



FIRE-215 – Incident Safety Officer

Technology

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022

Course Outline Review Date: 2024-04-01

Program Area: Fire Services

Description:

This course complies with the standards set by Chapter 5 of NFPA 1521 (2015): Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications. To provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties of the Incident Safety Officer (ISO) during incident operations and training evolutions.

This course is designed for fire and emergency medical services (EMS) responders who may be designated by the Incident Commander (IC) as an ISO while working within an Incident Command System (ICS). These assignments may occur during firefighting, EMS, special operations incidents, and training evolutions.

Program Information:

This course is designed for students currently in the fire service seeking to further their career.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 2

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	24

Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	8
Total	32

Course Requisites:

- Completed the following:
 - [FIRE127](#) – Fire Fighting Practices Level 1 and 2 (14)
 - [FIRE201](#) – Fire Officer 1 (3)

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Jones & Bartlett (3rd Edition) Fire Department Incident Safety Officer

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to perform the duties of a Incident Safety Officer to the criteria set by the National Fire Protection Association, standard NFPA 1521:

- perform the role of ISO within an ICS at an incident or planned event;
- monitor the IAP, conditions, activities, and operations;
- manage the transfer of ISO duties;
- stop, alter, or suspend operations based on imminent threats posed to fire fighter safety;
- monitor and determine the incident scene conditions;
- monitor the accountability system;
- determine hazardous incident conditions;
- identify motor vehicle incident scene hazards;
- monitor radio transmissions;
- identify the incident strategic requirements;
- determine the hazards associated with the designation of a landing zone and interface with helicopters;
- notify the IC of the need for intervention resulting from an occupational exposure to atypical stressful events;
- determine hazardous energy sources that can affect responder health and safety; and
- monitor conditions, including weather, firefighter activities, and work cycle durations.

Course Topics:

- The Safety Officer Role
- Safety Concepts
- Guiding Laws, Regulations, and Standards
- Designing an Incident Safety Officer Systems
- Reading Building
- Reading Smoke
- Reading Risk
- Reading Hazardous Energy
- Reading Firefighters
- Triggers, Traps, and Working with the Incident Commander
- A Systematic approach to the ISO Role
- The ISO at Structure Fire
- The ISO at Wildland and I-Zone Fire
- The ISO at Hazardous Materials Incidents
- Post incident Responsibilities and Mishap Investigations
- The ISO at Training Drills and Special Events

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
The theory portion of the course is assessed with a Pro Board-approved written test. Students must achieve a minimum mark of 70%.	50%
The practical assignment portion of the course is assessed on a pass/fail basis. Students must earn a passing grade on each of the skills tests as required by the Pro Board.	50%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

COM	NCG
Completed to the defined standard – 70% and higher	No credit granted – less than 70%

Pass requirements: A passing average (70% or higher) in the theory components and satisfactory completion of practice criteria.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.