COURSE OBJECTIVES

To provide the student with an introduction to the basic principles of the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives and focusing on the need for cultural and behavioral change throughout the emergency services. Topics will include risk management, health and fitness standards, firefighter fatality, injury and near miss data and investigations, personal and organizational accountability and other topics. Students are required to read the text “Understanding and Implementing the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives”, by Fire Protection Publications and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, 2011.

Students needing accommodations should contact the instructor as soon as possible. As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), accommodations are provided to insure equal opportunity for students with verified disabilities. If you need assistance with an accommodation, please contact Disabled Student Services, Room 810, (479-6379) or Learning Skills Program, Room 1073, (479-6220).

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION: This course requires active participation each day of class so it is important for you to attend every class session, arrive on time, and come prepared. Your participation not only enhances your own learning, it benefits other students in the class, especially when the class is doing group work. Your level of participation is reflected in your grade and since you can’t participate if you are not in class, absences will also be reflected in your grade. Students deciding not to attend are responsible for completing drop procedures.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Semester Dates: August 27 – December 15
Holidays: Thanksgiving November 22-23
Last day to add or drop (with a refund) full term classes: September 8
Last day for students to withdraw without a “W” (full term course): September 9
Withdrawal deadline with a “W” (full term course): November 17
Deadline for pass/no pass option: September 29
Finals Week: December 10 - 15

GRADING SCHEDULE

Weekly quizzes: 12 quizzes at 10 points each 120 points available
NIOSH/Near Miss Report 40 points available
Midterm 80 points available
Project Report 40 points available
Final exam 80 points available 360 points total

320 – above A
280 –319  B
250 – 279  C
210 – 249  D
209 – below F

Extra Credit is available for up to 20 additional points. Due by 11/29/12. See at end of syllabus.

No make-up exams without prior approval. Late quizzes and reports will receive one-half credit. All written work is to be typed and well organized. Copies of syllabus available on my Cabrillo website at top of page.

It is advisable to stay ahead of the assigned reading to accommodate any changes to class topics and discussions.

CABRILLO  FT6  PRINCIPLES OF EMERGENCY SERVICES SAFETY AND SURVIVAL
Instructor Craig Schwinge
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/30 &amp; 9/1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction, course outline review</td>
<td>Read Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/6 &amp; 9/8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Firefighters Life Safety Initiatives, NFFF</td>
<td>Quiz 1 Thursday, read chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/13 &amp; 9/15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fire service culture and safety</td>
<td>Quiz 2 Thursday, read chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20 &amp; 9/22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Research and data collection</td>
<td>Quiz 3 Thursday, read chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27 &amp; 9/29</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Firefighter fatality, injury and near miss investigations</td>
<td>Quiz 4 Thursday, read chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/4 &amp; 10/6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Personal and organizational accountability</td>
<td>Quiz 5 Thursday, read chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NIOSH or Near Miss Report due</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11 &amp; 10/13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Risk management on the emergency scene</td>
<td>Quiz 6 Thursday,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/18 &amp; 10/20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tuesday review for midterm; <strong>Thursday MIDTERM</strong></td>
<td>Read Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/25 &amp; 10/27</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fire service training and safety</td>
<td>Quiz 7 Thursday, read Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/1 &amp; 11/3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Medical and fitness standards and programs</td>
<td>Quiz 8 Thursday, read Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/8 &amp; 11/10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Health and safety technology</td>
<td>Quiz 9 Thursday, read Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/15 &amp; 11/17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Fire apparatus design and response</td>
<td>Quiz 10 Thursday, read Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Effects of Fire and Life Safety Prevention and Education Programs</td>
<td>Quiz 11 Thursday, read Chapter 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/29 &amp; 12/1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Implementing the FFLSI in your department</td>
<td>Quiz 12 Thursday, prepare for presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/6 &amp; 12/8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>PROJECT REPORT PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td>Prepare for final exam on Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM 1:00 – 3:50</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NIOSH OR NEAR MISS REPORT**

Prepare a 3-page (min) report on a NIOSH Firefighter line of duty death ([www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh)) or near miss incident ([www.firefighternearmiss.com/](http://www.firefighternearmiss.com/)). Include the details of the incident and the lessons learned/recommendations to prevent that event from occurring again. **Due date: October 4, 2012.**

**PROJECT REPORT**

Prepare a report on one of the following Life Safety Initiatives. Respond to the italicized prompts listed below. Written report is to be type-written and at least four (4) pages. A brief oral presentation to the class will be given to highlight the key points of your project report. **Due date: December 6, 2012.**

1. Define and advocate the need for a cultural change within the fire service relating to safety incorporating leadership, management, supervision, accountability, and personal responsibility.
   - Define “culture.” Describe elements of fire service culture.
   - Is all change productive? What are some hindrances for productive change in the fire service?
   - List some elements and provide an example that describes a safety culture in the fire service.

