

Adv. Marine Firefighting Part I

MC-STCW3

Fall 2024

Class Syllabus

Instructors:

Capt. Peter Burke

Location: Mass Fire Academy
Bridgewater Campus



Course Description

Advanced Marine Fire Fighting (AFF) Part I is structured as a hi-lo lab scheduled over a 14-week semester for a total of 6 class meetings comprising 12 hours of fire instruction. The first day will be dedicated to lecture. The five succeeding days will comprise the practical evolutions. The purpose of the course is to gain an advanced knowledge of the tactical aspects of marine firefighting including various techniques, fixed and portable extinguishing systems, confined space firefighting, ventilation, search and rescue and attack strategy.

Learning Objectives

Students will demonstrate an understanding of

- Fire-fighting process hazards (dry distillation, chemical reactions, boiler uptake fires, etc.)
- Use of water for fire-extinguishing, the effect on ship stability, precautions and corrective procedures
- Communication and coordination during fire-fighting operations
- Ventilation control, including smoke extraction
- Control of fuel and electrical systems
- Management and control of injured persons
- Firefighting involving dangerous goods
- Fire precautions and hazards associated with the storage and handling of materials (paints, etc.)
- Fire-detection systems
- Fixed fire-extinguishing systems
- Portable and mobile fire-extinguishing equipment
- Appliances, pumps and rescue, salvage, life-support, personal protective and communication equipment
- Communication and coordination during fire-fighting operations
- Management and control of injured persons

Additionally, students will demonstrate the ability to

- Extinguish a smoldering fire

- Extinguish a petrochemical fire
- Extinguish a flammable gas fire
- Extinguish a stateroom fire
- Extinguish a paint locker fire

STCW Knowledge and Proficiency Requirements

Completion of the Advanced Marine Fire Fighting program will satisfy Section A-VI/1 and Table A-VI/1-2 of the STCW Code and 46 CFR 10.205(1)(2) and 10.205(g), 10.205(g)(1) for a license, as well as 46 CFR 13.113(d)(1)(i)(a), 13.113(e)(1)(i)(a) or (b), 13.201(e), 13.301(e), 13.401(d), 13.501(e) for a tankerman endorsement.

Course Schedule

Day 1 (Sept. 17): Hose Handling Skills

Day 2 (Oct. 1): SCBA and Turn-Out Gear

Day 3 (Oct. 15): Search and Rescue

Day 4 (Nov. 5): Nature of Fire

Day 5 (Nov. 19): Basic Attack

Day 6 (Dec. 3): Combined Evolutions

Departure and Class Hours

Please plan to be ready to depart with your gear at 0730 on your assigned days. From there, the daily schedule will look like this:

0730 -- Meet at vehicle and depart

0815 -- Arrive at Mass Fire's Bridgewater campus

0815--1045 --Participate in firefighting training (2.5 hours)

1045 -- Return travel to MMA

1130 -- Arrive on campus for lunch and afternoon classes

Transportation

Travel to Bridgewater will be by Bucc Van, which you will pick up at the 3rd Co circle. You should receive instructions on the Bucc van procedure under separate cover. Allow plenty of travel time from your location to Bridgewater when you are driving your own vehicle. As an MMA cadet, you are required to drive in a safe manner that reflects concern for safety and courtesy towards the public. Wear your seatbelt, observe posted speed limits, and all traffic signals.

Dress Code

Proper dress and PPE are always required for all firefighting evolutions conducted with MFA. Mass Fire requires students to wear PT gear under their blue boiler suit with PPE gear to each class. For some class periods, students will wear the PT gear/boiler suit combination, while at others students will wear turn-out gear over PT gear. Cadets are encouraged to bring an additional set of clothes to wear on the return trip home, as boiler suits and or PT gear worn during class will be wet and dirty. Due to the time of year, we also encourage additional warm clothing such as a stocking cap, extra socks, gloves and a sweatshirt/jacket.

Turnout Gear

Turnout gear and SCBAs will be issued at Bridgewater.

Food

Meals will not be included in the practicum. You are responsible for and bringing your own snacks and drinks (including water) for consumption as needed. All cadets are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to refill throughout the day, especially while doing live fire evolutions.

Attendance

Attendance at every class session is required for a passing grade. Further, training topics and exercises are built sequentially from basic to advanced levels, combining new skills with previously learned ones. Students **MUST**, therefore, attend all classes *in the order* that they are presented above. If you anticipate being absent from class for any reason, you must arrange to attend the other section of that topic. Be aware that if you are adding yourself to a different class session, you will be responsible for your own transportation. Any cadet that is tardy will forfeit the class and need to make it up. No exceptions will be made. In the event of a true emergency or illness, please contact the Mariner Credentialing office immediately.

Grading

This is a pass/fail class based on the stated learning requirements and demonstration of knowledge by passing the test. A grade of 70% or higher is considered passing.

Cheating Policy

To qualify for grading and credit for an assignment or exam, a student must present original work that they have completed individually without assistance from classmates or others.

Accommodations

Please inform your instructor by email if you require additional accommodations.

Office Hours

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1300-1500 in room HA 204B.

Instructors

Capt. Peter Burke, Chief, Hyannis Fire Department
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Fire Program

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