

Spring 2022



South Portland, Maine 04106  
Fire Science Department

---

**Title: Fire Ground Operations**

**Catalog Number: FIRE-250**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Total Contact Hours: 60**

**Methods: Online/Projects/Reports**

**Course Schedule: 250-01**

**Tuesday 1:45 pm- 4:30 pm**

**Course Location:**

**Distance Learning via Zoom**

**Course Schedule: 250-02**

**Friday 8:00 am-10:45 am**

**Course Location:**

**Howe Hall**

---

**Instructor: David Hamel**

**Contact Information: [dhamel@smcc.edu](mailto:dhamel@smcc.edu)  
207-286-5508-Cell**

---

## Course Syllabus

### Course Description

This course offers basic strategies and tactics to the newer firefighter. The course looks at three major response apparatus and explores the internal structure and skills needed to operate at the scene of a fire. The course will also provide the principles of fire ground control through utilization of personnel, equipment and extinguishing agents. In spring 2022, this course will be offered through weekly distance learning and in-person classes

*Student engagement in all sessions will be required and documented.*

### Course Outcomes

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

1. Discuss fire behavior as it relates to strategies and tactics.
2. Explain the main components of pre-fire planning and identify steps needed for a pre-fire plan review.
3. Identify the basics of building construction and how they interrelate to pre-fire planning and strategy and tactics.
4. Describe the steps taken during size up.
5. Examine the significance of fire ground communications.
6. Identify the roles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Management System (ICS) as it relates to strategy and tactics.
7. Demonstrate the various roles and responsibilities in ICS/NIMS.

## **Course Objectives**

The student will be able to:

1. Improve on their firefighting skills.
2. Be successful in making difficult decisions on the fire ground.
3. Prepare the firefighter for handling minor and major fires and emergencies.
4. Prepare the firefighter for future promotion.
5. Using discussion, lessons learned from NIOSH reports and scenarios reduce the possibility of firefighter injuries and or death.
6. Create a strategy and implement appropriate tactics
7. Possess a working knowledge and execution of ICS/NIMS at an incident

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

- Students are required to complete several weekly assignments to include: Chapter Reading, PCNTG, and Online Quizzes.
- Students will complete two on-line exams, one midterm and one final.
- A Capstone project will be required of all students.
- All course assignments are expected on the day they are due. Late work will not be accepted.
- Attendance is expected at all classes. Attendance will be recorded and will affect the class participation grade. All classes begin promptly at their scheduled time.
- Considering the nature of the material presented during this course, missing class time or assignments will have significant negative consequences, not just on a student's grade, but on their functional safety on the fireground.
- Absences and late arrivals (late arrivals initially or from any break will count for ½ of a missed class) and will reduce a student's final grade earned in this class.
- Missing 2 (two) days of class time will be grounds for course failure.

## **Course Requirements**

Students are expected to complete pre-class assignments, attend all classes, take notes, and actively participate in classroom discussions and group assignments. There are weekly written assignments and student individual and group presentations. Online quizzes and tests will assess student academic progress.

## **Topical Outline**

- History of Fire Service Strategies and Tactics
- Firefighter Safety
- Incident Management Systems
- Coordination and Control
- Fire Dynamics
- Pre Incident Planning
- Built-in Fire Protection
- Company Operations
- One-and Two-Family Dwellings
- Multiple Family Dwellings
- Commercial Buildings
- Places of Assembly
- High-Rise Office Buildings
- Vehicle Fires
- After the Incident

## GRADING

Mid Term Exam	= 10%
Final Exam	= 10%
Weekly Tests/Quizzes	= 25%
Weekly PCNTG's and assigned Writing Assignments	= 25%
Capstone Project	= 25%
Class Attendance & Participation	= 5%
Total:	<u>          </u> <b>100 %</b>

## CAPSTONE PROJECT

Class project will consist of a Capstone assignment. Deadlines will be as follows:

**Week 5**, project you have chosen will be due for approval.

**Week 10**, a written draft copy is due.

**Week 15**, the final project is due.

### **Required Text:**

- Jones & Bartlett. **Structural Firefighting: Strategy and Tactics 4th edition**. Bernard Klein & Thomas Lakamp. ISBN: 9781284180299.  
[www.psglearning.com/catalog/productdetails/9781284180299?jblsearch](http://www.psglearning.com/catalog/productdetails/9781284180299?jblsearch)

## Student Classroom Behavior & Expectations

- Students are expected to attend all classes. You are expected to arrive to class on time, with your pre-class work done. See details below.
- Students are expected to stay engaged in class, whether via Zoom or in person. Stay on task. Keep your camera on. Please do not be distracted by personal discussions, electronic devices, etc. during class.
- Students are expected to submit original work unless other sources are clearly credited. Students are expected to equitably share the load in group work. Cheating will not be tolerated. Student's found cheating will result in penalizing actions up to and including a failing grade in this course following policies in the student code of conduct.
- Students are expected to prepare for class and complete all assignments. Readings and homework provide the foundation for class lectures, discussions and projects. Weekly quizzes and/or tests will be given over the assigned readings. Homework will be assigned each week and must be submitted at beginning of the next class.

