Course Description:
Basic fire and arson investigation practices. Emphasis on fire behavior principles related to fire cause and origin determination.

Text, References, and Supplies:
IFSTA Fire Investigator Current edition

Course Goals/Objectives:
The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives (Addendum A). Upon completion of this course the student will know:

1. Organization and responsibilities and Authority
2. Fire Behavior
3. Basics of building construction and how it relates to the investigator.
4. Building services.
5. Basic electricity for the fire investigator.
7. Examining the fire scene.
8. Securing the fire scene.
9. Documenting the fire scene
10. Evidence collection and preservation.
11. Interviewing and interrogation
12. Exterior examination
13. Interior examination and determination of area of origin.
14. Debris examination, removal, reconstruction, and determination of ignition sources.
15. Analysis of investigative findings.
16. Presenting investigative findings.
17. Federal constitutional search and seizure issues and fire scene investigations.
18. Fire investigation incendiary indicators.
MIDLAND COLLEGE
SYLLABUS
FIRT 1303
FIRE AND ARSON INVESTIGATION I
3-0

Student Contributions, and
Class policies:

This is on-line computer based instruction. Each student is expected to participate in any and all discussion boards, and real live chat sessions, to be self-motivated and to turn in all required homework assignments on time. Each student will be required to log in at least three times a week for a minimum of one hour or three hours a week. Every student will provide the instructor with a current working email address.

Evaluation of Students:

There will be a mandatory final exam. The remaining number of major exams will be at the discretion of the instructor. Quizzes and projects will be handled as daily grades. All tests will be made up the week the exam was given unless arrangements are made with the instructor.

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<td>Major Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>90 and above</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>59 and below</td>
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Course Schedule:
Online and to be logged into at least three times a week
SCANS Information:
The following SCANS skills are taught and/or reinforced in this course:

INFORMATION:
Acquires, evaluates, organizes, maintains interprets and communicates information. The student will use case studies and hands on application.

LISTENING/SPEAKING:
Receives, attends to, interprets and responds to verbal messages, participate in discussions and group activities.

THINKING SKILLS:
Creative thinking, decision making, problem solving, knowing how to learn, and reasoning, Use class discussion and hands on application.

WRITING SKILL:
Each student will have weekly assignments of short report writing or examples of professional writing as needed in the fire service.
Addendum A

Professional Objectives:
1. The student will be a member of the class even though a computer or virtual classroom, and will exhibit professional behavior. Performance will be satisfactory if all the items on the following checklist are met:
   Do List
   - Logs on to the course regularly
   - Participates in discussion boards
   - Maintains a positive attitude and exhibits self-motivation.

2. The student will be allowed references as needed. The student will have to provide all necessary fire prevention equipment or have access to it. Performance goals 1-5 will be satisfactory if consistent with course text. Satisfactory performance will be measured by and objective and/or application exam and instructor observation.
Instructor Information:
M. B. “Ollie” Oliver, Assistant Professor/Program Director Fire Protection Technology
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Room 156 TC
(432) 685-4663
Fax: (432) 685-6472

Office Hours: Office hours to be announced each semester

Curt Pervier, Division Chair Technical Studies
Jennifer Constable, Division Secretary of Technical Studies
(432) 685-4676
Fax: (432) 685-6472

Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.