

WILDLAND FIRE / FUELS MANAGEMENT

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree
97-104 credits

DEGREE AS AWARDED ON TRANSCRIPT

Associate of Applied Science, Wildland Fire/Fuels Management

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The degree is designed to prepare a student for a job in Fire/Fuels management. Students will learn importance of how fire/fuels management fits in the managing of ecosystems and natural resources as one of the more important aspects of fire management, including the reintroduction of fire as an ecosystem process.

Outcomes:

A graduate should possess:

1. Develop the tools for all levels of decision-making and seek information to improve decision making in wildland fire suppression and management.
2. Analyze the interaction of fuels, weather and topography on wildland fire behavior, fireline tactics and safety.
3. Interpret, communicate, apply and document wildland fire behavior and weather information.
4. Apply the concepts of silviculture as it relates to fuel treatments, fire effects and land management.
5. Using mapping tools, interpret GIS data and use for navigation, planning and implementation in fire management.
6. Synthesize fire management plans incorporating the philosophical, historical, legal, ecological, social and cultural aspects of land management.
7. Integrate concepts of forest and fire ecology in the practice of land and fire management.

COST OF PROGRAM

In addition to standard tuition, student fees and textbooks, students should anticipate the following estimated program costs:

- Hard hat, gloves, 12" leather boots with Vibram soles, fire clothes, ear protection, eye protection: \$250-\$500. (Some fire clothes may be provided by the College, check with the program director. Boots will NOT be provided.)

PROGRAM PREPARATION AND PREREQUISITES

- High school diploma or GED is recommended
- Minimum placement scores resulting in WR 121 placement or completion of WR 065/095 with a grade "C" or better
- Minimum placement scores resulting in MTH 060/085 placement or completion of MTH 020 with a grade "C" or better
- Current employment with a wildland fire suppression organization

MINIMUM GPA OR GRADE REQUIREMENTS

All required courses must be completed at a "C" grade or better and graduates must have an overall 2.0 GPA or higher.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Program courses begin once per year in Fall term. Students can take non-program support courses if they begin in a term other than Fall or if they need to build skills related to the prerequisites.

Please note that first year and second year core courses if not taken in consecutive years, may overlap on time. Please check with your advisor and the current schedule.

NATIONAL/STATE LEGAL ELIGIBILITY OR UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AND/OR ENTRY INTO OCCUPATION, OR ADVANCEMENT IN THE OCCUPATION

- All Suppression short courses (S-courses), students will be given National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) certification.
- Minimum qualifications for entry into the occupation is Firefighter Type II (FFT2) which is offered Fall/Winter term for the less-than-one-year Firefighter Type II certificate.

- Students will need to be physically fit for employment in the occupation of Wildland Firefighter. For an FFT2 position, students will be required to pass the arduous "pack test" (three miles in 45 minutes carrying 45 pounds).

TRANSFER INFORMATION

This degree is designed for students planning to enter their chosen career upon graduation. Often only selected credits are considered transferrable to public or private baccalaureate institutions.

PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Communication

WR 121	Academic Composition	4
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Mathematics

MTH 085	Technical Mathematics I	4-8
and MTH 086	Technical Mathematics II	
or MTH 111	College Algebra	

Human Relations

FOR 211	Supervision and Leadership	3
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Program Requirements

FOR 100	Forestry Program Orientation	1
FOR 110	Wildland Fire Science I	2
FOR 111	Forestry Perspectives	3-4
or SFS 101	Introduction to Emergency Services	
FOR 208	Soils: Sustainable Ecosystems	4
FOR 209	Fire Ecology and Effects	3
FOR 210	Wildland Fire Science II	2
FOR 230A	Map, Compass and GPS	3
FOR 231	GPS Mapping	1
FOR 235	Resource Measurements	4
FOR 236	Aerial Photo	3
FOR 240A	Forest Ecology	3
FOR 241A	Field Dendrology	3
FOR 241B	Dendrology	3
FOR 260	Conservation of Natural Resources	3
FOR 271	Applied Forest Ecology	3
FOR 272	Forest Entomology/Pathology	3
FOR 273	Silviculture and Harvesting	5
GEOG 265	Geographic Information Systems	4
GEOG 273	Spatial Data Collection	5
WF 101	Firefighter Type II Training	3
WF 111	Tactical Decision Simulations	
WF 290	S-290 Intermediate Wildfire Behavior	3
WF 298	S-390 Fire Behavior Calculations	3

Other Required Courses

CIS 120	Computer Concepts	0-4
or Computer Competency Test		
Discipline Studies course		3-4
HHP 185	Activity Course	1
HHP 295	Health & Fitness	3
or HHP 242	Stress Management	
or HHP 266	Nutrition for Health	
SP 111	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3-4
or SP 115	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
or SP 218	Interpersonal Communication	
or SP 219	Small Group Communication	
Fire Electives		6
WF XXX	any WF prefix courses	
or BA 101	Introduction to Business	
or FOR 130	Chainsaw Use and Maintenance	
or SFS 101	Introduction to Emergency Services	
or SFS 102	Firefighter Safety & Survival	

Other Program Requirements

A minimum of 60 days fire-related work experience approved by the Wildland Fire Science director is required for graduation.

WILDLAND FIRE / FUELS MANAGEMENT *(continued)*

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ADVISING NOTES

Because the short courses are sponsored by the East Slope Training region, the short courses (S-courses) are available to students in the following order:

1. Sponsored government and state employees, including structural fire agencies, from within the East Slope Training area;
2. Sponsored government and state employees, including structural fire agencies, from outside the East Slope Training area; and
3. Full-time COCC students/part-time COCC students/private contractors (in that order) who meet the qualifications of the course. Students must provide a copy of training records to the program director.

