



FIRT-1440-001I3 (2654)
Fire Inspector II
Spring 2025
Online Course

Instructor Information:

Name: Micah Simons
Email: msimons@com.edu
Phone: 713-818-8994
Officer Hours: By Appointment
Location: TBA

Director Information

Name: Gary Staudt
Email: gstaudt@com.edu
Phone: 409-933-8378
Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Location: PSC 110

Student hours and location: TBA

Announcements: Upon opening the course, Brightspace will default to the Course Home page, which includes an Announcements section. Announcements will include any changes to the schedule, notice of skills labs, major exams, TCFP course activities, and any other pertinent information regarding the course. It is extremely important that students review announcements every time they enter the course.

Brightspace Assistance: Should students have a difficulty with the Brightspace system, they must file a DE Support Request to obtain assistance. A link to DE Support is in the Student Resources folder in the menu at the top of the Home Screen.

Required Textbook/Materials:

Fire Inspection and Code Enforcement (8th ed.) (2016). Stillwater, OK: Fire Protection Publications. International Fire Service Training Association.

Plans Examiner for Fire and Emergency Services (2nd ed.) (2016). Stillwater, OK: Fire Protection Publications. International Fire Service Training Association.

The textbook is available at the COM bookstore, <http://www.combookstore.com/home.aspx>.

Recommended, Not Required: *2021 International Fire Code*, (2021), International Code Council, ISBN-13: 978-1609893598, ISBN-10: 1609839595.

Course Description: Internet Course. This course meets the Texas Commission on Fire Protection curriculum requirements for Fire Inspector and Plans Examiner Course certifications. Students successfully completing the course will be eligible to take the certification examinations for Fire Inspector and Plans Examiner provided they satisfy TCFP testing requirements. Students will be required to attend labs to complete TCFP performance skills required by the TCFP to be completed in the presence of a skills examiner. Lab dates are listed in the course schedule. TCFP examination and certification fees are the responsibility of the student. For additional information contact Gary Staudt Director of Fire Technology at 409-933-8934 or gstaudt@com.edu or Nichole Montrose at 409-933-8233.

Students new to online learning at COM can register for the Online Learner Workshop on Demand module. Learn how to access the training at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXKGTEp9xJg>.

Course Requirements: Each Chapter contains Objectives, a PowerPoint Presentation, and a Chapter Test. Selected Chapters include applicable TCFP Skill Assignments.

Chapter Tests: Chapter Tests consists of multiple-choice. The number of questions varies. Each test is timed and students are allowed one minute per question. Students will be allowed two attempts for each test. **Students must complete all Chapter Tests with a grade of 70% or better in order to receive a TCFP Course Completion.** An average of scores for Chapter Tests will consist of 20% of the Course Grade.

Skill Assignments: Skill Assignments consists of TCFP Fire Officer Inspector and Plans Examiner Skills. Grades for Skills Assignments are either pass (100) or fail (0). In order to receive a passing grade on each skill, students must receive a satisfactory rating for all items in the skill's instructions. **Students must successfully complete all Skill Assignments in order to receive a TCFP Course Completion.** An average of scores for Skill Assignments will consist of 30% of the Course Grade.

Skills Labs: Certain skills are required by the TCFP to be completed in person, in the presence of a certified skills examiner. Skills Labs are provided for this purpose. **Attendance to these labs is mandatory in order to obtain eligibility for a TCFP Course Completion.** The dates, time, and location of Skills Labs are listed in the Course Outline/Schedule. Two back-to-back dates are provided for each lab due the firefighter's 24-hour shifts. Students are only required to attend one of the lab sessions.

Midterm and Final Exams: Midterm and Final Exams typically consist of 100 to 150 multiple-choice questions. Students will be given one minute per question. Students will have two attempts for each exam. **Students must complete all Midterm and Final Exams with a grade of 70% or better in order to receive a TCFP Course Completion.** An average of the Midterm Exams account of 20% of the Course Grade. Final Exams account for 30% of the Course Grade.

Note: In order to be eligible for the Final Exam, students must have successfully completed all Chapter Tests, Skill Assignments, and Midterm Exams.

Note: In accordance with 37TAC§427.305, the TCFP requires the final test must be conducted in a proctored setting. For purposes of this section, a proctor can be an approved TCFP Field Examiner, or a member of a testing center of an educational institution. A passing score of 70% must be achieved. Students will be required to schedule a time to take the exam with the instructor. Dates for Final Exams are listed in the Course Schedule.

