



TCM 2430 – Construction Safety

Week 1 – What is OSHA?



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What is the main reference for safe practices in construction?

The reference for construction safety practices are **OSHA standards**



What is OSHA



- OSHA stands for the **O**ccupational **S**afety and **H**ealth **A**dministration
- It is a **federal** agency within the United States **Department of Labor**.
- OSHA was established in 1970 with the goal of **ensuring safe and healthy working conditions** for employees across various industries.
- The agency **develops and enforces standards** to protect workers from **hazards** on the job.

What is OSHA's mission?

- The mission of OSHA is to **save lives, prevent injuries, and protect the health of America's workers.**



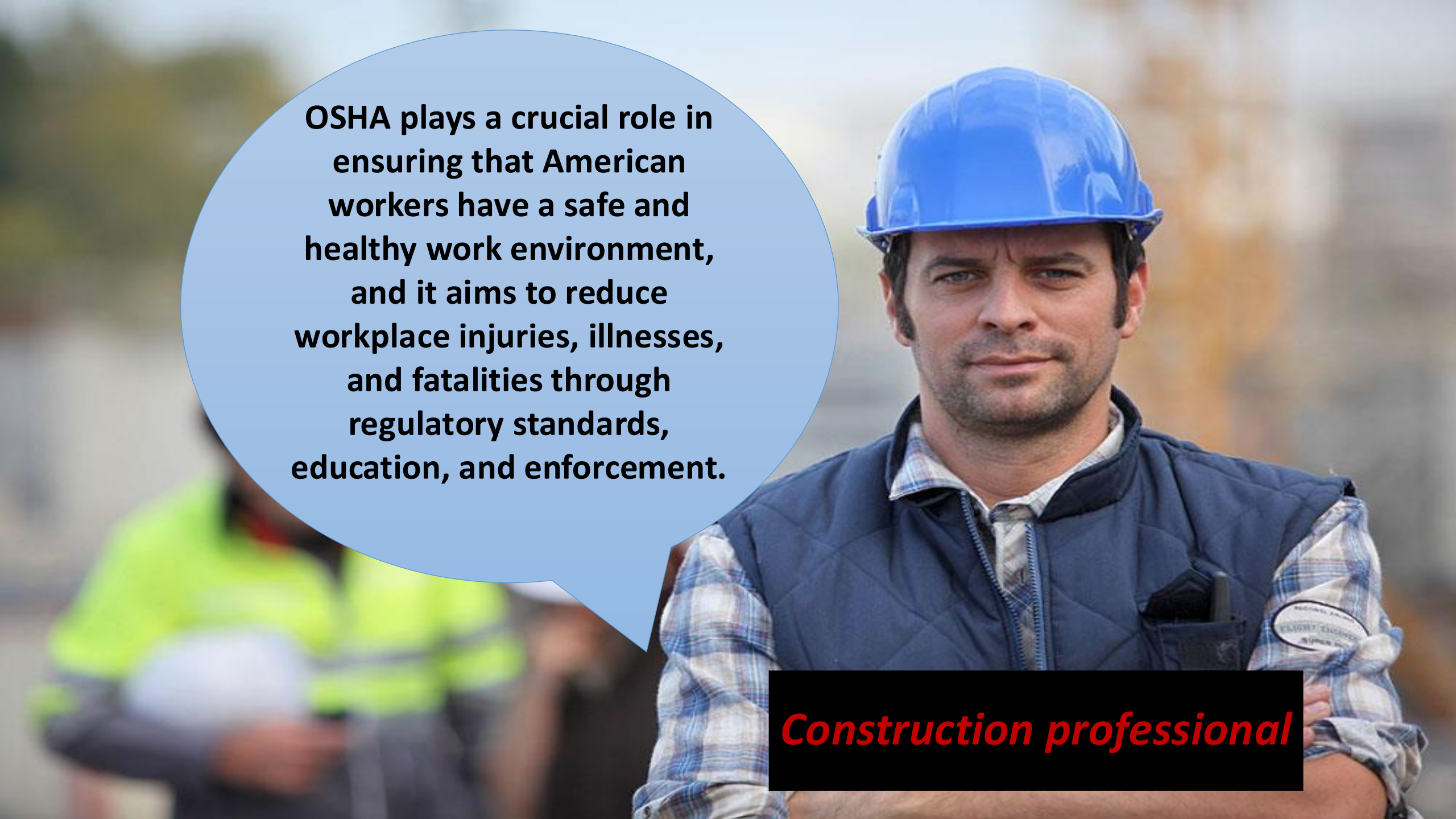
What are OSHA's responsibilities *(slide 1 of 2)*

