OSFM at locations throughout the state. The student's Chief or Training Officer must select a testing site and schedule the exam through the OSFM portal on the OSFM website. The final grade will be sent to the student's fire department and can take up to six (6) weeks to receive.

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Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: IFSI requires students to complete (100%), or make up, all course content that leads to certification. Students must complete all portions of a certification course to be eligible to receive their certification.

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. Conduct judged to be unsafe shall be grounds for dismissal from the course.

Academic Integrity: IFSI has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity 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.
While students in the same company or from the same department are encouraged to work together, each student is required to submit his/her own work. Students are not allowed to submit any portion of another student's work. Infractions, violations, or suspicion of cheating, copying, or plagiarism could lead to the student's removal from the Modules program.

Artificial Intelligence Policy:
In accordance with IFSI's Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence for Students in IFSI Courses policy, Artificial Intelligence (AI) use is prohibited in the Modules program. This means that using AI tools, such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, Grammarly, or any other form of AI, is prohibited for any assignment at any stage of this course.

Grading: Decisions regarding Certificates of Course Completion shall be made solely by the Program Manager.

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 accommodation can be made.

Evaluation Strategy: Students will be evaluated with a Weekly Quiz, and an Accumulative Final Quiz at the end of the module.

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Course Content:

Week 1
Title: **Overhaul, Property Conservation, and Scene Preservation**
<u>Terminal Learning Objective:</u>
At the conclusion of this module, the student will be able to conduct salvage and overhaul operations at an emergency scene.

Week 2
Title: **Fire Origin and Cause Determination**
<u>Terminal Learning Objective:</u>
At the conclusion of this module, the student will be able to explain the duties of a firefighter as they relate to cause and origin investigation.

Week 3
Title: **Technical Rescue Support and Vehicle Extrication Operations**
<u>Terminal Learning Objective:</u>
At the conclusion of this module, the student will be able to summarize the duties of a firefighter at a technical rescue incident, with a focus on how to best support a local or regional technical rescue team; and identify the basic principles associated with vehicle extrication.

Week 4
Title: **Community Risk Reduction – Public Education**
<u>Terminal Learning Objective:</u>
At the conclusion of this module, the student will be able to identify fire prevention and public education issues, components, and programs.

Week 5
Title: **Community Risk Reduction – Installed Systems**
<u>Terminal Learning Objective:</u>
At the conclusion of this module, the student will be able to identify various types and components of installed fire suppression and detection systems.

Week 6
Title: **Hazardous Materials Response for Firefighters**
<u>Terminal Learning Objective:</u>
At the conclusion of this module, the student will be able to identify and explain laws, regulations, and standards relating to hazardous materials; identify the characteristics of hazardous materials; identify the presence of hazardous materials; identify possible indicators of a terrorist attack; and demonstrate how to make basic scene decisions at a hazardous materials/WMD incident.

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Week	Assignments
Week 1	• Introduce Yourself • Student Contact Form • VLS or VLS Makeup Assignment • Homework Assignment #1 – Overhaul, Property Conservation and Scene Preservation • Homework Assignment #2 – Overhaul, Property Conservation and Scene Preservation • Homework Assignment #3 – Overhaul, Property Conservation and Scene Preservation • Quiz
Week 2	• VLS or VLS Makeup Assignment • Homework Assignment #1 – Fire Origin and Cause Determination • Homework Assignment #2 – Fire Origin and Cause Determination • Homework Assignment #3 – Fire Origin and Cause Determination • Quiz
Week 3	• VLS or VLS Makeup Assignment • Homework Assignment #1 – Technical Rescue Support • Homework Assignment #2 – Extrication • Homework Assignment #3 – Extrication Tool Inventory • Quiz
Week 4	• VLS or VLS Makeup Assignment • Homework Assignment #1 – CRR – Public Education • Homework Assignment #2 – CRR – Public Education • Homework Assignment #3 – CRR – Public Education • Quiz
Week 5	• VLS or VLS Makeup Assignment • Homework Assignment #1 – Fire Protection Systems • Homework Assignment #2 – Fire Protection Systems • Homework Assignment #3 – Fire Protection Systems • Quiz
Week 6	• VLS or VLS Makeup Assignment • Hazardous Materials Awareness Online Module • Resiliency Awareness Online Module • Module C Final Quiz