

**College of San Mateo**  
**Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** FIRE 680ME    **TITLE:** Firefighter Academy  
**Units:** 17.0 units    **Hours/Semester:** 160.0-180.0 Lecture hours; 336.0-378.0 Lab hours; and 320.0-360.0 Homework hours  
**Method of Grading:** Pass/No Pass Only  
**Prerequisite:** Proof of Emergency Medical Technician certification or Paramedic licensure. FIRE 715, with a minimum grade of C or equivalent course from another accredited California Community College Fire Technology program. Successful completion of at least three additional units of Fire Technology coursework. Admission to the course through the Fire Technology department application process.
2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**  
**Degree Credit**  
**Transfer credit:** none
3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**  
**Catalog Description:**  
This course provides the skills and knowledge needed for the student to become an entry-level firefighter. Training will cover the roles and responsibilities of firefighter 1 and 2, including structural suppression activities, hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction (WMD), wildland firefighting, and confined space rescue awareness. This course meets the requirements outlined by California State Fire Training. (Certificate of course completion issued by the Fire Technology Department.)
4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**  
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
  1. Demonstrate the required academic competencies of an entry-level firefighter, as determined by State Fire Training, to successfully complete the course.
  2. Demonstrate the required physical competencies of an entry-level firefighter, as determined by State Fire Training, to successfully complete the course.
5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**  
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
  1. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of an entry-level firefighter.
  2. Observe and demonstrate the skills required to perform as an entry-level firefighter.
  3. Differentiate and choose the appropriate tools, techniques, and strategies used in the fire service.
  4. Demonstrate the proper and safe use of the tools, techniques, and strategies used in the fire service.
6. **COURSE CONTENT:**  
**Lecture Content:**
  1. Structure
    - A. Introduction
    - B. Fire Fighter Safety
    - C. Communications
    - D. Fire Tools and Equipment
    - E. Structural Fire Suppression
    - F. Fire Fighter Survival
    - G. Suppression of Fires Outside of a Structure
    - H. Fire Ground Operations
    - I. Rescue Operations
    - J. Fire and Life Safety
  2. Hazardous Materials/WMD
    - A. Introduction
    - B. Hazardous Materials/WMD Awareness
    - C. Hazardous Materials/WMD Operations
  3. Wildland
    - A. Introduction
    - B. Preparation
    - C. Suppression

4. Confined Space Rescue Awareness
  - A. Introduction to Cal/OSHA Code, Confined Space Identification and Dangers
  - B. Atmospheric Hazards and Air Monitors
  - C. Physical and Engulfment Hazards
  - D. Lock-Out/Tag-Out Procedures and Entry Permits
  - E. Ventilation Equipment and Techniques
  - F. Respiratory Equipment and Techniques
  - G. Communications Equipment and Techniques
  - H. Entrant Retrieval Equipment
  - I. Confined Space Operational Positions and Responsibilities
  - J. Course Review and Final Exam
5. Physical Fitness
  - A. Physical Requirements
  - B. Conditioning
  - C. Nutrition

Expanded course outline and State Fire Training documents can be found in Attached Files

**Lab Content:**

1. Structure
  - A. Structure Fire Fighter Duties
  - B. Fire Department Communications
  - C. Fire Ground Operations
  - D. Preparedness and Maintenance
  - E. Rescue Operations
  - F. Fire and Life Safety Initiatives, Preparedness, and Maintenance
2. Hazardous Materials/WMD
  - A. Awareness
  - B. Operations
  - C. Operations – Mission Specific
3. Wildland
  - A. Role of the Wildland Fire Fighter
  - B. Preparedness
  - C. Suppression
4. Physical Fitness
  - A. Conditioning

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**7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Lab
- C. Discussion
- D. Field Trips
- E. Observation and Demonstration
- F. Other (Specify): Academy students must be trained as prescribed by the State of California State Fire Training (SFT) curriculum for Fire Fighter 1 and 2 and Confined Space Rescue Awareness. SFT course documents can be found in Attached Files.

**8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

**Writing Assignments:**

- Compose a report on a historic wildland fire
- Prepare a physical fitness/nutrition plan
- Critique case studies resulting in firefighter injury or death

**Reading Assignments:**

- Assigned reading for class session
- Research for written assignments

**Other Outside Assignments:**

- Skills practice

## 9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Class Performance
- C. Exams/Tests
- D. Final Class Performance
- E. Lab Activities
- F. Quizzes
- G. Academy students must be tested as prescribed by the State of California State Fire Training (SFT) curriculum for Fire Fighter 1 and 2 and Confined Space Rescue Awareness. SFT course documents can be found in Attached Files.

## 10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Teie, W C.. *Firefighter's Handbook on Wildland Firefighting, Strategy, Tactics, and Safety*, 4th ed. IFSTA, 2018
- B. IAFC; NFPA. *Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response*, 4th ed. Jones & Bartlett, 2019
- C. IFSTA. *Essentials of Fire Fighting*, 7th ed. IFSTA, 2018

Other:

- A. Specific topic handouts from specialized instructors

**Origination Date:** February 2021

**Curriculum Committee Approval Date:** March 2021

**Effective Term:** Fall 2021

**Course Originator:** Michelle Schneider