



# Residential Plans Examiner

## Course Outline

**Cost:** \$247, allowing for 120 days of access.

**Course Description:** This **15-module course**, followed by a **two-hour practice examination**, is based on the *2021 International Residential Code (IRC)*. It teaches you how to apply the IRC during the plan review process. Each module consists of an integrated video presentation, including presentation slides, explanation, examples, and review quizzes. Modules are designed to be 15 to 60 minutes in length.

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed to assist you in learning the residential plan review process, key code sections relevant to many residential plan reviews, and help you prepare for the *International Code Council's (ICC) Residential Plans Examiner exam (R3)*, utilizing the *2021 IRC*. Similar to the ICC exam, this course focuses more heavily on the building portions (Chapters 1-10) of the code and provides only a quick overview of the Energy, Mechanical, Plumbing, and Electrical provisions. This course also serves as a review for those already familiar with the IRC and may serve as an update course for those unfamiliar with the 2021 edition of the code.

**Texts and Readings:** The *2021 International Residential* is the textbook for this course. It is highly recommended that you purchase a paper-back copy of this code, which is available online at [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org). A physical copy can be utilized during the actual exams, which are open book, and serves as a valuable reference for in-field inspections and plan reviews.

### Course Outline of Topics:

Module:	Topics:	Readings:	Quiz:	Duration:
1	Residential Plan Review Basics		N	59 min.
2	How to Read Plans		N	13 min.
3	Administration	IRC Chapter 1	Y	18 min.
4	Structural Load Paths & Design Criteria	IRC Section R301	Y	41 min
5	Building Planning Part I	IRC Chapter 3	Y	48 min.
6	Building Planning Part II	IRC Chapter 3	Y	55 min.
7	Building Planning Part III	IRC Chapter 3	Y	36 min.
8	Foundations	IRC Chapter 4	Y	18 min.
9	Floors & Decks	IRC Chapter 5	Y	20 min
10	Wall Construction Part I	IRC Chapter 6	Y	35 min
11	Wall Construction Part II	IRC Chapter 6	Y	30 min
12	Wall Coverings, Roof/Ceiling Construction; Roof Assemblies; Chimneys & Fireplaces	IRC Chapters 7-10	Y	34 min.
13	Energy	IRC Chapter 11	Y	33 min.
14	Mechanical & Plumbing Requirements	IRC Chapters 13-33	Y	44 min.
15	Electrical Requirements	IRC Chapters 34-43	Y	15 min.
	13 Quizzes 172 Questions, 2 min. each	2021 IRC		344 min.
	Practice Exam	2021 IRC		120 min.
	<b>Total Course Hours</b>			<b>16 hours</b>

**Quizzes and Exams:** Each module associated with this course will be followed by an assessment quiz of varying length. A passing score of 75% is required in order to advance to the next module. At the conclusion of



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the course is a timed practice exam. The exam is similar in length, content, and duration to the actual ICC exams, with 60 questions selected at random from a larger pool of questions. Due to the randomization, practice exams may contain questions weighted heavier toward a specific topic. Please consult the [ICC Exam Catalog Outline](#) for a breakdown of exam topics and anticipated percentages of questions related to each area of the code. A passing score of 75% on the timed practice exam is required in order to obtain a certificate of completion from WC<sup>3</sup> for this course. Topics in both the exam and the quizzes may or may not have been covered in the video modules. A thorough reading of the code may be necessary in order to progress through this course.

**Expectation of Participants:** This course requires you to watch each training video, complete each quiz, as well as the exam. You are expected to read portions of the applicable code and become familiar with its layout and organization. We recommend 2 hours of personal study, for each module. Marking, tabbing, and highlighting in the code book is highly recommended. We have laid out a plan and method to help you learn the material, but it's up to you to put in the work necessary for you to master the material. You can progress through this course at your own pace; however, you only have access for 120 days.

**Exam Preparation:** This course and the ICC Residential Plans Examiner (R3) exam cover a wide variety of topics. To adequately prepare for the ICC exam, please consult the [ICC Exam Catalog Outline](#) for a breakdown of exam topics and anticipated percentages of questions related to each area of the code. Approximately 35% of the ICC exam questions will be on energy (5%), mechanical (10%), plumbing (10%), and electrical (10%) IRC code requirements. For those interested in more in-depth coverage of the mechanical, plumbing, and/or electrical provisions of the IRC, consider purchasing the WC<sup>3</sup> Academy [Residential Mechanical Inspector](#), [Residential Plumbing Inspector](#) and/or [Residential Electrical Inspector](#) courses. For those that would prefer to simply test their familiarity with the other sections of the code, you can purchase a WC<sup>3</sup> Academy [practice exam](#) for residential mechanical, plumbing or electrical codes.

**Continuing Education Credits:** Completion of this course results in **1.6 CEUs** (16 hours) being provided by ICC, as West Coast Code Consultants is a Preferred Provider.

## **Instructors:**



**George Williams, MCP, CBO** is the Director of WC<sup>3</sup> Academy, but primarily identifies as a commercial plans examiner, code instructor and building inspector. He has been a code professional since 2005, has a master's degree in construction management, and has been ICC Master Code Professional since 2009. George has been instrumental in the start-up of multiple building departments including the adoption of codes, implementation of permit processes, development of policies and procedures, as well as the hiring and training of staff.



**Chris Kimball, PE, SE, CBO** is one of WC<sup>3</sup>'s Vice Presidents. He is a licensed structural engineer, ICC Master Code Professional, Certified Building Official, fire code official, combination plans examiner, and combination building inspector. He has performed plan reviews for thousands of projects throughout the western states. In addition, Chris has provided numerous training classes to help design professionals, building officials, and contractors alike to understand the requirements of the adopted building codes. Chris regularly teaches for ICC and has been involved in assisting ICC with various publications.