



King County Fire Training Officer's Association Officer Development Academy Course Syllabus

Community and Government Relations

Course Information

Course Title: Community and Government Relations

Course Description: This course is about building and maintaining positive relationships with the community and local governments. The class will give students an understanding of value of these relationships and give the student tools to help them build these relationships. The course will focus on relationships, while touching on a broad range of fire service subjects, such as public education, and responding to citizen concerns, outreach to elected officials, and changing policy.

Dates:

May 10, 2018

Class Time:

0830-1630

Location:

Woodinville Fire Station 31

Prerequisites/Pre-
course Assignment:

Fire Department Affiliation

Recommended, but not required, read the following from IFSTA Fire and Emergency Services Company Officer, Fifth Edition:

Chapter 2

- Pages 40-45

Chapter 5

- 105-112

Chapter 6.

- Pages 143-153

Chapter 9



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- Pages 211-217

Chapter 12

- Pages 352-359
- Pages 361-366

College Credits: Not available.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Greg Bawden

Greg is the training and admin BC with Duvall King County Fire District 45. He has also worked 13 years as a consultant investigating hazardous material sites across the county, which included preparing Community Relations Plans for US EPA Superfund sites. He served 12 years as an elected member of his local school board, where he was responsible for responding to citizen complaints and concerns, and co-authoring community information releases during a media-created school crisis. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Puget Sound Educational Service District, which is a state chartered organization that provides services to school districts in King and Pierce County. As both a fire officer and as an elected board member in public education, he has seen firsthand how reaching out to the community and local government officials can help his own organization succeed.

Instructor Phone: Email is Greg's preferred means of communicating.

Instructor Email: greg.bawden@cablespeed.com



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Instructor Contact: Email: Email is Greg's preferred means of communicating. Greg will attempt to respond to all emails within 24 hours.
Phone: For urgent communications, try Greg's work or cell numbers.

Course Design

Text: IFSTA Fire and Emergency Services Company Officer, Fifth Edition
Students are encouraged, but not required, to obtain the text before class to complete pre-course reading assignment.

Additional Materials: Instructor may provide additional handouts the day of the class.

Course Objectives: To provide the student with tools to help them build their department's "political capital", i.e., improve relationships with community and government partners.

Course Policies: This course is intended to expand the student's knowledge of the importance of community and government relations. Students are expected to participate in discussions and group activities, which should foster a greater understanding of these issues as they relate to the fire service. All students will respect the opinions of others and debate in a manner that is respectful of all. You get out of the class what you put into it.

Attendance: Attendance is, well, essential for a one day class. Be there!

Grading: Grading will be based on several elements totaling 100 points:

	Percent
Participation	30
Group Activities	35



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Final Written 35

Total 100

Points	Grade	Grade
100-99	4.0-3.9	A
98-95	3.8-3.5	A-
94-92	3.4-3.2	B+
91-89	3.1-2.9	B
88-85	2.8-2.5	B-
84-82	2.4-2.2	C+
81-79	2.1-1.9	C
78-75	1.8-1.5	C-
74-72	1.4-1.2	D+
71-69	1.1-0.9	D
68-65	0.8-0.7	D-
64-0	0.6-0.0	F

Exams: There will be a final exam based on the reading and lecture materials.

Instructor Tips for
Success:

- Arrive at class on time.
- Be prepared to engage in discussion
- Complete pre-course reading assignments
- Participate in group activities