- 1. Setting and enforcing workplace safety and health standards:** OSHA establishes regulations and standards that employers are required to follow to ensure the safety and health of their employees. These standards cover a wide range of topics, including exposure to hazardous chemicals, machinery safety, electrical hazards, and more.
- 2. Providing training, education, and assistance:** OSHA offers training programs, materials, and resources to educate employers and employees about safety and health practices in the workplace. They also provide consultation services for businesses to help them identify potential hazards and improve their safety programs.
- 3. Conducting inspections:** OSHA conducts inspections of workplaces to ensure that employers are complying with safety and health standards. Inspections can be planned or in response to complaints or reported accidents.

What are OSHA's responsibilities *(slide 2 of 2)*

4. ***Investigating complaints and accidents:*** OSHA investigates complaints from employees, reports of workplace accidents, and other incidents related to workplace safety to determine if any violations of safety standards have occurred.
5. ***Promoting worker rights:*** OSHA enforces various laws that protect workers' rights, including the right to a safe workplace, the right to file complaints about unsafe conditions, and protection against employer retaliation for reporting safety concerns.
6. ***Collaborating with states:*** While OSHA is a federal agency, some states have their own state-level OSHA programs that operate under federal guidelines. These state programs can have their own safety and health standards, but they must be at least as effective as the federal OSHA standards.

OSHA plays a crucial role in ensuring that American workers have a safe and healthy work environment, and it aims to reduce workplace injuries, illnesses, and fatalities through regulatory standards, education, and enforcement.

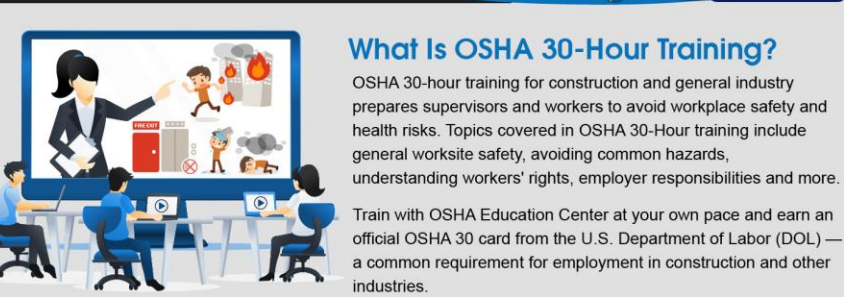


Construction professional

Who does OSHA attempt to protect?

- It is the policy of the Agency to provide a safe and healthful work environment for all permanent, temporary, and contract employees plus the visitors.





What Is OSHA 30-Hour Training?

OSHA 30-hour training for construction and general industry prepares supervisors and workers to avoid workplace safety and health risks. Topics covered in OSHA 30-Hour training include general worksite safety, avoiding common hazards, understanding workers' rights, employer responsibilities and more.

Train with OSHA Education Center at your own pace and earn an official OSHA 30 card from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) — a common requirement for employment in construction and other industries.

Which OSHA Card Do I Need?



Construction

Designed for workers in construction, demolition, building development and other fields in the construction industry.

General Industry

Designed for workers in health care, factory operations, warehousing, manufacturing, storage and more.

The best way to make sure you get the right OSHA card is to ask your employer which card is required for your position and work responsibilities.

That way you will know which OSHA 30 online course is best for you.



OSHA 30 Card Benefits



An OSHA 30 card proves you completed 30 hours of training on recognizing and avoiding jobsite hazards. Supervisors and safety professionals with an OSHA 30 card have deep and varied knowledge on workplace safety and health risks.

Does the OSHA 30-Hour Card Expire?

Your OSHA 30 card will never expire, but your employer may require you to retake the course every three to five years to refresh your knowledge and stay up-to-date with OSHA safety standards. If your OSHA card was issued more than five years ago, some employers may not accept it.



What is OSHA-30?

