



Major in Fire Science, A.A.S.

2017-2018

Additional Sources of Information

WEBSITE:

www.swau.edu

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS:

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Administered by the Department of Kinesiology, the Fire Science program is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and education to become a state-certified firefighter. As part of the program, students will also receive Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification. The firefighting curriculum (FIRS and FIRT courses) is delivered via a mixture of supervised distance education, hands-on practical experience and classroom and lab settings for the on-campus cohort, while the general education portion of the degree will be delivered through traditional courses. Training Division will also provide a two-week on-site boot camp required of all students. Students who complete the program will receive a degree from Southwestern, while certification is offered by the State of Texas upon completion of the state exam.

Job Market

The fire service is a competitive field where multiple applicants vie for each available position. Many applicants do not have a college degree. As a result, a Southwestern student who graduates from the Fire Science program with an associate degree and both a firefighter and EMT certificate will be at a significant advantage in the job market, with opportunities in their chosen field.

Job Outlook

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that: "Employment of firefighters is projected to grow 7 percent from 2012 to 2022. The aging of the population will lead to an increased demand for emergency responders as the elderly tend to use more emergency medical services. An increase in urban populations, where full-time firefighters are more common, also is expected to increase the demand for firefighters."

Earnings

Earning potential is heavily affected by geographic location. A certified firefighter could expect a salary between \$21,000 to \$61,000, while a certified fire inspector could make between \$43,000 to \$71,000. Emergency medical technicians can earn between \$23,000 and \$40,000.

Educational Qualifications

Upon successful completion of the degree program, the student will be a certified firefighter, EMT, and fire inspector. Students can also choose between obtaining a fire investigator certificate or a fire apparatus driver/operator certification.





ENGL 121	Freshman Composition	3
RLGN	Electives	6
HIST	Elective	3
UNIV 111	Wellness for Life.....	2
	Elective	1
KINA 111	Physical Fitness	2
BIOL 101	Anatomy & Physiology	4
FIRS 101	Firefighter Certification I.....	3
FIRS 102	Firefighter Certification II	3
FIRS 103	Firefighter Certification III.....	3
FIRS 104	Firefighter Certification IV.....	3
FIRS 201	Firefighter Certification V	3
FIRS 202	Firefighter Certification VI.....	3
FIRS 203	Firefighter Certification VII.....	3
FIRS 204	Firefighter Practicum (Boot Camp)*	1
FIRT 211	Internship.....	3
FIRT 212	Firefighter Health & Safety	3
FIRT 213	Fire Prevention, Codes, and Inspection.....	3
FIRS 215	Fire Apparatus Pumper—Driver/Operator.....	3
EMSP 201	EMT Basic.....	4
EMSP 202	EMT Clinical.....	1

TOTAL: 60

SAMPLE TWO-YEAR SCHEDULE

	FIRST SEMESTER	SECOND SEMESTER		
<i>First Year</i>	UNIV 111—Wellness for Life	2	FIRS 101—Firefighter Certification I	3
	ENGL 121—Freshman Composition	3	FIRS 102—Firefighter Certification II	3
	KINA 111—Physical Fitness.....	1	FIRS 103—Firefighter Certification III	3
	BIOL 101—Anatomy & Physiology	4	FIRS 104—Firefighter Certification IV.....	3
	Religion Elective	3	FIRS 201—Firefighter Certification V.....	3
	Elective	2	TOTAL	15
	TOTAL	15		
<i>Second Year</i>	FIRS 202—Firefighter Certification VI.....	3	FIRS 204—Firefighter (Boot Camp)	1
	FIRS 203—Firefighter Certification VII.....	3	FIRT 211—Internship	3
	FIRT 212—Firefighter Health & Safety	3	EMSP 201—EMT Basic.....	4
	FIRT 213—Fire Prevention, Codes, and Inspection	3	EMSP 202—EMT Clinical	1
	FIRS 215—Fire Apparatus Pumper—Driver Operator.....	3	History Elective	3
	TOTAL	15	Religion Elective	3
			TOTAL	15