FIRS-1401 Firefighter Certification I Master Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

Course: FIRS-1401 Firefighter Certification I

Synonym:

Section: 001

Campus Location: This course is taught at the ACC Fire Training Academy (FTA) located at 4800 Shaw Ln, Austin, TX 78744 in Building G.

Instructor Information

Name:

Office phone or contact number: 512-223-9764

Office hours and location: Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, 4800 Shaw Ln Austin, TX 78744 (Bldg F)

Conference requests: Students who would like a conference with the professor should contact him or her by their provided phone number and/or ACC email address. When using email the student should use their own ACC email address for all official class communication.

ACC email address:

Other avenues for contact: Students may also contact their professor through the use of Blackboard or they may contact the department chair of Fire Protection Technology at nathan.zaleski@austincc.edu or 512-223-9764 or the Fire Academy director at ryan.grinnell@austincc.edu or 512-223-9762 if they need additional help. Professors will not respond to any communication through avenues such as social media or outside platforms.

Course Description

FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION I (4-3-2) One in a series of courses in basic preparation for a new firefighter. Should be taken in conjunction with Firefighter Certification II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII to satisfy the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) curriculum for Basic Structural Fire Suppression, Course #100. Please refer to the academy website at www.austincc.edu/fireprot for the application process.

Transferability of workforce courses varies. Students interested in transferring courses to another college should speak with their Area of Study (AoS) advisor, Department Chair, and/or Program Director.

COURSE RATIONALE: This course will cover information that will assist fire protection technology students in the continuation of higher education goals and their employment in fire protection. This course is one of 7 certified for the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) Basic Structure Fire Suppression certification.

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PREREQUISITES: There are no prerequisites for this course; however, students should be advised by the department chair in the degree plan prior to registering for FIRS courses within the program. Additionally students will need to apply to the Level I certification program through the ACC FTA's website: https://pss.austincc.edu/fireacademy/

Students seeking to become a TCFP certified firefighter must meet the certification criteria from TCFP. Requirements for TCFP certification can be found here: https://www.tcfp.texas.gov/services/certificate?CertificateSlug=structure-fire-suppression

Program Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student shall perform Firefighter I level fire suppression and rescue activities.
2. The student shall perform Firefighter II level fire suppression and rescue activities.
3. The student shall perform Hazardous Materials Awareness level emergency response actions.
4. The student shall perform Hazardous Materials Operations level emergency response actions.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the mission of the fire service, how fire departments are organized, and the different specializations within the fire service.
2. Identify SOPs, rules, and regulations utilized by the Firefighter I.
3. Recognize the roles and responsibilities of a Firefighter I.
4. Demonstrate the use of emergency lighting for a fireground operation.
5. Demonstrate the appropriate use of safety equipment while riding on fire apparatus.
6. Demonstrate how to safely establish work zones and operate in protected work areas at emergency scenes.
7. Demonstrate how to initiate a response to a reported emergency given the report of an emergency, department SOPs, and communications equipment, so that all necessary information is obtained, communications equipment is operated correctly, and the information is relayed promptly and accurately to the dispatch center.
8. Operate fire department communications equipment (i.e. telephones and radios) during emergency and nonemergency situations.
9. Identify the different types of building construction classifications
10. Identify the construction features for floors, ceilings, and walls.
11. Recognize the construction features for different types of roofs.
12. Recognize the construction features and operation for different types of doors and windows.

13. Identify how stairs and basements may impact firefighting operations.
14. Identify how principals of fire science impact fire behavior.
15. Define the combustion process and the effects of fuel, oxygen, and the chemical chain reaction within the combustion process.
16. Differentiate between the different stages of fire development.
17. Describe how firefighting operations can influence fire behavior.
18. Explain how building construction can impact fire development.

Required Texts/Materials/Software

IFSTA: Essentials of Fire Fighting 7th ed. ISBN # 978-087939657-2

Course Requirements

1. Completion of course work online in Blackboard https://acconline.austincc.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp
2. Completion of Exams at the ACCFTA.
3. Attendance of class sessions.
4. Ability to pass a physical examination in accordance with the ACC FTA Handbook.
5. Perform firefighter hands-on skills while wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment.
6. Work in hazardous environments such as, but not limited to, confined spaces, heights of nine stories or more, live fire with extreme temperatures, and other related environments associated with the fire protection career field.

