

**THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES  
Fire Protection Technology**

**Course Title:** Field Experience  
**Course Number:** FIRE:295  
**Course Credit:** 2 Credit Hours  
**Prerequisites:** 30 credits of successfully completed coursework in the Fire Protection program which includes: 2230:100; 2230:201; 2230:104; 2230:204; 2230:205; 2230:280

**Course Description**

Individual completing this course will be qualified to work at a fire department or other emergency medical services units.

**Program Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Outline each area of a local fire department.
2. Work comfortably with fire department personnel.
3. Schedule and be on time for assignments per department protocol.
4. Perform satisfactorily at fire department ride- alongs, and other assignments.

**ASSESSMENT:**

At the beginning of the semester, the instructor will discuss the format used to evaluate student performance and progress .The criteria for assigning a course grade shall also be discussed. A hard copy and electronic copy of the course syllabus will be provided on Springboard. Assessment methods may include one or more of the following: research papers, book and journal article reviews, written and oral reports, table top exercises, community service projects, and classroom presentations.

**Field Experience I Program**

**College Credit:**

*Credit hours will be awarded for work experience where the program meets the standards as set forth by The University of Akron's Fire Protection Program.*

**Field Experience I: 2230:295 (2 credits)**

The work experience will be identified as an Field Experience I program which assigns the student to various Fire Departments in the region or state. The student will be required to work a total of sixty(60) hours during the Semester.

### **Characteristics of the Field Experience Program:**

1. A representative of the University will periodically assess progress toward completion.
2. The work experience shall be established under an agreement between the agency, the student and the University concerning mutual obligations.
3. A grade will be awarded for performance in the work program by the agency supervisor.
4. The student's final grade will be a combination of the supervisor performance grade and the final report grade.

### **Field Experience I Information:**

#### **I. Goal**

The purpose of the Intern experience is to provide opportunities for students to acquire skills and abilities in Fire Protection Technology which supplement classroom and field instruction.

Since the Intern experience is scheduled in the **final year** of the associate degree program, the student should be able to observe the application of information studied during the first year of instruction, and be able to understand the application of information to be studied in the classroom during the second year.

#### **II. General Information**

The Field Experience I placement will be arranged on an individual basis with the student, area fire departments and relevant agencies, and The University of Akron's Fire Protection Technology.

Placement agreements may be terminated by any of the three parties involved where sufficient reason is established. However, a minimum of one-week notice must be given so that all measures can be taken to assure fair treatment to all concerned.

While participating in the Field Experience I program, the student is registered with the University and is subject to the jurisdiction and discipline of the college.

The student is required to submit one report as outlined in the Report, Section III. The final report is due upon completion of the Field Experience I experience and is to be a comprehensive summary of all activities. It should also include any new knowledge and skills learned to date.

**The report should include the following, but not necessarily limited to:**

1. Introduction:
  - a. Physical facilities (size, location, type of agency, etc.)
  - b. Ownership/State/Local/Charter/Non-Charter/Civil Service
  - c. Services rendered (include outstanding features)
  
2. Organization:
  - a. Are areas of responsibility well defined for management and employees--if not, explain.
  - b. If overlapping of responsibilities occurs, what, if any, problems result?
  - c. Do all of the directives you receive come from your immediate super-visors; if not, explain.
  - d. If you have listed any problems in 2-a, b, or c, explain how you would solve them and what importance you place on effective organization.
  
3. Communications (between management and employees):
  - a. How are directives given to employees (orally, bulletins, etc.)?
  - b. If more than one method is utilized in 3-a, which is more (most) effective? Why?
  - c. Do you believe other methods could be used? Why?
  
4. Training Program:
  - a. Was there a training program at the firm in which you worked? If so, describe it. Was it effective?
  - b. How would you improve the training program, if at all?
  - c. If there was not a training program, do you believe one is necessary or meritorious? Why?
  - d. How would you set up a training program at this operation, if none existed?
  - e. Is written material necessary in a training program? Why?
  
5. Professional Documents:
  - a. A copy of the thank you letter written for the hosting agency.

**V. Student Responsibilities**

The Intern agrees to work with their selected technical area during the training period. The student will complete the Field Experience I application (Form 1). This application will be used in screening and selecting interns.

The student agrees to conform to the normal work hours of the organization. However, it may be necessary to work longer hours during a peak time (for at least 60 hours over the 7.5 weeks of the course). The student will sign a release of liability form provided by the University and the agency (Form 3).

The student is expected to:

1. Perform in deed and word to the agency's best interest.
2. Perform all duties requested by the agency cheerfully and to the best of their ability.
3. Refrain from discussing agency business without permission, and certainly never to the detriment of the business.
4. Report to work on time.
5. Be neat in appearance.
6. Be courteous at all times.
7. Be a credit to the agency and the college.
8. Be observant of the activities of the agency so that the work experience will be valuable training experience.
9. Secure permission from the agency before taking any time off from the job.
10. Refrain from smoking during work hours.
11. Notify the Director of the Field Experience I of any serious problems that arise immediately.
12. Register for the Field Experience I and the evaluation at The University of Akron.
13. Complete all proper forms with the Field Experience I Director on time (Form 1).
14. Complete Form 3 with the assistance of the agency supervisor.

**VI. Agency Responsibilities:**

The agency agrees to employ the student for the period of time of the Field Experience I program.

The agency is responsible for making at least one evaluation (Form 5) of the work of the student and for submitting this evaluation to the college. The student will present the appropriate form as instructed to do so within the first five days of the course session. The agency is requested to return the completed evaluation to the college at the end of the Intern's assignment.

The agency, if possible, shall provide a variety of work opportunities in different job areas during the placement-training period in order for the Intern to gain experience and become familiar with the various phases of the organization.

The agency is requested to counsel with the student at various times during the training period for the benefit of both the student and the employer.

The agency agrees to notify the Director immediately regarding any problem that develops in connection with the student's work with the agency. (330-972-7233 or [bennet3@uakron.edu](mailto:bennet3@uakron.edu))

#### **VII. Director Responsibilities:**

The Director shall approve Intern placement for each student on an individual basis. The Director will counsel progress with both the student and the agency supervisor.

The services of the Director are available in any way that may be beneficial to the training program.

The Director will correspond with the student during the semester.