Determination of Course Grade: The course grade is based on an average of the following categories and the grade scale. **Note:** Grades for Chapter Tests, Midterm and Final Exams are not rounded up.

Grading Criteria

Chapter Tests	20%
Skill Assignments	30%
Midterm Exams	20%
Final Exams	30%

Grade Scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
75-79	C
70-75	D
Below 75	F

Late/Makeup Policy: Chapter tests, skill assignments, and exams are generally due on Mondays at 0800. Students may submit tests, skills assignments, and exams after the due date and receive a grade. However, grades for tests, skills assignments, and exams submitted after the due date and time will receive a maximum grade of 75%.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to log into the course weekly and progressively complete assignments. Students not doing so may after official notice be dropped from the course.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate competencies set forth in the TCFP Curriculum Manual for Fire Inspector and Plans Examiner.

Fire Inspector Competencies

1. Conduct basic fire inspections and apply applicable codes and standards
2. Conduct various types of inspections and interpret applicable codes and standards.
3. Analyze building construction, hazardous processes, and architectural drawings or plans to ensure compliance with building and fire codes.

Plans Examiner Competencies

1. Analyze building construction, hazardous processes, and architectural drawings or plans to ensure compliance with building and fire codes.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed Via Assignment
Inspector		
Administration	Prepare Inspection Reports, Recognize Need for Permit/ Plan Review	Insp. I – Skill 1
Administration	Investigate Complaints, ID Codes/Std, Participate in Legal Proceedings	Insp. I – Skill 2
Field Inspection	ID Occupancy Class, Compute Occ. Load, Egres Elements, Type of Construction.	Insp. I – Skill 3

Field Inspection	Determine readiness of fire supp system, fire alarm systems, portable extinguishers, compare approved plan to existing fp syst.	Insp. I – Skill 4
Field Inspection	Recognize hazardous conditions involving equipment, processes and operations	Insp. I – Skills 5-A
Field Inspection	Verify code compliance for incidental storage, handling, and use of flammable liquid and combustible liquids and gases	Insp. I – Skill 5-B
Field Inspection	Verify code compliance for incidental storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials	Insp. I – Skill 5-C
Field Inspection	Determine compliance with codes, standards and policies of the jurisdiction	Insp. I – Skill 5-D
Field Inspection	Recognize hazardous fire growth potential	Insp. I – Skill 6
Field Inspection	Verify emerg plan and preparedness, inspect emerg access, verify fire flows	Insp. I – Skill 7
General	Collect hazard information using ERG	Insp. I – Skill 8
Administration	Process permit application and a plan review application	Insp. II – Skill 1-A
Administration	Investigate complex complaints	Insp. II – Skill 1-B
Administration	Recommend modifications to codes and standards	Insp. II – Skill 1-C
Administration	Recommend policies and procedures	Insp, II – Skill 2
Field Inspection	Compute occupant load, occ classifications, analyze egress	Insp, II – Skill 3
Field Inspection	Determine building's area, height, occupancy class, and construction type	Insp, II – Skill 4
Field Inspection	Eval fire protection systems and equipment	Insp, II – Skill 5
Field Inspection	Eval haz conditions, verify code compliance for storage	Insp, II – Skill 6
Field Inspection	Eval emerg planning and preparedness procedures	Insp, II – Skill 7
Field Inspection	Determine fire growth potential in a building or space	Insp, II – Skill 8
Field Inspection	Verify compliance with construction documents	Insp, II – Skill 9

Field Inspection	Verify code compliance of building systems	Insp, II – Skill 10
Plan Review	Classify occupancy type	Insp, II – Skill 11
Plan Review	Compute occupant load	Insp, II – Skill 12
Plan Review	Review installation of fire protection systems	Insp, II – Skill 13
Plan Review	Verify means of egress elements	Insp, II – Skill 14
Plan Review	Verify construction type	Insp, II – Skill 15
Plans Examiner		
Administration	Prepare reports, facilitate resolution of deficiencies, process plan review documents, determine applic code/std	Plans Examiner – Skill 1
Plan Review	Id requirements for fire protection/life safety systems	Plans Examiner – Skill 2-A
Plan Review	Evaluate code compliance for fire flow	Plans Examiner – Skill 2-B
Plan Review	Evaluate plans for installation of fp/life safety systems	Plans Examiner – Skill 2-C
Plan Review	Verify occ type, constr type, occ load, req'd egress is provided, eval emerg vehicle access	Plans Examiner – Skill 3
Plan Review	Recommend policies and procedures for delivery of plan review services	Plans Examiner – Skill 4-A
Plan Review	Mock legal proceeding	Plans Examiner – Skill 4-B