Technical Requirements

1. Computer connected to the Internet (Google Chrome should be used as your browser).
2. Ability to utilize the Internet and email.
3. Ability to use Blackboard

Instructional Methodology

At the instructor's discretion, lecture, videos, class discussions, class projects, research papers and skills demonstration may be used to instruct the class.

DISTANCE EDUCATION: This course will be presented using a combination of Blackboard and in-class, classroom sessions**.**

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Grading System

Grade Component

Subject Area	Possible Percentage
Assignments	30%
Quizzes	20%
Discussion Board	10%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

Students must complete this course with a cumulative average of 75% and must pass a comprehensive final exam with a 75% or higher grade in order to be eligible to take the TCFP Firefighter I state skills and written exam.

TCFP Skills are pass/fail, the student must pass all assigned TCFP skills in this course in order to be eligible to take the TCFP Firefighter I state skills and written exam.

An individual who fails their first attempt to pass the written portion of the final exam or skill test will be offered one opportunity to pass the re-examination. The student will not be permitted to take a retest on the same day the failure occurred, this re-exam will occur on the next day of training or when designated by the primary instructor. If the student fails the retest for the final exam or skills exam they will not be permitted to take the TCFP Firefighter I exam.

Additionally, the student must successfully complete each course below and pass a comprehensive final exam that covers the material in all four listed courses with a 75% or higher score in order to be eligible to take the TCFP Firefighter I exam.

FIRS-1401 Firefighter Certification I
FIRS-1407 Firefighter Certification II
FIRS-1429 Firefighter Certification VI
FIRS-1433 Firefighter Certification VII

Grading Scale

This is how your course grade will be determined:

Course Grade Calculation

Grade	A	B	C	D	F
Percentage	100-90%	89-80%	79-75%	74-70%	<70%

Course Schedule

The course schedule will be posted by the ACC FTA Director each semester. This is subject to change due to weather conditions, availability of training props and/or equipment, and drill field availability. Instructors for each subject area will provide the students with a syllabus of their subject area requirements and due dates for all academic work, to include assignments, quizzes, exams, or other required work.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance/Class Participation

Regular and punctual class and laboratory attendance is expected of all students. If attendance or compliance with other course policies is unsatisfactory, the instructor may withdraw students from the class.

In the event the college or campus closes due to unforeseen circumstances (for example, severe weather or other emergency), the student is responsible for communicating with their professor during the closure and completing any assignments or other activities designated by their professor as a result of class sessions being missed.

Withdrawal Policy

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that his or her name is removed from the rolls should they decide to withdraw from the class. The instructor does, however, reserve the right to drop a student should he or she feel it is necessary. If a student decides to withdraw, he or she should also verify that the withdrawal is recorded before the Final Withdrawal Date. The student is also strongly encouraged to keep any paperwork in case a problem arises.

Students are responsible for understanding the impact that withdrawal from a course may have on their financial aid, veterans' benefits, and international student status. Per state law, students enrolling for the first time in Fall 2007 or later at any public Texas college or university may not withdraw (receive a W) from more than six courses during their undergraduate college education. Some exemptions for good cause could allow a student to withdraw from a course without having it count toward this limit. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor when making decisions about course selection, course loads, and course withdrawals.

Late Work and Missed/Failed Exam Policies

Late work will only be accepted on a case by case basis. The instructor for each subject area will determine if late work will be accepted. The highest grade that can be achieved for late work or exams is 75% unless the professor deems the late work or missed exam was excused.

Incompletes

An instructor may award a grade of "I" (Incomplete) if a student was unable to complete all of the objectives for a passing grade in a course due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. prolonged illness or death in the family). The student should contact the professor when a situation arises where the student cannot complete the course work. An incomplete grade cannot be carried beyond the established date in the following semester. The completion date is determined by the instructor but may not be later than the final deadline for withdrawal in the subsequent semester.

Statement on Academic Integrity

Austin Community College values academic integrity in the educational process. Acts of academic dishonesty/misconduct undermine the learning process, present a disadvantage to students who earn credit honestly, and subvert the academic mission of the institution. The potential consequences of fraudulent credentials raise additional concerns for individuals and communities beyond campus who rely on institutions of higher learning to certify students' academic achievements and expect to benefit from the claimed knowledge and skills of their graduates. Students must follow all instructions given by faculty or designated college representatives when taking examinations, placement assessments, tests, quizzes, and evaluations. Actions constituting scholastic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, collusion, falsifying documents, or the inappropriate use of the college's information technology resources. Further information is available at the Academic Integrity website.

