

I began my fire service career in 1987 with the City of Costa Mesa where I served as a Fire Inspector, Public Educator, Public Information Officer, Plans Examiner, and Acting Fire Marshal. At Santa Ana College, I have served as both a Fire Technology Instructor and Fire Officer Program Coordinator. I have also served on State Fire Training curriculum development and peer assessment (PACE) committees. Today I teach a wide variety of fire service classes, am a frequent speaker at both education and fire service conferences and serve as the Fire Technology Club Advisor.

Educated locally, I attended McFadden Jr High in Santa Ana and graduated from Fountain Valley High School. I am an alumnus of Orange Coast College, Santa Ana College and CSU Long Beach, where I received a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and completed 38 units towards a Master's Degree in Occupational Education.

I am a proponent of "Brain-Based Learning". My favorite saying is "Education is not the filling of a vessel, but the kindling of a flame."- Socrates

My course content decisions are guided by the following learning principles:

1. All learning is physiological.
2. The Brain-Mind is social.
3. The search for meaning is innate.
4. The search for meaning occurs through patterning.
5. Emotions are critical to patterning.
6. The Brain-Mind processes parts and wholes simultaneously.
7. Learning involves both focused attention and peripheral perception.
8. Learning always involves conscious and unconscious processes.
9. There are at least two approaches to memory: archiving individual facts or skills or making sense of experience.
10. Learning is developmental.
11. Complex learning is enhanced by challenge and inhibited by threat associated with helplessness.
12. Each brain is uniquely organized

I hope that all of my students will leave my classes with new skills, questions that beg for more research, stories to tell others and a seed of an idea that will explode at some time in the future.

Courses taught: Introduction to Fire Protection; Fire Behavior; Fire Protection Systems and Equipment; and Fire Prevention Technology. I also teach the California State Fire Marshal certification classes: Introduction to the Fire Code; Inspection of Fire Protection Systems; Special Hazards; Flammable Liquids and Gases; Fire Protection Systems; Interpreting the IBC and CCR; Special Hazard Occupancies; Hydraulic Sprinkler Calculations; Plan Review; Fire Prevention 1 and Public Education 1: Systematic Planning and Communication Skills.

Some of the conferences I have spoken at include: • On-Course National Conference; Raleigh NC • Public Service Leadership Conference, Santa Ana, CA • NFPA Fire Expo; Mexico City, MX • Higher Education Assessment Workshop; Orange CA • NFPA World Conference, Anaheim CA • Fire/Rescue West, Fresno CA • CA Fire Prevention Officers Conference, Monterey CA

Awards: I received the Distinguished Faculty of the Year award at Santa Ana College and was named a Crime Biter of the Year by the City of Fountain Valley.

You can find me tweeting as @fireprevgeek, blogging at firepreventiongeek.blogspot.com and posting on Facebook as FirePreventionGeek.