



# Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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## Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

July 1992

**Course Title:** Fire Photography (FPHO)

**Length of Course:** 16 Hours

**Lecture/Lab Breakdown:** 15/1

**Prerequisites:** None

**Referenced Texts:** Various technical information supplied by equipment manufacturers (at instructor's option).

**Course Goal:** Participants in this course will be introduced to basic information on cameras and photography and its use by the fire service to provide a record of fires and fire related causes.

**Description of Course:** Students in this course will become acquainted with the basic knowledge of photography. Included in this will be the various types of cameras available, how they differ, and how each can be adapted for fire photography. Students will learn how these cameras operate, the types of film used for different applications, lenses, flash units, exposure control, camera care, processing black and white film, making prints from the processed film, storage of prints and negatives, use of a VCR at a fire scene, procedures at emergencies at fire scene and personal safety of the photographer; photos and photo procedure after the fire has been extinguished.

**Description of Methodology to be used: (Brief)**

**Student Equipment/Supply Needs:** Notebook, pen or pencil, personal camera, if student has one.

**Equipment/Audiovisual/Supply requirements:** Felt tip board, chalkboard or flip chart, 1/2" VHS, VCR with monitor, overhead transparency projector, slide projector screen.

### **COURSE OUTLINE** **(General - Not Detailed)**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Content</u></b>	<b><u>Instructor Notes</u></b>
:20	Introduction to Photography	
2:00	Camera Construction	
1:00	Films	
2:00	Exposure Control	
Continued		

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**(General - Not Detailed)**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Content</u></b>	<b><u>Instructor Notes</u></b>
1:00	Camera Handling	
2:00	Darkroom Technique	
2:00	Use of VCR Equipment	
:20	Fire Service Procedures - Safety	
1:00	Fire Scene Photography	
1:00	Legal Aspects of Photography	
1:00	Photography for Training	
:20	Photography for Public Relations	
1:00	Practical Exercises/Exam	

**Competency Evaluation Mechanism (Brief description-attach copy):** Periodic direct questioning by instructor; 25 question written examination (attached).

**Course Objectives (specific):** The participant will:

1. Be able to identify the different types of still cameras.
2. Be able to pick the type of film necessary to use for various types of photo needs.
3. Be able to know what types of lenses that may be used for various types of photos, regular, wide angles, or close-up.
4. Be able to choose a proper flash unit for their camera.
5. Be able to determine the proper exposure for photos.
6. Be able to properly clean and main their camera and lenses.
7. Have a basic knowledge of how a darkroom operates and what is needed to set one up.
8. have a basic knowledge of how black and white photos are processed.
9. Have a basic knowledge of large and small VCR cameras and their operations.
10. Have a basic knowledge of fire scene photography.
11. Have a basic knowledge of the legal aspects of photos taken at a fire scene.
12. Be able to take photos for public relations for their individual fire departments.