

University of Illinois Fire Service Institute

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Leadership so Everyone Goes Home

Course Duration: 4 hours

Program: Firefighting and National Fallen Firefighter Foundation (NFFF)

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description: This program is intended to focus on the strategies to help students exercise leadership within their organization, regardless of whether their role is as a senior firefighter, company-level officer or chief officer. Exercising leadership is a critical component in helping our nation's fire service successfully implement many of the programs and initiatives to help reduce firefighter deaths and injuries. An important premise is that exercising leadership is not without its dangers. You may have personally experienced occasions where individuals avoid tough issues rather than upset anyone. Exercising leadership is dangerous because it can challenge what people hold dear, including their habits, loyalties, and ways of thinking. The goal of this program is to enlighten firefighting personnel, regardless of their rank, on the important role that leadership plays in all aspects of firefighting operations and to offer strategies on how to not only avoid those dangers, but also to thrive, helping them to make a difference that is beyond measure.

Course Requirements and/or Recommendations:

Pre-Course Work – None
Course Work – None
Post-Course Work – None

Course Policies:

Safety Policy: Students shall understand and follow all instructions pertaining to operational safety, as stated by instructors or as written in course materials. Instructors and students shall be mindful of safety at all times. Conduct judged to be unsafe shall be grounds for dismissal from the course.

Academic Integrity Policy: IFSI has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity so as to protect the quality of the education provided through its courses, and to protect those who depend upon our integrity. It is the responsibility of the student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. Any violation of the code of conduct is grounds for immediate dismissal from the course.

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American Disabilities Act: As guaranteed in the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and in the American Disabilities Act, if any student needs special accommodations, they are to notify their instructor and provide documentation as soon as possible so arrangements can be made to provide for the student's needs. If arrangements cannot be made at the class site, the student will test at an alternative time and place where the special accommodations can be made.

Course Content:

Module: 1

Title: Leadership so Everyone Goes Home

Terminal Learning Objective:

1. At the conclusion of this module, the student will identify the important roles that effective leadership plays in all aspects of firefighting operations.

Reference List:

Everyone Goes Home Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives (2008). *Final Report for LODD Project: Phases 1 – II*. Retrieved December 12, 2011 from

<http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/news/osustudyP2.html>

Heifetz, R. Linsky, M. (2002). *Leadership on the line*. Boston, MA. Harvard Business School Press.

National Fallen Firefighters foundation and Chicago Fire Department Release New Everyone Goes Home Video (2011). Retrieved February 7, 2012 from

<http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/news/2011/chicago.html>

National Fire Protection Association (2008). *Firefighter Fatalities in the United States*.

Retrieved December 12, 2011 from <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/osfff.pdf>

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (2011). *Two Career Firefighters Die and 19*

Injured in Roof Collapse during Rubbish Fire at an Abandoned Commercial Structure. Retrieved December 12, 2011 from:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/face201038.pdf>

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (2000). *Fire Fighter Dies at House Fire*. Retrieved December 12, 2011 from:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/face200110.pdf>

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (2010). *Volunteer Chief and Fire Fighter Die After Being Ejected During a Rollover Crash*. Retrieved

December 12, 2011 from: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/face201019.pdf>

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (2007). *One Career Fire Fighter Dies and Two are Injured in Apparatus Crash*. Retrieved December 12,

2011 from: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/face200528.pdf>

Okray R., Lubnau, T. (2004). *Crew resource management for the fire service*. Tulsa OK: Pennwell.

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U.S. Fire Administration (2008). *Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2007*. Retrieved December 11, 2011 from

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/report.shtm>

U.S. Department of Agriculture (1995). Findings from the wildland firefighters human factors workshop. Retrieved December 9, 2011 from

http://www.iaff.org/hs/LODD_Manual/Resources/USFS%20Findings%20from%20the%20Wildland%20Firefighters%20Human%20Factors%20Workshop.pdf

Weick, K., Sutcliffe, K. (2001). *Managing the unexpected*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass

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Course Schedule

Estimated Time Benchmarks

Note – while each class may vary, the benchmarks shown below may provide some guidance in managing your time.

Section in Lesson Plan	Estimated Instruction Time
I. Introduction	60 min.
II. Facility Introduction	
III. Introduction – NFFF	
IV. Program Introduction	
V. Exercising Leadership	
VI. Case Studies	60 min.
VII. Challenges of Exercising Leadership during Adaptive Challenges	
Recommended break	15 min.
VIII. Responses to Leadership Challenges	45 min.
IX. Additional Case Studies	30 min.
X. Personal Strategies for Managing the Stresses of Leadership	10 min.
XI. After Action Review	20 minutes
Total: 4 hours	