I. **FSM Mission Statement:** Fire Science Management is a broad based fire management educational program designed to augment and develop managerial skills necessary for a career in the fire service or continued advancement within the field.

II. **Course Description:** The student will learn basic law principles, identify sources of American laws, and recognize the structural framework of American law. Additionally, the student will be able to identify the principles of law which relate to management of Fire Protection Services and areas of law which impact on the operations of Fire Service Management, including applicable laws and ordinances (Fire Fighter Bill of Rights, et al), collective bargaining, and state/local civil service Fire/Police Commission provisions hearing protocols. Further, the student is able to effectively participate in the conduct of a mock hearing, following applicable protocols for such, in accordance with due process and legal requirements and effectively document and enforce such findings.

**Prerequisite:** Fire Science major or consent of department


IV. **Course Outcomes/Objectives**

Outcome #1: 10%

Cognitive Objective: The student is able to define basic legal principles, identify sources of American law, and recognize the structural framework of American law.
Outcome #2:  
Cognitive Objective: The student is able to identify the principles of law which relate to management of Fire Protection Services.

Outcome #3:  
Cognitive Objective: The student is able to recognize areas of law which impact upon the operations of Fire Service/Management, including applicable laws and ordinances (Fire Fighter Bill of Rights, et al), collective bargaining, and state/local civil service Fire/Police Commission provisions and hearing protocols.

Outcome #4:  
Cognitive Objective: The student is able to effectively participate in the conduct of a mock hearing, following applicable protocols for such, in accordance with due process and legal requirements and effectively document and enforce such findings.

Outcome #5:  
Cognitive Objective: The student is able to apply basic legal principles to hypothetical situations and indicate probable outcome.

Outcome #6:  
Cognitive Objective: The student is able to formulate responsible management policy consistent with applicable law in the management of Fire Service Operations and Administration.

Method of Instruction: Lecture, class discussion, audiovisual, demonstration, illustration, practical application by students, on line instruction.

V. Course Grade: (What it takes to earn the grade)
The course grade will be based on the following distribution:

- 90%+ = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 59% or less = F
VI. Exit Competencies:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Define the different types of laws; explain their basic differences, and how the law functions in society.
- Become familiar with federal, state, and local laws, which regulate or influence emergency services.
- Explain the role and purpose of national codes and standards concerning their legal influence.
- Become familiar with legal decisions that have or will affect the fire service.
- Discuss the organization and legal structure of the fire department.
- Define the liabilities of firefighters.
- Recognize legal duties of emergency service members.
- Discuss negligence in an emergency setting.
- Define discrimination and identify areas of potential discrimination in the emergency service.
- Identify, explain and discuss the legalities of entrance requirements, residency, grooming, and drug testing.
- Discuss the scope of the civil rights act.
- Discuss the parameters and explain the basic intent of the ADA, FLSA, and FMLA.
- Explain the at-will doctrine.
- Explain the purpose of labor and employment laws.

VII. Evaluation:
Discussion Board = 160 (10 points for each week)
First Case Brief - 50 Points
Second Case Brief – 50 Points
Court Paper = 100 Points
Weekly Quiz’s – 1600 Points (100 points per quiz)
Total Possible Points = 1950

VIII. Attendance Policy: Students are expected to conduct themselves as professionals during this course in that a web-based course requires a certain “extra” amount of honesty and discipline. I cannot know that you are the person completing the assignment weekly as I may never meet you in person. Please make a serious effort to read each week’s assigned materials as soon as possible in order to have sufficient time to consider what happened, why it happened, and what the implications are for the fire department.

The instructor is unconcerned with a student’s strict adherence to a set schedule during the week. However, the student must be able to read (and think about) the
assigned cases/laws and how they impact the fire service. Assignments are due weekly and late submissions will erode the student’s ability to prepare for the following week. Therefore, the student is advised to set their own schedule accordingly.

IX. Academic Dishonesty Policy: Students may be subject to disciplinary proceedings resulting in an academic penalty or disciplinary penalty for academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

X. ADA Statement for Students Requiring Special Accommodations: As per Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if accommodations are needed, inform your instructor as soon as possible.

XI. Safety Instructions: Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. If you are located on a military installation, and depending on the type emergency a senior military member may take control of the situation and direct you on the action to take. Please follow their instructions and do as asked. Similarly, if you are at a community college, their security personal may arrive and take control of a situation, please follow their instructions as well.

XII. COURSE OUTLINE:
Week One
- Chapter 1: Types and Sources of Law
- Chapter 2: Courts and Court Systems
- Quiz 1 and 2 due

Week Two
- Chapter 3: Types of Fire Departments
- Quiz 3 due

Week Three
- Chapter 4: Administrative Agencies
- Quiz 4 due
- First Case Brief Due

Week Four
- Chapter 5: Criminal Law
- Quiz 5 due
Week Five

Chapter 6: Criminal Procedure
Quiz 6 due

Week Six

Chapter 7: Civil Liability Issues
Quiz 7 due
Second Case Brief Due

Week Seven

Chapter 8: Negligence
Quiz 8 due

Week Eight

Chapter 9: Immunity from Liability
Quiz 9 due

Week Nine

Chapter 10: Contract law and Employment Issues
Quiz 10 due

Week Ten

Chapter 11: Labor Law and Collective Bargaining
Quiz 11 due
Court Paper Due

Week Eleven

Chapter 12: Employee Rights and Discrimination
Quiz 12 due

Week Twelve

Chapter 13: Sexual Harassment and other Forms of Employment Discrimination
Quiz 13 due

Week Thirteen

Chapter 14: Fair Labor, Family Medical Leave, Residency, and Drug Testing
Quiz 14 due
Week Fourteen

Chapter 15: Public Accountability Laws
Quiz 15 due
Project due

Week Fifteen

Chapter 16: EMS Law
Quiz 16 due