COLLEGE OF
THE ROCKIES

FIRE-215 – Incident Safety Officer

Technology

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2024
Course Outline Review Date: 2029-04-01

Program Area: Fire Services

Description:

This course complies with the standards set by Chapter 5 of NFPA 1521 (2020): 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 rescue services 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 structure firefighting, wildland firefighting, technical rescues, hazardous materials responses, 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 Projects
Total	32

Course Requisites:

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

Flexible Assessment: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, or work-based assessment are used to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) or 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 Columba 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 Fire Department Incident Safety Officer, Third Edition (Revised)

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;
- mange 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%

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Assessment of learning follows standard testing procedures as defined by the Pro Board Fire Officer Professional Qualifications System.

A passing grade is required in both theory and practical skills components in order to earn credit for the course.

A grade of COM is awarded for a minimum of 70% on all theory based tests and a pass on all practical assignments.

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 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

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.