- OSHA 30 refers to a 30-hour training program designed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in the United States. It is aimed at providing comprehensive safety training for workers and supervisors in various industries to help them recognize, avoid, and mitigate potential hazards in the workplace. The training covers a wide range of occupational safety and health topics and is intended to enhance safety awareness and promote a safer work environment.
- The OSHA 30 training program is more in-depth than the OSHA 10 training program, which is a 10-hour training course covering fundamental safety topics. OSHA 30 is particularly suited for supervisors, managers, foremen, and workers who have responsibilities for safety oversight and who need a more comprehensive understanding of workplace safety regulations and practices.

What topics are covered in OSHA-30?

- Hazard recognition and prevention.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Electrical safety.
- Fall protection.
- Confined space entry.
- Hazardous materials handling.
- Emergency response procedures.
- Lockout/Tagout procedures (energy control).
- Machine guarding and equipment safety.
- Health hazards in the workplace.
- Recordkeeping and reporting requirements.



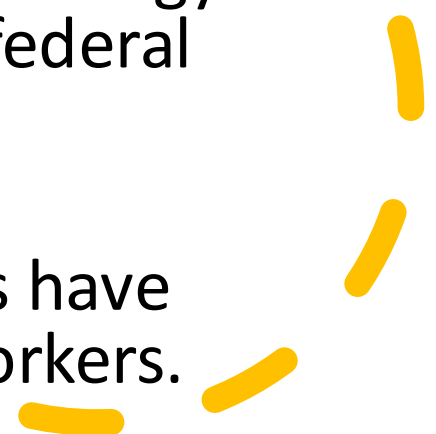
Who does OSHA cover?

- OSH Act (also known as Public Law 91-596) covers all private sector employers and their workers in the 50 states and all territories and jurisdictions under federal authority.
- OSHA coverage includes, but is not limited to manufacturing, construction, longshoring, agriculture, law, medicine, and charity and disaster relief



What is not **COVERED?**

Who are NOT covered in OSHA?

- The self-employed;
 - Immediate members of farming families not employing outside workers;
 - Mine workers, certain truckers and transportation workers, and atomic energy workers who are covered by other federal agencies;
 - Public employees in state and local governments, although some states have their own plans that cover these workers.
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Why is OSHA important to workers? *(Slide 1 of 4)*

- **Ensures Workplace Safety:** OSHA sets and enforces safety and health standards in workplaces. This helps ensure that workers are provided with safe and healthy working conditions, reducing the risk of accidents, injuries, and illnesses on the job.
- **Reduces Injuries and Fatalities:** OSHA regulations are designed to identify and mitigate workplace hazards. By adhering to OSHA standards, employers can implement measures that prevent accidents and significantly reduce the likelihood of injuries and fatalities.
- **Empowers Workers:** OSHA empowers workers by giving them the right to know about the potential hazards they might encounter on the job. This includes access to information about hazardous substances, protective measures, and safety protocols. It also allows workers to report safety concerns without fear of retaliation.
- **Promotes Training and Education:** OSHA encourages employers to provide training and education to workers about workplace hazards and safety practices. Proper training increases workers' awareness of potential risks and equips them with the knowledge to protect

Why is OSHA important to workers? *(Slide 2 of 4)*

- **Prevents Health Hazards:** OSHA not only addresses immediate safety risks but also focuses on long-term health hazards. Exposure to hazardous chemicals, noise, and other health risks can lead to chronic illnesses over time. OSHA standards aim to prevent these health hazards through regulation and awareness.
- **Supports Worker Rights:** OSHA protects workers' rights to a safe workplace. Workers have the right to report safety concerns, participate in safety committees, and be involved in the identification and mitigation of workplace hazards.
- **Reduces Financial Burden:** Workplace accidents and illnesses can lead to financial burdens for workers, employers, and society as a whole. Lost productivity, medical costs, and disability benefits can strain individuals and businesses. OSHA's emphasis on prevention helps reduce these financial burdens.
- **Boosts Morale and Productivity:** When workers feel safe and valued in their workplace, morale and job satisfaction increase. A safe work environment fosters better teamwork, productivity, and employee loyalty.
- **Industry Best Practices:** OSHA standards often reflect industry best practices for safety. Following these standards not only ensures regulatory compliance but also improves the overall quality of work processes and procedures.
- **Public Awareness:** OSHA's presence and efforts to promote workplace safety create public awareness about the importance of safe working conditions. This awareness encourages employers to prioritize safety and encourages workers to demand a safe workplace.