Artificial Intelligence Policy

1. Introduction: The use of generative AI (GAI) is permitted in this course under certain conditions to enhance learning while maintaining academic integrity.
2. Rationale: GAI is permitted to foster technological fluency and to leverage advanced tools for research, as long as it does not substitute for critical thinking and learning.
3. Definition of GAI: Generative AI encompasses technologies that create content through learned patterns and data without direct human input.
4. Usage Permissions: Permitted: GAI can be used for initial research, idea generation, and learning coding practices. It is **NOT** to be used for final submissions unless explicitly cited and discussed.
5. Resources: Guidance on the ethical and effective use of GAI will be provided through designated course materials and office hours.
6. Assessment: Contributions of GAI must be clearly cited and will be assessed on the student's ability to critically analyze and integrate the AI-generated content.
7. Penalties: Misuse of GAI, including a failure to cite, will be considered a breach of academic integrity, with consequences including a failing grade for the assignment and academic review.
8. Exceptions: Should the technology be required as an accommodation, exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

COLLEGE POLICIES

Health & Safety Protocols

Operational areas of ACC campuses and centers are fully open and accessible through all public entrances. The college encourages its staff, faculty, and students to be mindful of the well-being of all individuals on campus. If you feel sick, feverish, or unwell, please do not come to campus.

Student Rights & Responsibilities

Students at ACC have the same rights and protections under the Constitution of the United States. These rights include freedom of speech, peaceful assembly, petition and association. As members of the community, students have the right to express their own views, but must also take responsibility for according the same rights to others and not interfere or disrupt the learning environment. Students are entitled to fair treatment, are expected to act consistently with the values of the college, and obey local, state, and federal laws. Student Rights & Responsibilities

As a student of Austin Community College you are expected to abide by the Student Standards of Conduct.

Senate Bill 212 and Title IX Reporting Requirements

Under Senate Bill 212 (SB 212), the faculty and all College employees are required to report any information concerning incidents of **sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking** committed by or against an ACC student or employee. Federal Title IX law and College policy also require reporting incidents of **sex- and gender-based discrimination and sexual misconduct**. **This means faculty and non-clinical counseling staff cannot keep confidential information about any such incidents that you share with them.**

If you would like to talk with someone confidentiality, please contact the District Clinical Counseling Team who can connect you with a clinical counselor on any ACC campus: (512) 223-2616, or to schedule online, go to the Counseling website.

While students are not required to report, they are encouraged to contact the Compliance Office for resources and options: Charlene Buckley, District Title IX Officer, (512) 223-7964; compliance@austincc.edu .

If a student makes a report to a faculty member, the faculty member will contact the District Title IX Officer for follow-up.

Student Complaints

A defined process applies to complaints about an instructor or other college employee. You are encouraged to discuss concerns and complaints with college personnel and should expect a timely and appropriate response. When possible, students should first address their concerns through informal conferences with those immediately involved; formal due process is available when informal resolution cannot be achieved.

Student complaints may include (but are not limited to) issues regarding classroom instruction, college services and offices on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or disability.

Further information about the complaints process, including the form used to submit complaints, is available at the Student Complaint Procedures website.

Statement on Privacy

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects confidentiality of students' educational records. Grades cannot be provided by faculty over the phone, by e-mail, or to a fellow student.

Recording Policy

To ensure compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), student recording of class lectures or other activities is generally prohibited without the explicit written permission of the instructor and notification of other students enrolled in the class section. Exceptions are made for approved accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Recording of lectures and other class activities may be made by faculty to facilitate instruction, especially for classes taught remotely through BlackBoard or another platform. Participation in such activities implies consent for the student to be recorded during the instructional activity. Such recordings are intended for educational and academic purposes only.

Safety Statement

Health and safety are of paramount importance in classrooms, laboratories, and field activities. Students are expected to learn and comply with ACC environmental, health and safety procedures and agree to follow ACC safety policies. Emergency Procedures posters and Campus Safety Plans are posted in each classroom and should be reviewed at the beginning of each semester. All incidents (injuries/illness/fire/property damage/near miss) should be immediately reported to the course instructor. Additional information about safety procedures and how to sign up to be notified in case of an emergency can be found at the Emergency Management website.

Everyone is expected to conduct themselves professionally with respect and courtesy to all. Anyone who thoughtlessly or intentionally jeopardizes the health or safety of another individual may be immediately dismissed from the day's activity and will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for disciplinary action.