### **You cannot pass this course without doing your homework every week!**

- Students are expected to respect the classroom, fellow students and faculty. Listen thoughtfully when others speak, even if you disagree with what they are saying. Challenge your own notions. Defend your positions with facts.
- Students are expected to actively participate and think critically. This is necessary for knowledge sharing and to get the most from practice/application opportunities.
- Students are expected to set pagers, or cell phones on vibrate during class time and ignore unless emergency.
- Students are expected to not use tobacco of any kind in the classroom. Food and drinks should be used respectfully of others and the facility.
- Students are expected to doff hats and not wear any distracting attire during class time.
- Students will be held accountable. ... For working hard, staying engaged, persisting, asking for help as needed (earlier, rather than later), taking responsibility and holding yourself accountable, meeting expectations + mastering course materials.

### **Homework and Written Assignments**

Assignments, typed in specified formats (APA, etc.) will be due as noted on the schedule and in JB Learning portal. Late assignments (papers, take-home quizzes, etc.) will be accepted only up to 1 week late (no exceptions) and will receive a maximum grade of 50% unless prior authorization is given by the instructor. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to submit your work by the deadline.

### **Attendance + Participation**

Attendance and engagement will be recorded multiple times during Zoom and face to face classes, and will affect student's course grade. SMCC requires instructors to report the names of students to the registrar's office who stop attending class. Missing a portion of a Zoom or face to face class will be recorded as ½ an absence. For the purpose of this class, instructor will report students as no longer attending after two consecutive – or a total of three -- absences from the class, resulting in a grade of "AF" being recorded for the student. FMI, please refer to the SMCC Student Handbook. Students are expected to notify the instructor, in advance, concerning absences. Students are responsible for all material – and meeting deadlines – regardless of absences.

### **Task Book**

The task book will be the student's organizer, ongoing record of work completed and course portfolio for the student's final presentation near the end of the course. The task book documentation and presentation will be graded. Students should insert in their task book all graded work returned by the instructor, as well as course portfolio materials, and keep an up-to-date record of all work submitted and returned throughout the semester.

### **Mid-Term Grades**

After students have completed Week 10 of the course, mid-term grades will be posted for all students. Those demonstrating unsatisfactory performance will be required to meet with the instructors and peer mentor and develop a plan for course success. Unsatisfactory performance is determined by a combination of grades, attendance + habits of success.

### **End-of-Course Evaluation**

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 p.m. following the last day of the class. You will receive an e-mail to your student e-mail account when course evaluations are available.

### **For Classes with any Face- to -Face Component**

While the syllabus represents current plans, there may be changes during the semester in response to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. Depending on the progression of the virus, it is possible that the College may have to suspend face-to-face instruction for part of the semester. If we must stop face to face instruction anytime during the semester, your instructor will contact you via your SMCC email or the Brightspace course homepage to discuss next steps for the course.

### **SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy**

Each semester students receive a \$20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need to print documents for the department should contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you

have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an e-mail to [helpdesk@smccme.edu](mailto:helpdesk@smccme.edu).

### **Refunds**

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

### **Add-Drop Policy**

Students who drop a course during the one-week "add/drop" period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

### **Withdrawal Policy**

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the Fall and Spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week Summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses, usually 75 percent of course meeting times; please check with the Registration Office. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Registration Office. This process must be completed either in person or by using SMCC e-mail accounts.

### **Plagiarism Statement**

If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and determine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College's chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor's determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College's disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct

### **Inclement Weather**

If any classes have to be canceled due to inclement weather, tests or student presentations will be rescheduled for the next class period and assignments will be collected at the next class period. School closure info is available at [www.smccme.edu](http://www.smccme.edu), by calling 741-5500 or tune into any local TV station.

### **ADA Statement**

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call (207) 741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

## The Learning Commons

The library, tutoring and writing centers, and reference/research assistance (typically located on the second floor of South Portland's Campus Center and in the Midcoast's LL Bean Learning Commons and Health Science Center) will be fully available online during the fall 2020 semester.

Here you can find free academic support through individually scheduled and drop in, online tutoring. You can also find information literacy/research librarians, and professional academic strategy/planning mentoring online. While the physical space of the Learning Commons will not be available at this time, we can also work with you to set up zoom classrooms for small group study. Services are offered by appointment or as drop-in assistance.

To access services:

- Visit My Learning in My Maine Guide or
- Select the "tutoring needed" button if it appears inside your Brightspace course.

Whether On Site or Online, students have consistently reported that the Learning Commons is a friendly, risk-free, and helpful place to seek academic support. It has also been shown that those who make use of the Learning Commons do better in a course than those who do not. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this valuable and enjoyable resource.

### **Topical Outline of Instruction (Subject to Change with Advanced Notice)**

Week 1	Introductions, Zoom, Jones & Bartlett online overview, course review, syllabus review, PCNTG (pre-class note taking guides), quizzes, Writing Assignments.
Week 2	Chapter 1: Organizing, Coordinating, and Commanding Emergency Incidents
Week 3	Chapter 2: Procedures, Pre-incident Planning, and Size-Up
Week 4	Chapter 3: Developing an Incident Action Plan
Week 5	Chapter 4: Company Operations <i>Capstone Project Topic Due</i>
Week 6	Chapter 5: Fire Fighter Safety
Week 7	Chapter 6: Life Safety
Week 8	<b>Mid Term</b>
Week 9	School Vacation
Week 10	Chapter 7: Fire Protection Systems <i>Capstone Project Final Draft Due</i>
Week 11	Chapter 8: Offensive Operations
Week 12	Chapter 9: Defensive Operations
Week 13	Chapter 10: Property Conservation
Week 14	Chapter 11: The Role of Occupancy
Week 15	Chapter 12: High-Rise Buildings <i>Capstone Project Due</i>
Week 16	<b>Final Exam</b>