

### Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>Winter 2020</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Salvador Flores</b>
Course Title & #:	Fire 223	Email:	<b>Sal.flores@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	<b>15264</b>	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	<b>3201</b>	Office #:	TBA
Class Dates:	<b>M, T, W, Thur., Fri.</b>	Office Hours:	n/a for part-time faculty
Class Days:	(5) 01/13/2020-01/17/2020	Office Phone #:	n/a for part-time faculty
Class Times:	08:30-16:30	Emergency Contact:	Salvador Flores 760-427-0012
Units:	3		

### Course Description

This course provides information on scene documentation and evidence collection/preservation. Topics include photographing the scene, diagramming the scene, constructing investigative notes, processing evidence and establishing chain of custody, processing victims and fatalities, selecting evidence for analysis, maintaining a chain of custody, preparing a fire investigation report, and disposing of evidence. The 2014 edition of NFPA 1033 Standard for Fire Investigator Professional Qualifications is the basis for this course.

### Student Learning Outcomes

1. Select and use appropriate methods and materials to complete investigation assignments on a fire scene. (ILO2)
2. The student shall demonstrate proficiency in investigations tactics. (ILO2)
3. The student shall demonstrate competent understanding of fire behavior. (ILO3)

### Course Objectives

1. Explain the impact of evidence collection on the investigation
2. Describe the authority requirements for establishing a chain of custody
3. Describe an evidence log and its purpose
4. Explain the types, capabilities, and limitations of tools and equipment used to locate evidence
5. Describe the impact of removing evidentiary items on civil or criminal proceedings (exclusionary or fire-cause supportive evidence)
6. Discuss legal repercussions regarding evidence spoliation
7. Identify the types of laboratory tests available
8. Discuss packaging techniques and materials
9. Describe how to secure and store evidence
10. Recognize different types of evidence
11. Determine whether evidence is critical to the investigation

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Fire Investigator: Principles and Practice to NFPA 921 and 1033 Fifth Edition

ISBN-13: 978-1284140743

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

### Assignments

Students will complete the following assignment activities. When completing your written assignments in either Microsoft Word or rich text format (using Times New Roman size 12 font ONLY) – not Word Perfect, use APA CITED textbook concepts to analyze the disaster response issues. If you just complete the assignments in broad terms without applying text concepts using APA citations, your grade will be significantly lower. While older sources are fine, students must include the required number of citations from the textbook and more current sources.

**APA Citations:** APA citations are required for assignments. Please ensure you're familiar with the process for correctly citing sources in your course submissions.

I strongly recommend students review a grammar/writing guide prior to submitting assignments. My goal is assignments will be reviewed and grades posted within 24 hours of their submission. Assignments submitted late will have a 10 % penalty assessed for each week late. Cover, reference, appendix, and table pages DO NOT count towards the page length requirements. There is NO extra credit or makeup assignments offered in the course, so every assignment contributes to students' final course grades. Assignments MUST be posted to the BB site and do NOT get course messaged to me. I do not want a “backup” copy sent to me. Use Blackboard only – thanks!

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Day 1 Quiz- 25 points

Day 2 Quiz- 25 points

Day 3 Quiz- 25 points

Day 4 Quiz- 25 points

Skills – 150 points

Exam- 150 points

Total Points Possible- 400

## Attendance

**[Required Information:** *The below information is the IVC attendance policy. Use this information in addition to any specific attendance policies you have for your course.]*

- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.

## Classroom Etiquette

*[Required Information: Describe your policies regarding classroom conduct. The below is suggested language and may be modified for your course.]*

- **Electronic Devices:** Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- **Food and Drink** are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- **Disruptive Students:** Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- **Children in the classroom:** Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

## Online Netiquette

Not Applicable

## Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

## Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- [Blackboard Support Site](#). The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- [Learning Services](#). There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- [Library Services](#). There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

## Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

## Student Counseling and Health Services

*[Required language.]*

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- [Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

## Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

## Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

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### Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Fire 220 DO1a Winter 2018

<u>Day</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Location</u>
1	<u>15</u>	Orientation & Physical Evidence	IVC 3211
2	<u>14</u>	Photography in the Fire Investigation	IVC 3211
3	<u>16</u>	Origin Determination	IVC 3211
4	<u>NA</u>	Case Review / Assignments	IVC 3211
5	<u>NA</u>	Final Exam	IVC 3211

**\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***