In the event of disruption of normal classroom activities due to an emergency situation or an outbreak of illness, the format for this course may be modified to enable completion of the course. In that event, students will be provided an addendum to the class syllabus that will supersede the original version.

Smoke, Vaping, & Tobacco-Free Environment

ACC provides a smoke/vape- and tobacco-free environment for all College vehicles, facilities and all campuses. The College prohibits the use, distribution, and/or sale of tobacco, smoke, and nicotine vapor products and devices by any person on all premises owned, rented, leased or supervised by the College, including all College facilities, buildings, grounds, and vehicles. This prohibition applies to property owned by others that the College uses by agreement, and further applies to all College and personal vehicles on ACC District property. Campus Managers and Campus Coordinators are required to inform anyone on their campus or in their center who are violating this rule that they are doing so and, if the violator is a student, the Dean of Student Affairs must initiate disciplinary procedures.

Campus Carry

The Austin Community College District concealed handgun policy ensures compliance with Section 411.2031 of the Texas Government Code (also known as the Campus Carry Law), while maintaining ACC's commitment to provide a safe environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Beginning August 1, 2017, individuals who are licensed to carry (LTC) may do so on campus premises except in locations and at activities prohibited by state or federal law, or the college's concealed handgun policy.

It is the responsibility of license holders to conceal their handguns at all times. Persons who see a handgun on campus are asked to contact the ACC Police Department by dialing 512-223-1231. Please refer to the concealed handgun policy online at the Campus Carry website.

Discrimination Prohibited

The College seeks to maintain an educational environment free from any form of discrimination or harassment including but not limited to discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

Faculty at the College are required to report concerns regarding sexual misconduct (including all forms of sexual harassment and sex and gender-based discrimination) to the Manager of Title IX/Title VI/ADA Compliance. Licensed clinical counselors are available across the District and serve as confidential resources for students.

Additional information about Title VI, Title IX, and ADA compliance can be found in the ACC Compliance Resource Guide.

Use of ACC email

All College e-mail communication to students will be sent solely to the student's ACCmail account, with the expectation that such communications will be read in a timely fashion. ACC will send important information and will notify students of any college- related emergencies using this account. Students should only expect to receive email communication from their instructor using this account. Likewise, students should use their ACCmail account when communicating with instructors and staff. Information about ACC email accounts, including instructions for accessing it, are available at the ACC Email Q&A website.

Use of the Testing Center

The Testing Centers will allow only limited in person testing and testing time will be limited to the standard class time, typically one and one-half hours. Specifically, only the following will be allowed in the Testing Centers:

- Student Accessibility Services (SAS) Testing: All approved SAS testing
- Assessments Tests: Institutionally approved assessment tests (e.g., TSIA or TABE)
- Placement Tests: Placement tests (e.g., ALEKS)

- Make-Up Exams (for students who missed the original test): Make-up testing is available for all lecture courses but will be limited to no more than 25% of students enrolled in each section for each of four tests
- Programs incorporating industry certification exams: Such programs (e.g., Microsoft, Adobe, etc.) may utilize the ACC Business Assessment Center for the industry certification exams (BACT) at HLC or RRC

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The success of our students is paramount, and ACC offers a variety of support services to help, as well as providing numerous opportunities for community engagement and personal growth.

Student Support

ACC strives to provide exemplary support to its students and offers a broad variety of opportunities and services. Information on these campus services and resources is available at the Student Resources website. A comprehensive array of student support services is available online at the Student Support website.

Student Accessibility Services

Austin Community College (ACC) is committed to providing a supportive, accessible, and inclusive learning environment for all students. Each campus offers support services for students with documented disabilities. Students with disabilities who need classroom, academic or other accommodations must request them through Student Accessibility Services (SAS).

Students are encouraged to request accommodations prior to the beginning of the semester, otherwise the provision of accommodations may be delayed. Students who have received accommodations from SAS for this course will provide the instructor with the legal document titled "Faculty Notification Letter" (FNL) through the Accessible Information Management (AIM) portal.

Until the instructor receives the FNL, accommodations should not be provided. Once the FNL is received, accommodations must be provided. Accommodations are not retroactive, so it is in the student's best interest to request their accommodations as soon as possible prior to the beginning of the semester.

Please contact SAS@austincc.edu for more information.

Student Technology Support

Austin Community College provides free, secure WiFi to students and employees at all campus locations.

