Announcing the Final Examination of William Pike for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Time & Location: October 24, 2018 at 10:15 AM in HEC 101A
Title: Human Factor Effects of Simulating Battlefield Malodors in Field Training

This study explored how malodors influence human performance in an environment similar to a field environment similar to a live training environment. A total of 180 cadets from West Point were randomly selected for one of three conditions in which they completed a medical evacuation quiz twice, either in the presence or absence of a simulated malodor.

The experiment gauged the effect of desensitization to a simulated burnt flesh malodor to stress, escape behavior, and performance of a relevant complex task. While the group afforded the adaptation experience did not exhibit significantly different behavior or performance than their peers, valuable lessons learned about the use of simulated odors in a field environment were gathered.

Major: Modeling and Simulation

Educational Career:
Bachelor’s of Systems Science, BS, 1987, University of West Florida
Master’s of Computer Engineering, MS, 1993, University of Central Florida
Master’s of Modeling and Simulation, MS, 2012, University of Central Florida

Committee in Charge:
Michael D. Proctor, Chair, IEMS
Randall P. Shumaker, UCF Institute for Simulation and Training
Valerie K. Sims, UCF Department of Psychology
James W. Ness, COL, US Army, United States Military Academy
Deborah N. Burgess, The Salus Group

Approved for distribution by Michael D. Proctor, Committee Chair, on September 18, 2018.

The public is welcome to attend.