



FEMA



National Fire Academy

F0344 – Methods of Enhancing Safety Education

Version: 1st Edition, 3rd Printing, October 2013

Quarter:

ACE Credit: In the vocational certificate category or lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category, 1 semester hour in Fire Administration, Fire Prevention, Fire Science, or Political Science.

IACET Continuing Education Units: 1.2

Length of Course: 2 Days (16 contact hours)

Prerequisite: None

Curriculum: Fire Prevention: Public Education

Training Specialist: Mary Marchone

Instructor:

Instructor email/phone:

Classroom: J-

Meeting Time: 8 AM – 5 PM

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Course Description (Catalog)

F0344 – “Methods of Enhancing Safety Education.” This two-day course is designed for those who coordinate or assist their organization in public education. The course does not teach people how to deliver safety programs; rather it supports efforts to enhance safety education in their organizations and in their communities. Content is ideal for students from smaller or volunteer organizations who wish to enhance their public education and prevention efforts. Students will outline ideas and plans that they would like to apply when they return home. Students who take this 2-day program will be able to determine if public education is valued in their organizations and in their communities. Course content emphasizes three simple methods for establishing

“roots” in public fire and life safety education:

- personal commitment to public education;
- determining and improving the organization’s role in public education; and
- enhancing programs through greater community support.

Student Qualifications (Primary and Secondary Audience)

- Those who serve on local or State prevention or public education committees.
- Fire suppression personnel or volunteer firefighters who coordinate public education.
- Volunteer firefighters who wear many “hats,” including public education.
- EMS personnel who coordinate programs such as basic life support.
- Community volunteers wishing to enhance fire and life safety efforts.
- Local schoolteachers who teach safety topics.
- Citizens who desire a more active role in safety education.
- Community health educators.
- Part-time or full-time public fire educators.

Course Scope (Goal)

Given an overview of an organization’s community education programs and a summary of personal, organizational, and community attitudes, the students will be able to determine if community education is an institutionalized value within that organization.

Based on their own organizations, the students will be able to develop a plan for institutionalizing community education as a valued part of the organization’s mission and responsibility.

The students will be able to bring together diverse organizations, factions, and/ or constituencies to work together to achieve a common goal.

Course Objectives (Course Learning Outcomes – TLOs)

Course Delivery Method

The National Fire Academy (NFA) offers specialized training courses and advanced management programs of national impact in an academic classroom environment [on campus at the National Emergency Training Center \(NETC\) in Emmitsburg, Maryland](#) and through their State, local, and tribal training partners. This classroom course is designed for the national level fire service officer from State and local fire service organizations. All course materials are designed for interactive classroom environments, in either paper notebook or electronic formats.

Course Schedule

The purpose of the course schedule is to give you, at a glance, the required preparation, activities, and evaluation components of your course.

Module 1: Leadership in Community Safety Education

Module 2: Gaining Internal Support for Community Education

Module 3: Coalition Development and Maintenance

Course Resources (Instructional Materials)

In order to be fully prepared, obtain a copy of the required textbooks and other instructional materials prior to the first day of class.

Required Readings

The student must complete required readings during the course to be able to thoughtfully participate in discussions and activities.

None.

Suggested Reading/Resources

Suggested readings and resources are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding, serve as additional sources for citation and promote discussion of course material.

None.

Required Resources (Course Textbook)

Student Manual.

Supplemental Resources (Supplemental Course Textbook)

None.

Grading Methodology (Evaluation Procedures)

The required performance to successfully complete the course is attained by completing the class with a letter grade of a "C" or higher.

Letter Grade	Point Range
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	69 or lower

Required Reading Assignments

Student completion of reading assignments will be done via evaluation of their class participation and will not be a separately graded activity.

Suggested Readings

Suggested readings are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding and promote discussion of course material.

Course Outline

Module 1: Leadership in Community Safety Education

Objectives

The students will:

1. Explain the leadership elements necessary in each of the following for successful comprehensive community education.
 - a. Individuals involved in providing the programs.
 - b. Organizations involved in the programs.
 - c. Community in which the programs are occurring.
2. Summarize the personal benefits, as related to preventing harm to the citizens of the community served, when community education is embraced as an individual responsibility of fire service, EMS, emergency management, and related service organizations.
3. Summarize the benefits to an organization, as related to the quality of customer service, when community education is institutionalized within that organization.
4. Summarize the benefits to a community, as related to overall community safety, health, and wellness, when community education is institutionalized within that community.