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Gary Staudt, gstaudt@com.edu, 409-933-8934

Course Schedule

Week	Assignments	Due Dates
Fire Inspector		
W1 1/13/25	Orientation, Online, 1800 CH 1 – Duties & Authority CH 2 – Codes, Standards, and Permits CH 3 – Fire Behavior	1/15-16/25 C 1 Test C 2 Test C 3 Test Due 1/20/25, 0800
W2 1/20/25	CH 4 – Construction Types and Occupancy Classifications CH 5 – Building Construction CH 6 – Building Components	C 4 Test C 5 Test C 6 Test Due 1/27/25, 0800
W3 1/27/25	INSPECTOR EXAM #1 – Chapters 1-5	Exam 1 Due 2/03/25, 0800
W4 2/03/25	CH 7 – Means of Egress CH 8 – Site Access	C 7 Test C 8 Test Due 2/10/25, 0800
W5 2/10/25	CH 9 – Fire Hazard Recognition CH 10 – Hazardous Materials	C 9 Test C 10 Test Due 2/17/25, 0800
W6 2/17/25	CH 11 – Water Supply Distribution Systems CH 12 – Water – Based Fire Suppression Systems Inspector I Skills Due Before February 24, 2025	C 11 Test, C 12 Test Due 2/24/25, 0800
W7 2/24/25	INSPECTOR EXAM #2 – Chapters 6-11	Exam 2 Due 3/03/25, 0800
W8 3/03/25	CH 13 – Special-Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems & Portable Fire Extinguishers CH 14 – Fire Detection & Alarm Systems	C 13 Test C 14 Test Due 3/3/25, 0800
W9 3/10/25	CH 15 – Plans Review & Field Verifications CH 16 – Inspection Procedures	C 15 Test C 16 Test Due 3/24/25, 0800
3/17/25	Spring Break, College Closed	3/17-23/25
W10 3/24/25	INSPECTOR EXAM #3 – Chapters 12-16 Inspector II Skills Due Before March 28, 2025, 1700 hrs	Exam 3 Due 3/28/25, 1700 hrs
Note: In order to be eligible for the Fire Inspector Final Exam, all assignments must be successfully completed and submitted by Friday, March 28, 2025 @ 1700 Hours.		
W11 3/31/25	Fire Inspector Final Exam IN PERSON SKILLS: March 31st & April 1st – 0900-1200	Due 3/31/25, 4/1-2/25 Due 3/31 & 4/1/25, 0900

Plans Examiner		
W12 4/07/25	CH 1 – Role of the Plans Examiner CH 2 – Plans Review Process CH 3 – Codes & Standards	C1 Test C2 Test C3 Test Due 4/14/25, 0800
W13 4/14/25	CH 4 – Plan Sets CH 5 – Site, Plot, Utility, & Landscape Plans CH 6 – Architectural Plans CH 7 – Structural Plans Plans Examiner Exam 1	C4 Test C5 Test C6 Test C7 Test Exam 1 Due 4/21/25, 0800
4/18/25	Spring Holiday, College Closed	4/18-20/25
W14 4/21/25	CH 8 – Mechanical Plans CH 9 – Electrical Plans CH 10 – Fire Protection System Plans CH 11 – Fire Alarm and Detection Systems (All Skills Due before April 28, 2025)	C9 Test, Skill Part 2 Due 4/28/25, 0800
W15 4/28/25	C 12 – Auto Elevators, Fire Command Centers, Fire Exting., Smoke Control Systems CH 13 – Other Fire Protection Plans Reviews CH 14 – Alternative Design Methods CH 15 – Renovation & Tenant Improvements IN PERSON SKILLS: April 28th & 29th – 0900-1200	C10 Test, Skills Part 3 & 4 Exam 2 Due 5/2/25, 0800
Note: In order to be eligible for the Plans Examiner Final Exam, all assignments must be successfully completed and submitted by Friday, May 2, 2025 @ 1700 Hours.		
W16 5/05/25	Plans Examiner Final Exam, Testing Center TCFP Designated Skills Test, PSC	Due 5/5-7, 25 Due 5/7-9/25, 0900
	TCFP FO IV Certification Exam Schedule Online Exam with TCFP & Testing Center	As Scheduled

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade,*

penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is April 30.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life

issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.