Why is OSHA important to workers? *(Slide 3 of 4)*

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Why is OSHA important to workers? *(Slide 4 of 4)*

- **Boosts Morale and Productivity:** When workers feel safe and valued in their workplace, morale and job satisfaction increase. A safe work environment fosters better teamwork, productivity, and employee loyalty.
- **Introduces Industry Best Practices:** OSHA standards often reflect industry best practices for safety. Following these standards not only ensures regulatory compliance but also improves the overall quality of work processes and procedures.
- **Raises Public Awareness:** OSHA's presence and efforts to promote workplace safety create public awareness about the importance of safe working conditions. This awareness encourages employers to prioritize safety and encourages workers to demand a safe workplace.

Why is OSHA Important to You?

- Take a look at Fatality Inspection Data at this link:
- http://www.osha.gov/dep/fatcat/dep_fatcat.html
- This table contains the weekly summaries of fatalities and catastrophes resulting in the hospitalization of three or more workers.
- Employers must report these incidents to OSHA within eight hours. OSHA investigates all work-related fatalities and catastrophes. After OSHA's investigation is complete, these reports will be updated with inspection results and citation information.

What are workers' safety rights?

Watch these videos

1. <https://youtu.be/bDprB1xC1I>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsJSzbupDts&pp=ygUZd29ya2Vyc-KAmSBzYWZldHkgcmInaHRzPw%3D%3D>
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHqw2emVT28>

What are worker rights under OSHA? *(Slide 1 of 3)*

- Under OSHA, workers have several important rights that are designed to protect their safety and well-being in the workplace. These rights are enforced by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Here are some of the key worker rights under OSHA:
- **Right to a Safe Workplace:** Workers have the right to work in an environment that is free from recognized hazards that are likely to cause serious harm or death. Employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthy workplace.
- **Right to Information:** Workers have the right to be informed about potential hazards in the workplace. This includes access to information about hazardous chemicals, safety data sheets (SDS), and labels on chemical containers.
- **Right to Training:** Workers must receive appropriate training and education on workplace hazards and safety procedures. Training should be provided in a language and format that workers understand.

What are worker rights under OSHA? *(Slide 2 of 3)*

- **Right to Participate:** Workers have the right to participate in safety activities and committees that focus on identifying and addressing workplace hazards. They can voice their concerns and contribute to making the workplace safer.
- **Right to File a Complaint:** Workers have the right to file a complaint with OSHA if they believe their workplace is unsafe or if they are facing retaliation for raising safety concerns. Complaints can be made confidentially.
- **Right to Whistleblower Protection:** Workers are protected from retaliation if they report safety violations, participate in OSHA inspections, or exercise their rights under the OSH Act. Employers are prohibited from firing or discriminating against workers for asserting their rights.
- **Right to Request an OSHA Inspection:** Workers or their representatives have the right to request an OSHA inspection if they believe there are hazardous conditions in the workplace that are not being adequately addressed by the employer.
- **Right to Review Records:** Workers have the right to review records of workplace injuries and illnesses, as well as records related to workplace exposure to hazardous substances.

What are worker rights under OSHA? *(Slide 3 of 3)*

- **Right to Medical Records:** Workers have the right to access their own medical records and records of exposure to toxic substances or harmful agents.
- **Right to Request Correction:** Workers or their representatives can request that their employer correct workplace hazards identified during an OSHA inspection.
- These rights are meant to **empower** workers to take an **active** role in ensuring their own **safety** and **health** at work. Employers are required to **inform** workers about these **rights**, and they are **not allowed** to interfere with **workers' exercise** of these rights or to retaliate against workers who assert them.

Where can I get access to OSHA?

- Link to OSH Act of 1970
- <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/oshact/toc>

Useful links (open these links and take a look)

- Understanding what is OSHA: About OSHA [Link](#)
- OSHA at-a-glance: click for more information [here](#)
- OSHA Laws and Regulations: the [OSH Act of 1970](#)
- Complete OSH Act Version ("All-in-One"): click for more information [here](#)

Week 1 Assignment

- Study the Syllabus and watch the videos below and answer Week 1 assignment
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfoTLeFooR4>
- <https://www.osha.gov/video/choice-or-chance> this is an old video but still very useful