



FOR 145 Careers in Fire and Fuels – Fall 2022

Instructor Information

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Course Description

In this class, students will be introduced to various career paths related to wildland fire and fuels. Students will meet professionals from multiple agencies and levels and hear about their career paths. Students will be guided through the application process for selected agencies and will work toward securing meaningful summer employment.

Learning Outcomes

- Develop a resume and cover letter that are directed to specific jobs.
- Apply for jobs with a variety of employers.
- Identify the positions and career paths for employers with jobs in fire and fuels.
- Build a professional network with students and professionals.

Course Elements

Attendance

Live online sessions on **Wednesday and Friday from 2:00 to 4:00 Pacific Time**. You are strongly encouraged to attend the live sessions to ask questions. If you cannot participate in the live session, recordings will be available.

[Register for the Zoom meeting](#)

You will be sent a calendar invite for the class, including the link and passcode

[Employer Organization Charts](#)

See the structure of position in fire and fuels for various employers.

Guest Speaker Questions

1. What led you to get into the fire and/or fuels management field?
2. What path did you take to get to the position you are in now?
3. What do you enjoy about the work you do?
4. What is a challenge in the work you do?
5. What knowledge, skills, and attitudes would be the most helpful for this generation to develop so they can be successful and happy working in fire and/or fuels?
6. How do you recommend getting a job and being successful in a job with your agency?

Reflection

You will submit a reflection for each of the class sessions. The reflection is intended to help you stay engaged in the presentation and serve as notes that you can refer to in the future.

Reflection Questions

1. Record notes from the discussion – enough to stay engaged but not so much that you are distracted during the presentation.
2. What stood out to you in the discussion?
3. What did you find interesting about how this discussion related to previous discussions?
4. How will the information from the discussion influence your future choices?

Resume and Cover Letter

During the first week of class, you will be given coaching on developing a resume and cover letter. As the course progresses, you will go through several rounds of resume and cover letter submission and revision.

Job Applications

You will show proof of applying for at least 3 jobs related to fire and fuels.

Career Plan

The final for the class will be to develop two tentative career plans with specific goals set for what you plan on accomplishing this week, this month, this year, in 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years.

Evaluation

This class is pass/fail. To pass the course, you must show engagement in the material and submit satisfactory work. The higher the quality of your content, the more YOU will gain out of the class. Turning in semi-quality work may allow you to pass the course, but it will be a missed opportunity to get the most out of this experience. To pass the class, you must meet the following criteria

- Turn in 13 of the 16 reflections to a satisfactory level, as outlined in the reflection assignment on Canvas
- Submit a satisfactory resume and cover letter
- Submit proof that you applied to at least three jobs
- Submit a satisfactory career plan

Schedule

The schedule is subject to change based on the availability of guest speakers

| Wednesday | Friday | Assignments (DUE Tuesday at 11:59) |
|--|---|---|
| Oct. 19 - Why fire and fuels? <i>Overview of the duties and responsibilities for jobs in fire and fuels.</i> | Oct. 21 - Getting a job in fire and fuels <i>See the various job application sites and get advice from career and hiring professionals on getting your application seen and accepted.</i> | Reflection #1 Reflection #2 Draft Resume and Cover Letter |
| Oct. 26 - Jack of all trades 1 <i>Meet someone that has worked for many different agencies and in different positions.</i> | Oct. 28 – Jack of all trades 2 <i>Meet someone who has worked in academia, fuels, and fire for various agencies and geographic areas.</i> | Reflection #3 Reflection #4 |
| Nov. 2 - State Agency: IDL <i>Meet someone in the middle of their career fire and dabbling with fuels.</i> | Nov. 4 - State Agency: WaDNR <i>Meet someone in the middle of their career who started in fire and now works more in fuels</i> | Reflection #5 Reflection #6 |
| Nov. 9 - DOA: USFS <i>Meet someone who worked up to the type 1 burn boss and incident commander level.</i> | Nov. 11 - DOA: USFS <i>Meet someone that works in fire, fuels, and training.</i> | Reflection #7 Reflection #8 Final Resume and Cover Letter |
| Nov. 16 - DOI: NPS <i>Meet someone that worked in fuels management at the Grand Canyon NP</i> | Nov. 18 - DOI: USFWS <i>Meet someone that works in fuels and fire planning.</i> | Reflection #9 Reflection #10 |
| Nov. 30 - DOI: BLM <i>Meet someone that works as a smokejumper and</i> | Nov. 25 - Tribe: Nez Perce <i>Meet someone that works in fuels and fire for the Nez Perce Tribe</i> | Reflection #11 Reflection #12 Job Applications |
| Dec. 7 - NGO: TNC <i>Meet someone who is developing prescribed fire programs internationally</i> | Dec. 9 - NGO: Tall Timbers <i>Meet someone who works at a research station and has extensive experience in NGOs</i> | Reflection #13 Reflection #14 |
| Dec. 14 - Private: Contractor <i>Meet someone that leads a contract organization working on fires.</i> | Dec. 16 - Closing <i>Debrief the class and review the Career Plan assignment.</i> | Reflection #15 Career Plan |