CABRILLO  FT6  PRINCIPLES OF EMERGENCY SERVICES SAFETY AND SURVIVAL
Instructor Craig Schwinge
2. Enhance the personal and organizational accountability for health and safety throughout the fire service.
   Define “accountability.”
   Describe how you will be personally accountable for health and safety during your career in the fire service.
   List two ways fire departments provide organizational accountability for safety during emergency response.
   Describe some of the elements for firefighter health and safety in NFPA standard 1500.

3. Focus greater attention on the integration of risk management with incident management at all levels, including strategic, tactical and planning responsibilities.
   Define “risk management.”
   Describe the fire service’s strategic priorities at any emergency scene.
   Describe OSHA’s “Two in Two Out” regulation and how that affects risk management.
   List two tactical/task level risk management actions at an emergency scene.
   When is the only acceptable time for a firefighter to risk one’s life?
   Discuss retired Fire Chief Brunacini’s quote: “We will risk a lot to save a lot ... we will risk a little to save a little ... we will risk nothing to save nothing.”

4. All firefighters must be empowered to stop unsafe practices.
   Describe why safety is everyone’s responsibility at the emergency scene.
   Define “empowerment” and how it relates to company safety at emergency scenes.
   List a hypothetical unsafe act at an EMS call, structure fire and rescue incident. Describe how standard operating procedures (SOPs) provide for safety and redundancy.
   Describe how post-incident critiques or debriefings assist in improving safety performance at emergency scenes.

5. Develop and implement national standards for training, qualifications, and certification (including regular recertification) that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform.
   Describe current fire service national standards for “certs and quals.”
   What is the purpose and advantage of credentialing for emergency responders?
   List two NFPA standards that focus on professional qualifications.
   Describe “awareness, operational and technician levels of training.
   How does this provide for improved safety for firefighters?

6. Develop and implement national medical and physical fitness standards that are equally applicable to all firefighters; based on the duties they are expected to perform.
   Explain the reasons for increasing the wellness and fitness of emergency responders.
   Discuss your view on mandatory medical and physical standards. Support your position and provide specific recommendations or suggestions for or against.
   Describe and discuss the Wellness Fitness Initiative and how NFPA standards 1582 and 1583 provide for improved health and safety for firefighters.
   Describe your fitness behaviors and activities while on duty as a firefighter.
   Describe the specific activities within the CPAT and how you will prepare for each activity.

7. Create a national research agenda and data collection system that relates to the initiatives.
   Discuss why data and statistics related to the initiatives are important. Describe other areas that the fire service collects data on a national level.
Explain how research and development could be used by emergency services to add another level of safety.

8. Utilize available technology wherever it can produce higher levels of health and safety. Describe three (3) federal agencies related to the fire service and the work that they do that focus on health and safety. Describe some of the improvements to safety with the introduction of new technology. Discuss technologies like simulators, medical monitoring, emergency vehicle safety features, thermal imaging cameras, breathing apparatus with personal alert safety systems, communication and accountability systems, etc and how they have created higher levels of health and safety.

9. Thoroughly investigate all firefighter fatalities, injuries, and near misses. Discuss the reasons for thorough investigations of firefighter fatalities, injuries and near misses. Explain some of the ways information gained from injuries, LODDs and near misses can be shared to prevent future incidents. Describe and discuss the agency that is tasked with reporting line of duty deaths (LODDs). Include other agencies that may assist these investigations. Describe the type of work does the department safety officer perform. Describe one LODD incident. What could be done to prevent a similar event from occurring again? Cite the NIOSH report, date and specific prevention recommendations.

