

Bossier Parish Community College  
Master Syllabus

**Course Prefix and Number:** FRSC 260

**Credit hours:** 3

**Course Title:** Fire Investigation I

**Course Prerequisites:** FRSC 110: Building Construction for Fire Protection. FRSC 120: Fire Behavior and Combustion or Instructor approval

**Textbook(s):** International Association of Fire Chiefs, Fire Investigator: Principles and Practice to NFPA 921 and 1033, 5<sup>rd</sup> ed., Jones and Bartlett Learning

**Software / Hardware:**

An electronic textbook is available with added learning resources available from the publisher of the text book. The student must have access to a computer with applicable hardware, software and internet access the online learning management system (Canvas)

**Course Description:**

This course is intended to provide the student with the fundamentals and technical knowledge needed for proper fire scenic interpretations, including recognizing and conducting origin and cause, preservation of evidence and documentation, scene security, motives of the fire setter, and types of fire causes.

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the course, the student will be able to

- A. Demonstrate the importance of documentation, evidence collection, and scene security process needed for successful resolution
- B. Understand and demonstrate the process of conducting fire origin and cause
- C. Identify and apply the processes of proper documentation

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will be able to

1. Demonstrate the importance of documentation, evidence collection, and scene security process needed for successful resolution. (A)
2. Understand and demonstrate the process of conducting fire origin and cause investigation. (B)
3. Identify the responsibilities of a firefighter when responding to the scene of a fire, including scene security and evidence preservation. (A,B,C)
4. Describe the implications of constitutional amendments as they apply to fire investigations to include case law decisions that have affected fire investigations. (A)
5. Define the common terms used in fire investigations. (A,B)
6. Explain the basic elements fire dynamics, construction, and fire protection systems as to how they affect origin and cause determination. (B)

7. Discuss the basic principles and identify cause and origins of fires. (B)  
Recognize potential health and safety hazards. (A)

### **Course Requirements:**

To earn a grade of “C” or higher the student must earn 70% of the total points for the course and meet all of the following course requirements.

1. The student must successfully complete the course with an average of 70% or above on the combined learning outcomes.
2. Each student is expected to attend classes regularly; excessive unexcused absences constitute grounds for suspension (refer to the student handbook for attendance policies).
3. Each student must have access to a reliable Internet connection to complete online discussion boards, course assignments, quizzes and tests.

### **Course Grading Scale:**

90-100=	A
80-89=	B
70-79=	C
60-69=	D
0-59=	F

### **Attendance Policy:**

The college attendance policy (for the classroom) is available at <http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html>

### **Course Fees:**

This course is accompanied with an additional non-refundable fee for supplemental materials, laboratory supplies, software licenses, certification exams, and/or clinical fees.

### **Non-Discrimination Statement:**

Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, qualified disability, marital status, veteran's status, or sexual orientation in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of its operations. Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices.

**COORDINATOR FOR SECTION 504 AND ADA:**

Angie Cao, Student and Disability Services Specialist  
Disability Services, F254, 6220 East Texas Street, Bossier City, LA 71111  
318-678-6511  
[acao@bpcc.edu](mailto:acao@bpcc.edu)  
Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays and weekends.

**Equity/Compliance Coordinator**

Teri Bashara, Director of Human Resources  
Human Resources Office, A-105  
6220 East Texas Street  
Bossier City, LA 71111  
Phone: 318-678-6056  
Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays and weekends.

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