

HAZWOPER Course Description; Jan 29, 30 and Feb 5, 6, 2021
EPA Course (165.15) Emergency Response to Hazardous Material Incidents
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This course meets and exceeds the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) requirement of a minimum of 24 hours of training for a Hazardous Materials Technician, 29 CFR 1910.120, paragraph (q).

- ❑ Class size: 12 Minimum; 30 Maximum
 - The COVID Occupancy capacity for the training room is 15 including students, instructors and assistants; therefore, only 8 students will participate in person at any given time and they will all be wear masks until they put on their facemasks with self-contained breathing apparatus.
 - All students and instructors will practice social distancing to the extent possible.
 - Anyone not able to comply with COVID-19 Classroom Safe Practices will only be able to participate in the online portion of the class.
 - Each student must sign and acknowledge the Crimson Commitment <https://now.nmsu.edu/plan/instructional-readiness.html#classroom-safety>
- ❑ All graduates receive an NMSU College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences Certificate of Completion;
- ❑ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) certificates of training could be requested for successful graduates that present positive results on OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation 29CFR 1910.134 Appendix C.

This course satisfies training requirements for members of hazardous materials response teams and for environmental personnel requiring access to superfund sites.

ERTHMI is an interactive course that incorporates hands-on training and leadership skills into two simulations that are designed to test the lessons learned during the course. The course provides emergency response personnel with the information and skills needed to recognize, evaluate and control an incident involving the release or potential release of hazardous materials.

Instructional methods used are online lectures, homework assignments, classroom problem-solving sessions, and exercises. Class members participate in two simulations designed to apply and test the lessons learned during the week. Participants will wear fully encapsulating suits and chemical splash gear while participating in person for mock scenarios. Those who are unable to “dressout” in suitable protection will stay at least six feet away from others, wear approved face masks, and wash their hands frequently. All students will practice the CDC COVID safety recommendations including:

- self-monitoring using guidelines from the Aggie Health and Wellness Center;
- ‘remaining at home if ill’;
- wearing an approved facemask when on campus;
- maintaining six feet social distancing as work duties permit;
- cleaning and disinfecting countertops, common areas, and shared equipment during and after use;
- practicing frequent hand washing.

Location: New Mexico State University, Academic Research Building C, Room 110; Free parking is available on the NE corner of Standley and Locust Drives in dirt Lot 96

Course focus:

- Recognition and evaluation of a hazardous materials incident
- Protecting response personnel

- Identifying and using basic response resources
- Implementing basic control measures
- Refining decision-making skills
- Protecting the public

Course topics:

- Regulations supporting and authorizing training requirements
- Chemical and physical properties of hazardous materials
- Toxicology
- Recognition and identification of hazardous materials
- Direct-reading instruments
- Standard operating procedures
- Personal protection and safety
- Sources of information for responders

Course Materials: Identified through the US-EPA Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, Emergency Response Division, and are required materials for course delivery.

- Emergency Response to Hazardous Material Incidents (EPA 165.15)
- Standard Operating Safety Guides; EPA
- National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards
- U.S. Department of Transportation, 2016 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)

Course Support Equipment:

- Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA's)
- Level “B+” Training suits (fully-encapsulating but not air-tight)
- Direct-reading instruments
 - Combustible Gas Indicator (GCI)
 - Portable single gas oxygen meter
 - Ludlum Model #19 radiation meter
 - Personal Protection Equipment, Level “B” and below
 - Decontamination kits

Audio-Visual Aids:

- Incident Command System
- Use of SCBA's
- Fuel Tanker Incidents
- Plugging and Patching Techniques
- Confinement and Containment
- Decontamination Procedures
- *Accidents Will Happen: Small Town Guide to Hazardous Materials Response*
- Power Point Slide show correlated with Sections 1 through 13 of the student course book which will be made available online to the students using Canvas.

8-hr Refresher: Formal 8-hour annual refresher training for previous graduates of the course will be available on Canvas until Feb 6, 2021 for interested participants. Specific topics will be reviewed on the first day of class both as an introduction to new students and a review to former students. We will take advantage of former students’ experience and knowledge to help educate the new students including sharing real life examples from work and tips for getting the most out of the class.

Syllabus “fine print”: <https://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/syllabus/policies.html>