10. Grant programs should support the implementation of safe practices and/or mandate safe practices as an eligibility requirement. Define “grants.” Describe one fire service-related grant program and if and/or how it would need to be altered to include safe practices. Explain the benefits of research and education grants to firefighter safety. Describe the grant writing process and components.

11. National standards for emergency response policies and procedures should be championed. Describe the organization that currently creates standards for the fire service and list three (3) current standards related to firefighter safety. List reasons supporting national standards for policies and procedures (SOPs). Explain how safety would be improved with national standards.

12. National protocols for response to violent incidents should be developed and championed. List specific types of violent incidents that emergency service personnel may be exposed to. Define “protocols.” List the advantages of a national protocol to violent incidents as compared to local SOPs? Describe the importance of staging at violent incidents. Discuss specific training and exercises that will provide improved safety for emergency personnel at violent incidents.

13. Firefighters and their families must have access to counseling and psychological support. Describe why counseling and psychological support to firefighters and their families are important? Take a position for or against whether access to counseling and psychological support should be provided by the local fire agency. List healthy stress-reducing activities that firefighters may engage in on or off-duty.

CABRILLO FT6 PRINCIPLES OF EMERGENCY SERVICES SAFETY AND SURVIVAL Instructor Craig Schwinge
Explain critical incident stress management and how debriefing and defusing are used.
Compare critical incident stress and post traumatic stress disorder.
Discuss how Employee Assistance Programs, CISM and chaplaincy programs may assist with substance abuse and suicide prevention.

14. Public education must receive more resources and be championed as a critical fire and life safety program.
List reasons why fire and life safety public education programs should receive more resources (money, staffing, etc.)
Describe how fire and life safety messaging may reduce the risk of firefighter injuries and/or deaths.
Discuss specific fire/life safety behaviors taught by firefighters.

15. Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers
Describe specific building and/or fire codes that need to be strengthened.
With the recent code change requiring home fire sprinklers, how might this affect firefighter safety and survival?
Describe several important facts about fire sprinklers (see www.HomeFireSprinklers.org).
List some of the typical fire prevention occupancy inspections that firefighters perform.

16. Safety must be a primary consideration in the design of apparatus and equipment.
List and describe the current NFPA standards related to fire apparatus.
Identify a few of the safety features that have recently been required.
Describe at least two (2) firefighter tools or equipment may be hazardous to operate and list safe operating procedures for each.
EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY:

Read and write a typed three-page (minimum) book report on one of the following:

- Young Men and Fire by Norman McLean
- Report from Engine Company 82 by Dennis Smith
- Report from Ground Zero by Dennis Smith
- Fire on the Mountain by McLean
- Another book selection with instructor’s approval

Prepare a typed three-page (minimum) report on one of the following safety and survival topics:

- Cancer as it relates to the fire service. Provide statistics and recommendations from fire-service related sources.
- The importance of mental/emotional health as it relates to the fire service. Discussion to include critical incident stress management (CISM), substance abuse, suicide prevention and healthy stress management.
- Discuss decision making and the elements that provide safe and effective decision making in the fire service. Include recognition primed decision making, training based decision making and how good judgment, training and experience combine to make appropriate decisions at emergency scenes. Describe “error chains” and ways they may be reduced.
- On September 11, 2001 the fire service experienced the unprecedented loss of 343 firefighters at the World Trade Center site in New York City. Read the NIST after action report (www.cdc.nist/worldtradecenter) and discuss the recommendations pertaining to firefighter safety and survival.
- Responding to and from emergency incidents has resulted in many LODDs. Provide statistics on this and discuss what efforts the fire service is taking in reducing vehicle related accidents. As a driver/operator/fire engineer, describe how you will ensure that you will get your crew safely to and from emergency incidents.
- Stress and cardiac-related medical events are the leading cause of death on the fire ground. Provide statistics and recommendations from fire-service related sources. Include a discussion on the importance of career-long fitness and what you will do to ensure you will have a long and health career.
- Describe Firefighter Survival training programs and the key components therein.

Useful websites and additional information:

http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/partners/fsculture_p1.html
http://www.fire.gov/FFTG/index.htm
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2009-100/
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/othpubs.html
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/quizinstr.html
http://www.fire.nist.gov/
http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/resources/
http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/media/
http://www.fireserviceslt.com/index.html
http://www.firefighternearmiss.com/
http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/home.php
http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/index.shtm
http://wtc.nist.gov/