Subject Description Form

| Subject Code | BSE535 | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Subject Title | Design Considerations for Fire Safety Management | | | | | | |
| Credit Value | 3 | | | | | | |
| Level | 5 | | | | | | |
| Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion | Nil | | | | | | |
| Objectives | To provide fire protection engineers with appropriate design knowledge for fire safety management. | | | | | | |
| | To review the design criteria in various fire safety design. | | | | | | |
| | To review main performance characteristics, limitations and applications of existing fire safety systems. | | | | | | |
| Intended Learning | Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: | | | | | | |
| Outcomes | a. have a clear understanding of appropriate design knowledge for fire safety management; | | | | | | |
| | b. understand the design criteria in various fire safety design; | | | | | | |
| | c. appreciate the role of fire safety management systems in providing fire safety; | | | | | | |
| | d. understand merits, limitations and application of existing prescriptive fire safety systems; | | | | | | |
| | e. improve the fire safety provisions and management strategies. | | | | | | |
| Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus | Fire safety management by design: Fire safety concept, objectives of fire safety, the rationale of fire safety design, systems approach to fire safety design, National Fire Protection Association Decision Tree. | | | | | | |
| | Application of fire science: Application of scientific results such as igniflammability limit, thermal inertia, flame propagation and various extinguis mechanisms. | | | | | | |
| | Health hazard of human/fireman: Health hazard associated with combustion products; Toxic combustion products, asphyxiants, narcosis-producing products, e.g., CO & HCN; Irritants tenability limits for incapacitation. | | | | | | |
| | Design of passive fire safety measures: Fire properties of performance of building materials and structures, fire resistance, compartmentations, fire hazards in industrial processes, escape route design, fire tests. | | | | | | |
| | Design of active fire safety measures: Design of various fire services systems including water-based systems, non-water based systems and smoke control systems; Integration of fire safety measures with other services installations. | | | | | | |
| | Design approach: Performance specification, alternatives to an equivalent level of fire safety, design innovation. | | | | | | |

Risk analysis and assessment: Fire risk ranking, components of the ranking method, statistical records.

Risk assessment model: Integration of the other models related to fire such as ignition model, fire spread model, smoke spread model, evaluation on the response and performance of the fire system, human response; Use of fire safety engineering software such as FPETOOL and HAZARD1.

Reliability of engineering systems: Reliability of various fire safety measures and their impact to the fire safety design.

Fire safety administration in the building industry: The principles and techniques of fire safety administration, planning for emergencies, the structure of the fire safety administration within an organisation.

Evacuation: Human factors, evacuation pattern, means of escape, design software.

Personnel management: The functions of fire safety manager, fire safety team, fire safety engineer/surveyors, loss control, training of personnel.

System management: Maintenance, commissioning, operation and testing of fire safety features, inspection safety check lists and statistics, fire investigation and reports, security and fire safety.

Case studies and application of research: Hotels, commercial buildings, place of assemble and entertainment, residential buildings, industrial buildings, hospitals, special buildings such as tunnels, air-supported structures.

Teaching/Learning Methodology

- Lectures and seminars
- Student seminars and tutorials

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

| Specific assessment methods/tasks | % weighting | Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate) | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--|----------|----|----|----------|--|
| | | a. | b. | C. | d. | e. | |
| 1. Examination | 60% | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Continuous assessment | 40% | | √ | | | √ | |
| Total | 100% | | | | | | |

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

Based on examination mark (60%) and continuous assessment mark (40%). The continuous assessment is made up of course work, seminar and case study.

Tutorial Work

Tutorial work will mainly focus on problem solving based on examination type questions and practical examples.

Reading List and References

Bradley, C.W.J. (1993). *The Application of Risk Assessment and Management to Engineering Loss Prevention Methods to the Insurance Market*, Interflam'93, Proceedings of the 6th International Fire Conference, p. 469-487.

BS ISO/TR 13387:1999 (1999). *Fire Safety Engineering*, British Standards Institution, London, UK.

Custer, R. L. P. & Meacham, B. J. (1997). *Introduction to Performance-Based Fire Safety*, Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Boston, MA, USA.

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Hurley M.J. et al. (Editor) (2016). *SFPE Handbook of Fire Protection Engineering*, 5th Ed., Quincy, MA, Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Boston, MA, USA.

Kirkland, C.J. (2002). The Fire in the Channel Tunnel, Tunnelling and Underground Space Technology, Vol. 17, Issue 2, April, p. 129-132.

Malhotra, H.L. (1987). *Fire Safety in Buildings*, Building Research Establishment Report, Department of the Environment, Building Research Establishment, Fire Research Station, Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 2BL, UK.

Meacham, B., Poole, B., Echeverria, J. & Cheng, R. (2013). Fire Safety Challenges of Green Buildings (SpringerBriefs in Fire), Springer, USA.

National Fire Protection Association (2008). *Fire Protection Handbook*, 20th Ed. Quincy, MA, USA.

NFPA 101 (2021). *Life Safety Code*, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA, USA.

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Stephans, R. & Talso, W. (Editors) (1997). *System Safety Analysis Handbook*, A Source Book for Safety Practitioners, 2nd Ed., System Safety Society, Albuquerque, NM, USA.

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