

## COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD



**Palo Verde College**

**One College Drive, Blythe, CA 92225  
(760) 921-5500**

Course Control Number: CCC000556531

Course Outline Approval Dates		
	Curriculum Committee	Board of Trustees
Face-to-Face	2/13/14	5/13/14
Correspondence Ed.		
Distance Ed.		

**Course Information. Course Initiator:** Dan Voreyer

Subject Area and Course Number: <b>FST 103</b>		Course Title: <b>Fire Investigation I</b>		
New Course <input type="checkbox"/> Revised <input type="checkbox"/> Updated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Static ID	<b>TOP Code 2133.00</b>	<b>Credit Status Request</b> <b>D=Credit Degree Applicable</b>
Classification Code <b>Y=Credit Course</b>		<b>SAM Code</b> <b>C=Clearly occupational</b>		<b>Course prior to college level</b> <b>Y=Not applicable</b>
<b>Noncredit category</b> <b>Choose one: Y=Credit Course, Not Applicable</b>		Meets a unique need: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Course duplicated: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demand/Enrollment Potential: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Transfer request <b>B= Transferable CSU Only</b>		Articulation request: UC <input type="checkbox"/> CSU X <input type="checkbox"/> CSU-GE <input type="checkbox"/> IGETC <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Basic Skills</b> <b>Choose one: N= Not Basic Skills</b>		<b>Funding Agency</b> <b>Choose one: Y=Not Applicable</b>		Course Program Status <b>2=Stand Alone</b>
Co-Op Status <b>Choose one: N= Not part of Coop</b>		Special Class Status <b>Choose one: N= Not special Class</b>		

**JUSTIFICATION FOR NEED:**

This course is a requirement for California State Fire Marshal certification as a Fire Investigator and as a Fire Officer.

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides students with an introduction and basic overview of fire scene investigation. The focus of the course is to provide information on fire scene indicators and to determine the fire's origin. This course of study will present theories and fundamentals of fire/explosion investigation techniques.

**SEMESTER UNITS:** 2

**Course Length:** Lecture: 40    **Laboratory:**            **Clinic/Field:**

**PRE-REQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ADVISORIES:**

If the course has pre-requisites, co-requisites or advisories, list them here and attach a completed Pre-requisite Justification form.

N/A

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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

- a. Have an overview of fire investigative practices and responsibilities associated with fire origin and cause.
- b. Obtain technical information enabling them to determine the area of fire origin.
- c. Obtain background information that will lead them to develop an opinion of the fire causes.
- d. Obtain technical information on the State's arson laws and legal aspects of fire scene investigation.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. The student will successfully pass the State Fire Marshal written exam related to Fire Investigation 1A.
- 

## **COURSE OUTLINE AND SCOPE:**

### **1. Outline of topics or content:**

- a. Orientation and Administration
- b. Introduction to Fire Investigation
- c. Fire Behavior
- d. Legal Aspects of Fire Investigation
- e. Arson Law
- f. Fire Scene Documentation
- g. Point of Origin Determination
- h. Accidental Ignition Sources
- i. Electrical ignition Sources
- j. Arson Fire Indicators
- k. Incendiary Devices
- l. Structure Fire Investigation
- m. Vehicle Fire Investigation
- n. Wildland Fire Investigation
- o. Explosions
- p. Course Review and Summative Exam

### **2. If a course contains laboratory or clinic/field hours, list examples of activities or topics:**

N/A

### **3. Examples of reading assignments:**

Reading assignments are required and may include, but are not limited to, the following: Standard textbooks, journal articles, or other readings at the appropriate collegiate level, subject to the approval of the department chairperson in consultation with the instructor.

### **4. Examples of writing assignments:**

Writing assignments are required and may include, but are not limited to, the following: Traditional research papers, position papers, or other alternatives that require critical reading, analysis, and evaluation skills, at the discretion of the instructor and subject to approval of the department chairperson.

**5. Appropriate assignments to be completed outside of class:**

Outside assignments may include, but are not limited to, the following:

In addition to the reading assigned to students, audio-visual material, field trips, resource materials in the college library or the Learning Center, or other materials/activities may be assigned if deemed appropriate by the instructor and indicated in the course syllabus

**6. Appropriate assignments that demonstrate critical thinking:**

Critical thinking assignments are required and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Classroom discussion that addresses the rewards and challenges of fire investigation practices and responsibilities.

