Nova Southeastern University Snapshot:

HWWT TRAINING:

Principal Investigator:

Kelley Davis

Evaluator(s):

• To be hired

Grant Number:

U45ES019350

Goal(s) of Evaluation:

- Assess opinions and attitudes specific to the course and instructors
- Asses content knowledge gained from the training
- Follow-up intended to assess retention and utilization of course content as well as to ascertain future training desires

Evaluation tools:

- Use of a pre-/post- test.
- Use of course evaluations.
- 11 question follow-up survey through email 6-9 months post-training.

Population Served:

- Law enforcement personnel (Patrol/Investigator, Hazmat Response, Marine Division)
- Also Maritime personnel (longshoremen; marine health, safety and environment managers; and marine clerks)

Types of Courses/ Training Curricula Offered:

- Awareness courses emphasize the concepts of recognizing and reporting a hazardous materials incident
- Operations courses— emphasizes activities to contain a spill and prevent further spread through defensive techniques and appropriate protective equipment

Trainers:

- Currently most courses are taught by one hazardous materials expert and one marine environmental expert.
- Instructors required to observe courses, attend each course they will be teaching on an annual basis, and undergo teaching evaluations.

Proof of effectiveness/value?

- Course evaluations overwhelmingly fell into the 'excellent' category with the vast majority of the remaining comments in the 'good' category. Evaluation of instructors was favorable as well.
- Results showed a 15-21% overall improvement from pre-test to post-test from year 1 (2011).

Most beneficial aspects/well received methods:

- Practical application of Emergency Response Guide book (ex: how to find and understand information in the book)
- Greater participation and group discussion found in mixed-occupation/interprofessional classes
- Training strengths reported by trainees include: great facilities, enthusiastic instructors, instructor knowledge and expertise, balance and teaching aids, user-friendly materials