Students who do not have the necessary technology to complete their ACC courses can request to borrow devices from Student Technology Services. Available devices include iPads, webcams, headsets, calculators, etc. Students must be registered for a credit course, Adult Education, or Continuing Education course to be eligible. For more information, including how to request a device, visit Student Technology Access.

Student Technology Services offers phone, live-chat, and email-based technical support for students and can provide support on topics such as password resets, accessing or using Blackboard, access to technology, etc. To view hours of operation and ways to request support, visit Student Technology Access

Academic Support

ACC offers academic support services on all of its campuses. These services, which include online tutoring, academic coaching, and supplemental instruction, are free to enrolled ACC students. Tutors are available in a variety of subjects ranging from accounting to pharmacology. Students may receive these services on both a drop-in and referral basis.

Additional tutoring information can be found here: Online Tutoring

Library Services

ACC Library Services offers both in-person and extensive online services, with research and assignment assistance available in-person during limited hours of service. Although all college services are subject to change, plans include ACC students signing up for study space and use of computers at open libraries, extensive online instruction in classes, online reference assistance 24/7 and reference with ACC faculty librarians. In addition, currently enrolled students, faculty and staff can access Library Services online (also 24/7) via the ACC Library website and by using their ACCeID to access all online materials (ebooks, articles from library databases, and streaming videos). ACC Libraries offer these services in numerous ways such as: "Get Help from a Faculty Librarian: the 24/7 Ask a Librarian chat service," an online form for in-depth research Q and A sessions, one-on-one video appointments, email, and phone (voicemail is monitored regularly).

- Library Website
- Ask a Librarian 24/7 chat and form
- Library Hours of Operation by Location

- Email: library@austincc.edu

Parent and Family Engagement Services

ACC understands how important parent and family support is to every student's college journey. From parents and siblings to stepparents, grandparents, partners, and loved ones, the Parent and Family Engagement Office at ACC is committed to empowering families to support student success. The office provides a family orientation to ACC, free workshops explaining the world of higher education (financial aid, student resources, career and transfer services, etc.), a monthly newsletter full of student success tips, and a website designed to answer family members' frequently asked questions. All students, especially first-generation students, are encouraged to share these resources with their families and invite them to be part of the Riverbat experience. Contact familyengagement@austincc.edu or visit the Parent & Family Engagement website for more information.

Academic Adjustments for Pregnant Students

ACC works with each student to provide academic adjustments that best meet their needs, including for students who are pregnant. Examples of such adjustments may include but are not limited to:

- Breaks during class, as needed
- Excused absences or a leave of absence
- Making up missed assignments or assessments
- Additional time to complete assignments in the same manner as the institution allows for a student with a temporary medical condition

Additional examples and further information are available at the Accommodations for Pregnant Students website. To request adjustments due to pregnancy, contact equalopportunity@austincc.edu.

Student Organizations

ACC has over seventy student organizations, offering a variety of cultural, academic, vocational, and social opportunities. They provide a chance to meet with other students who have the same interests, engage in service-learning, participate in intramural sports, gain valuable field experience related to career goals, and much else. Student

Life coordinates many of these activities, and additional information is available at the Student Life website.

Personal Support

Resources to support students are available at every campus. To learn more, ask your professor or visit the campus Support Center. All resources and services are free and confidential. Some examples include, among others:

- Food resources including community pantries and bank drives can be found here at the Central Texas Food Bank website.
- Assistance with childcare or utility bills is available at any campus Support Center
- The Student Emergency Fund can help with unexpected expenses that may cause you to withdraw from one or more classes
- Help with budgeting for college and family life is available through the Student Money Management Office.
- A full listing of services for student parents is available at the Child Care website.

Mental health counseling services are available throughout the ACC Student Services District to address personal and or mental health concerns at the Counseling website. If you are struggling with a mental health or personal crisis, call one of the following numbers to connect with resources for help. However, if you are afraid that you might hurt yourself or someone else, call 911 immediately.

Free Crisis Hotline Numbers:

- Austin / Travis County 24-hour Crisis & Suicide hotline: **512-472-HELP (4357)**
- The Williamson County 24-hour Crisis hotline: **1-800-841-1255**
- Bastrop County Family Crisis Center hotline: **1-888-311-7755**
- Hays County 24 Hour Crisis Hotline: **1-877-466-0660**
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: **988** or **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**
- Crisis Text Line: **Text "home" to 741741**
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Helpline: **1-800-662-HELP (4357)**
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Helpline:**1-800-950-NAMI (6264)**