**7. Other assignments (if applicable):**

N/A

---

**8. Face-to-Face Course Sections:**

**Face-to-face education** is a mode of delivery in which instruction is delivered in a traditional classroom setting, with instructor and students located simultaneously in the same classroom facility.

**a. Describe the methods of instruction.**

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to, the following: Lecture, discussion, group activities, audio-visual, and other appropriate instructional strategies at the discretion of the instructor, and subject to approval of the department chairperson.

**b. Describe the methods of evaluating of student performance.**

A student's grade will be based on multiple measures of performance. These methods may include, but are not limited to, the following:

The student's grade will be determined by no less than two evaluation techniques, at least one of which must demonstrate writing skills.

Additional evaluations may include the following as determined by Instructor:

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Projects

**c. Describe how the confidentiality of the student's work and grades will be maintained.**

Instructors shall make reasonable efforts to protect the confidentiality of students' grades and graded work consistent with practices described in the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

If the course has a lab component, describe how lab work is to be conducted and how student work is to be evaluated.

N/A

**Note: Students will be encouraged by instructors of this course to direct themselves to the College's Disabled Students' Programs and Services (DSP&S) department if they believe they have a learning disability.**

### **9. Correspondence Education Course Sections (correspondence, hybrid correspondence)**

**Correspondence education** is a mode of delivery in which instructional materials are delivered by mail, courier or electronic transmission to students who are separated from the instructor by distance. Contact between instructor and student is asynchronous. **Hybrid correspondence education** is the combination of correspondence and face-to-face interaction between instructor and student.

**a. Describe the methods of instruction.**

N/A

**b. Describe the methods of evaluating student performance.**

**c. Describe how regular, effective contact between the instructor and a student is maintained.**

**d. Describe procedures that help verify the individual submitting class work is the same individual enrolled in the course section.**

**e. Describe procedures that evaluate the readiness of a student to succeed in a correspondence or hybrid correspondence course section.**

**f. Describe how the confidentiality of the student's work and grades will be maintained.**

**g. If the course has a lab component, describe how lab work is to be conducted and how student work is to be evaluated.**

**h. If the course requires specialized equipment, including computer and computer software or other equipment, identify the equipment, and describe how it is to be accessed by students.**

**Note: Students will be encouraged by instructors of this course to direct themselves to the College's Disabled Students' Programs and Services (DSP&S) department if they believe they have a learning disability.**

---

## **10. Distance Education Course Sections (online, ITV, hybrid)**

**Online education** is a mode of delivery in which all instruction occurs online via the Internet. Student and instructor access to email and the Internet is required. Students are required to complete class work using email, chat rooms, discussion boards and other instructional online venues. **Interactive television (ITV)** is a mode of synchronous delivery in which instruction occurs via interactive television (closed circuit). **Hybrid** instruction is a combination of face-to-face instruction and online instruction.

**a. Describe the methods of instruction.**

N/A

**b. Describe the methods of evaluating student performance.**

**c. Describe how regular, effective contact between the instructor and a student is maintained.**

**d. Describe procedures that help verify the individual submitting class work is the same individual enrolled in the course section.**

**e. Describe procedures that evaluate the readiness of a student to succeed in an online, ITV or hybrid course section.**

**f. Describe how the confidentiality of the student's work and grades will be maintained.**

**g. If the course has a lab component, describe how lab work is to be conducted and how student work is to be evaluated.**

**h. If the course requires specialized equipment, including computer and computer software or other equipment, identify the equipment, and describe how it is to be accessed by students.**

**Note: Students will be encouraged by instructors of this course to direct themselves to the College's Disabled Students'**

**Programs and Services (DSP&S) department if they believe they have a learning disability.**

---

---

**REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER READING AND STUDY MATERIALS:**

List author, title, and current publication date of all representative materials.

California State Fire Marshal, Fire Investigation 1A Fire Cause and Origin Determination, Student Supplement, January 2011.

Appropriate newspaper, magazine and journal articles  
Instructor hand-outs

**VENDORS:**

Palo Verde College Bookstore, One College Drive, Blythe, CA 92225  
[www.paloverde.edu](http://www.paloverde.edu) Ph. 760-921-5429

SFT State Fire Training Bookstore, PO Box 944246, 1131 S Street, Sacramento 94244  
<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/php> Ph. 916-445-8158

---

---

**SIGNATURES:**

**COURSE INITIATOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LIBRARY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAIR OF CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_