Module 2: Gaining Internal Support for Community Education

Objectives

The students will:

1. Identify other personnel within the organization with a responsibility for community education.

2. Summarize to other personnel within the organization the benefits of participating in community education.
3. Explain methods for motivating other personnel to participate in community education.
4. Explain the process necessary to institutionalize community education within an organization.
5. Develop a plan for creating change regarding community education.

Module 3: Coalition Development and Maintenance

Objectives

The students will:

1. Develop partnerships to work on community education activities.
2. Determine the impact of coalition activities on the mission of the student's organization.
3. Maintain coalition activities to support ongoing community education activities.
4. Support involvement with multiple coalitions involved in different community education issues.

Policies

Class Attendance and Cancellation Policy

Attendance

- You are required to attend all sessions of the course. If you do not, you may not receive a certificate, and your stipend may be denied.
- If you need to depart campus early and miss any portion of the course and/or graduation, you must make the request in writing to the NFA training specialist. The training specialist, in collaboration with the superintendent, may waive the attendance requirement in order to accommodate you with extraordinary circumstances as long as you complete all course requirements. If you receive approval for departing early, you must forward the approval to the Admissions Office so your stipend reimbursement is not limited.

Student Substitutions

Substitutions for NFA courses are made from waiting lists; your fire department can't send someone in your place.

Cancellations or No-Shows

NFA's mission for delivery of courses is impaired significantly by cancellations and no-shows. It is very difficult and costly to recruit students at the last minute. Currently there is a two-year ban on student attendance for students who are no-shows or cancel within 30 days of the course start date without a valid reason. If you receive such a restriction, your supervisor needs to send a letter to our Admissions Office explaining the cancellation/no-show.

Course Failure

If you fail an on-campus course, you will not be issued a stipend for that course. You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

Student Code of Conduct Policy

Students, instructors and staff are expected to treat each other with respect at all times. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and may result in removal from campus and denial of stipends.

Writing Expectations

Student writing will conform to the generally accepted academic standards for college papers. Papers will reflect the original work of the student and give appropriate credit through citations for ideas belonging to other authors, publications or organizations. Student written work should be free of grammatical and syntax errors, free of profanity or obscene language or ideas, and reflect critical thinking related to the course subject matter.

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA, Sixth Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to NFA. Assignments completed in a narrative essay, composition format, abstract, and discussion posts must follow the citation style cited in the APA, Sixth Edition.

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date (11:59 p.m. EDT/EST) and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, you must manage competing demands on your time. Discussion board postings submitted within 3 days after the submission deadline will receive up to a 20% deduction. Those that do not submit their discussion board postings within this timeline will receive a "0" grade for the week. Final assignment papers will not be accepted after the deadline. Any paper submitted after the deadline will receive a "0" grade for that assignment.

Netiquette

Online learning promotes the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a professional learning setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations.** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The NFA Online classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note.** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺ .

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Grading

Please review the above grading methodology that explains how grades will be awarded. Students who do not complete the entire course will be awarded an Incomplete (I) grade. In accordance with National Fire Academy academic policies, an Incomplete (I) grade must be removed by the end of the next semester following the course, or it automatically becomes a Failing (F) grade.

If you fail an on-campus course, you will not be issued a stipend for that course. You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student_policies_campus_information.html

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to exhibit exemplary ethical behavior and conduct as part of the NFA community and society as a whole. Acts of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarism, deliberate falsification, and other unethical behaviors will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to report academic misconduct when they witness a violation. All cases of academic misconduct shall be reported by the instructor to the Training Specialist.

If a student is found to have engaged in misconduct and the allegations are upheld, the penalties may include, but are not limited to one or a combination of the following:

- expulsion,
- withholding of stipend or forfeiture of stipend paid,
- exclusion from future classes for a specified period; depending on the severity it could range from 1-10 years, and/or
- forfeiture of certificate for course(s) enrolled in at NETC.

Refer to NFA-specific Standard Operating Procedure 700.1 – *Academic Code of Conduct and Ethics* for more information.