OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

The Occupational Safety and Health program is designed to provide students the skills needed for employment in occupational safety and health. Practitioners in this career implement health and safety programs to meet mandated regulations in an effort to control occupational injuries and illnesses, accidents, and property losses due to unsafe working conditions. The scope of work in occupatiodnal safety and health may include development of cutting edge health and safety programs, identification of workplace hazards and appropriate controls, recognition and evaluation of potential worker exposure to contaminants, accident/incident investigation, and development/delivery of health and safety training programs.

Programs of Study

Degrees:

- AS – Occupational Safety and Health

Certificates of Achievement:

- Occupational Safety
- Occupational Safety and Health

Career Opportunities

The safety and health worker may specialize in various fields including general safety, construction safety, chemical and radiological safety, emergency response, transportation, fire and property protection, or systems or product design, among others. The Associate of Science degree and the Certificate of Achievement in Occupational Safety and Health are designed for direct job entry and/or career enhancement.

AS – Occupational Safety and Health

About the Degree

The Associate of Science in Occupational Safety and Health degree program is designed to provide students the academic foundation for understanding hazardous materials management, construction safety, OSH safety training and accident investigation, for workplace safety and health standards. The Occupational Safety and Health specialist implements mandated health and safety regulations in an effort to control occupational accidents and diseases, property losses and injuries due to unsafe working conditions. The scope of this position includes the identification of physical hazards and the design and implementation of remediation, the evaluation of potential toxic agent risk to the employer, the development of safety management and employee training/management programs. The demand for occupational safety and health specialists has grown over the past 10 years. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, federal, state and local government job growth will continue through 2022.

Career Opportunities

The safety and health practitioner may specialize in general workplace safety, construction, fire and property protection, transportation, chemical and radiological safety, emergency response, systems or product design. The Associate of Science degree in Occupational Safety and Health is designed for direct job entry and/or career enhancement. Completion of the degree may be used to provide work experience credit toward OHST (Occupational Health and Safety Technician) certification requirements. Completion of the degree may be used to provide work experience credit toward CSP (Certified Safety Professional) certification requirements. Career opportunities include Safety Manager, Safety Technician, Safety Specialist, Safety Officer, Industrial Hygienist, Safety Professional – Construction, Safety Professional – Manufacturing, Safety Professional – Metals, Field Safety and OSHA Specialist, and Safety and Environmental Manager.

Program Outcomes

- Upon completion of the AS in Occupational Safety and Health, students are able to apply a working knowledge of mathematics and the sciences to conduct experiments and to analyze and interpret data to solve safety and health related issues.
- Upon completion of the AS in Occupational Safety and Health, students are able to design programs to control, eliminate, and prevent occupational disease or injury caused by chemical, physical, radiological, and biological agents or ergonomic factors.
- Upon completion of the AS in Occupational Safety and Health, students are able to prepare emergency response and fire prevention plans that meet regulatory requirements.

Required Core: (32-33 Units)

BIO 20 (Contemporary Human Biology).....3
CHEM 30A (Introductory and Applied Chemistry I) or
CHEM 1A (General College Chemistry I) 4-5
CIS 50 (Introduction to Computing Information Technology) 3
FST 4 (Fire Prevention) 3
OSH 50 (Intro Occupational Safety/Hlth) 3
OSH 60 (Elements of Industrial Hygiene) 3
OSH 62 (Physical Hazards).....3
OSH 67 (Comp Regulatory Requirements).....3
PHYS 10 (Descriptive Physics) 3
RADS 40A (Radiation Safety) 2
RADS 40B (Emergency Response and Monitoring) 1
RADS 40C (Safety Controls and Regulation).....1

List A: Select One (4-5 Units)

CHEM 1B (General College Chemistry II).....5
CHEM 30B (Introductory and Applied Chemistry II) 4
MATH 40 (Statistics and Probability) 4

List B: Select One (3-4 Units)

BIO 30 (Introduction to College Biology).....4
BIO 40 (Humans and the Environment).....3
BIO 50 (Anatomy and Physiology).....4