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Guard School = Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2)

- Entry level firefighting role
- Standard set by National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)
- Requires specific course work, demonstration of skills and physical fitness

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New Option Prescribed Fire Crew Member (RXCM)

- Same training as FFT2
- Requires moderate work capacity fitness test
- Recognized by Deschutes National Forest and Oregon Military Department – may not be recognized elsewhere

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This course has three variants

- Academic credit for undergrad students (FOR252)
- Academic credit for grad students (FOR508)
- Non-credit course for folks who want the qual, but don't need academic credits

Everyone gets "qualified" provided they successfully complete the course (including the fitness test)

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Coursework: Do them in order

- S-190 Fire Behavior (NWCG)
- S-130 Firefighter Training (NWCG)
- L-180 Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service (NWCG)
- IS-100 Intro to ICS (FEMA)
- IS-700 Intro to National Incident Management System (FEMA)

In the Wildland Fire Learning Portal:

- Do the "self-enroll" versions
- There will be other listings in the portal – ignore them
- If the versions change from what I listed, I'll accept either

On the FEMA website:

- Do the most current versions

If FEMA website is offline:

- Do the Safety Unlimited versions

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NWCG courses are available through the Wildland Fire Learning Portal

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How to turn in certificates

- Credit students (undergrad and grad) – Canvas
 - Specific due dates – okay to turn in early
 - Let me know if not working
- Non-credit – turn in all your stuff in one email to me
 - Certificates for each NWCG and FEMA/SU class

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I certify and qualify through NWSA

- Your certification will come from NWSA, which has a current MOU with NWCG and the certification should be recognized by any NWCG compliant fire organization.
- Your qualification card will identify your company
 - If you are an OSU student or employee, your company will be OSU
 - If you are in the NWSA database under another company, and want to transfer to OSU as your company, let me know ASAP
 - If you represent another company, that company needs to be listed in the NWSA database. Contact me if this is the case.



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Zoom classes

Context
Connections
Understanding

Tuesdays, 6:00 to 7:20 p.m.

Required for credit students (graded participation)


Optional but recommended for non-credit students

Credit students: Put your name in the Zoom chat box each class. Put ST in front of your Zoom name.

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Fieldwork

- April 26. 8:00 to 5:00. S-130 field session: shelters, handline and hoselays, plus WCT
- May 31. 8:00 to 5:00. Second opportunity for S-130 field session and WCT
- Meet at Hatfield Courtyard (west side of Richardson Hall)
- Come dressed for outdoor activities – specifics in syllabus
- Remember food and water!
- I'll provide PPE (You provide boots)



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Work Capacity Fitness Test

- Arduous**
 - 3 miles (flat). 45lbs. 45 minutes or less
 - Walking (not running)
 - REQUIRED to be FFT2
- Moderate**
 - 2 miles (flat). 25lbs. 30 minutes or less
- Light**
 - 1 mile (flat). No weight. 16 minutes or less

- Start practicing
- Get accustomed to the pace and surface
- Build up in weight

Arduous required for FFT2.
Moderate required for RXCM.

Any pack or weight vest. Any clothes. Any shoes. Provide your own stuff.

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Quizzes


Embedded in NWCG and FEMA online courses

Additional weekly quizzes for credit students

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Grading (credit students only)

- Zoom discussions: 200 points
- Weekly quizzes: 400 points
- Submit certificates: 200 points
- Field exercises: 200 points
- Grad students have extra assignment: 250 points



Online courses, field session, and WCT required to obtain FFT2 or RXCM certification

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Textbook

- Incident Response Pocket Guide
 - Everybody needs to get one of these
 - OSU Bookstore
 - Many online vendors
 - Get a printed, version
 - 2025, pink cover
 - 2022, yellow cover



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How FFT2 works



- Take the class once
 - FFT2 technically never expires – but you need to demonstrate proof of completion. *Some entities will require demonstration of service in wildland fire within 8 years or they make you retake the courses.*
 - RXCM is a variant of FFT2
 - Save your certificates!
- Each calendar year take RT-130 Annual Refresher to remain “current”
 - 4 to 8 hours of classroom updates (OSU is 6 hours)
 - Fire shelter deployment practice (included in the 6 hours)
 - Work capacity test
- Advancing in qualifications requires additional courses, experience, task book completion, agency review and sign-off

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First Assignments

- Download the syllabus and/or familiarize yourself with Canvas course
- Register for Login.gov and Wildland Fire Learning Portal
 - Links in syllabus
- Get IRPG and start familiarizing yourself with it
- Start S-190 (do first half)
- Calendar Tuesdays at 6:00, with Zoom link (always same)
- Calendar Sunday April 26, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Calendar Sunday May 31, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. as a backup
- Train for Work Capacity Fitness Test

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Live Fire Experience Opportunities

- Deschutes National Forest and Oregon Military Department
- Holding, firing, fire effects monitoring
- Current qualifications required – work ahead and do the early field session to maximum your potential burn days
- Additional paperwork required – watch for sign-up



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