

Police Firearms, Tactics, Weaponless Defense and Impact Weapons Course

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. To enhance the skills of the student in the following areas:
 - a. Manipulating and accurately firing the shotgun, the AR-15, their issued sidearm and if applicable, their back-up weapons;
 - b. Transitioning smoothly from one weapon system to another;
 - c. Making appropriate decisions as to the type of force, weapon system, and ammunition to be used in various situations;
 - d. Reassessing threats during any use of force incident when tactically safe and appropriate to do so and adjusting to the situation accordingly;
 - e. Functioning as both a “contact” and “cover” officer;
 - f. Differentiating between cover and concealment and using it while firing the shotgun, issued sidearm and if applicable, their back-up weapon;
 - g. Performing two and/or three person takedown techniques on suspects;
 - h. Defending against attacks from suspects including knife/edged weapon attacks;
 - i. Preventing suspects from taking your sidearm from you (handgun retention techniques) as well as developing a proficiency in taking away handguns from suspects who are in close proximity to you (handgun take away techniques);
 - j. Fighting suspects using punches, open hand strikes, kicks, knee and elbow strikes, and bumping and hitting techniques;

B. Performance expectations

1. By the conclusion of this course, the student must demonstrate the following:
 - a. The ability to manipulate and accurately fire the shotgun, the AR-15, their issued sidearm and if applicable, their back-up weapon;
 - b. The ability to transition smoothly from one weapon system to another;
 - c. The ability to make appropriate decisions as to the type of force, weapon system, and ammunition to be used in various situations;
 - d. The ability to reassess threats during any use of force incident when tactically safe and appropriate to do so and adjust to the situation accordingly;
 - e. The ability to effectively function as both a “contact” and “cover” officer;
 - f. The ability to differentiate between cover and concealment and use it effectively while firing the shotgun, issued sidearm and if applicable, their back-up weapon;
 - g. The ability to properly perform two and/or three person takedown techniques;
 - h. The ability to defend themselves against attacks from others including simulated knife/edged weapon attacks;
 - i. The ability to preventing others from taking their sidearm (handgun retention techniques) as well as to take away handguns from others who are in close proximity to them (handgun take away techniques);
 - j. The ability to fight others using punches, open hand strikes, kicks, knee and elbow strikes, and bumping and hitting techniques;

II. Defensive Tactics

- A. Use of Force Considerations **Cat.3(j)**
 - 1. Departmental Policy
 - 2. Case law and other legal issues
 - 3. Reasonable Force **Cat.3(g)**

- A. Warm up (stretching exercises) **Cat.3(a)**
 - 1. Safety briefing
- B. OODA Loop
 - 1. Reaction to an ambush attack
 - 2. Training is essential
- C. Review of Stance
 - 1. Balanced stance **Cat.3(i)**
 - a. Proper movement
 - (1) Maintaining balance while striking, diverting, and avoiding strikes
- D. Stand-up Fighting Review
 - 1. Punches, Open Hand, Elbows
 - 2. Bump and Hit
 - 3. Kicks, knees
 - a. Response to the force used **Cat.3(h)**
 - 4. Baton strikes **Cat.3(l)**
 - a. Target areas
 - b. Balance during strikes
 - c. Movement

- d. Retention
 - (1) Crowd control
- 5. Verbal Commands **Cat.3(f)**
 - a. Specific Instructions
 - b. “Stop Resisting”
- 5. Providing needed medical aid after the incident **Cat.3(k)**
 - a. The importance of documenting injuries and/or the lack of injuries
- E. Stand-up Defenses
 - 1. Startle Defense
 - a. Hands up, elbows at side
 - b. Krav Maga 360/Inside Defense
 - c. Getting Off-line
 - d. Sword Defense
 - (1) Diving through the window
 - e. Grab/Push suspect into Others
- F. Takedowns
 - 1. Two person
 - 2. Three person
- G. Searches **Cat.3(c)**
 - 1. High profile
 - 2. Low profile
 - 3. Felony

- a. Control holds utilized while searching and preparing to handcuff **Cat.3(d)**
- b. Handcuffing **Cat.3(e)**
 - (1) Double locking

III. Knife attacks

- A. Review of offensive knife techniques
- B. Defenses against knife attacks

IV. Defensive tactics related to handguns

- A. Handgun position
- B. Handgun takeaways techniques **Cat.1(l) Cat.3(m)**
- C. Handgun retention techniques **Cat.3(m)**

V. Review of techniques and testing **Cat.3(b)**

VI. Range Safety

- A. Firearms Safety Rules
 - 1. All guns should be handled as if they are always loaded
 - 2. Never let the muzzle cover anything you are not willing to destroy
 - 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are on target
 - 4. Always be sure of your target and be aware of what is beyond it
- B. Inter-limb interaction (Finger off trigger until on target)
 - 1. Sympathetic squeeze response
 - 2. Startle response
 - 3. Loss of balance response

- C. Classroom safety rules
 - 1. No ammunition or loaded magazines allowed in the classroom
- D. Simulator and simmunitions training rules
 - 1. No ammunition, loaded magazines, chemical agents or weapons are allowed while participating in these exercises
 - 2. Protective masks must be worn by students participating in the simmunitions training

VII. Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting

- A. Principles of good marksmanship
 - 1. Stance
 - 2. Grip
 - 3. Breath control
 - 4. Sight alignment/sight picture **Cat.1(d)**
 - 5. Trigger control
 - 6. Follow through
- B. Weapon manipulation
 - 1. Semi-automatic pistol
 - a. Malfunctions/clearance drills **Cat.1(f)**
 - (1) Standard malfunction
 - (2) Double feed
 - (3) Stove pipe
 - b. Loading and unloading
 - (1) Tactical reloads
 - (2) Speed reloads

2. Revolver
 - a. Loading and unloading
3. Transitioning to back-up weapon
 - a. Position where you carry your back-up weapon
4. Tactics
 - a. Use of cover/concealment
 - b. Use of flashlight in low light and darkness
 - c. Shooting from different positions
 - (1) Kneeling
 - (a) Muscular support
 - (b) Skeletal
 - d. Reassessing the threat when tactically safe and appropriate to do so

VIII. Shotgun (Remington 870)

- A. Shooting stance
 1. Placement of feet (shoulder width)
 2. Bladed stance (position of interrogation)
 3. Bend weak knee and lean forward slightly
 4. Shifting of bodyweight (60% front / 40% rear)
 5. Comb of weapon brought up to face
 6. Cheek weld
 7. Butt placement (full contact with shoulder hollow)
 8. Heel placement (even with or slightly below top of shoulder)
 9. Weak hand on forearm (elbow down)

B. Shooting positions

1. Offhand/Shoulder (See shooting stance)
2. Hip shooting (Search mode – unobstructed view)
 - a. Ready gun position (same as combat loading position)
 - b. Strong hand on pistol grip
 - c. Weak hand on forearm
 - d. Butt of stock along midline of body
 - e. Comb is parallel to strong side forearm
 - f. Strong side elbow hooked behind butt
3. Port arms (Search mode – advantage for elevated targets)
 - a. Ready gun position
 - b. Strong hand on pistol grip
 - c. Weak hand on forearm
 - d. Front site of weapon at eye level
 - e. Butt of weapon at strong side hip level
4. Low ready
 - a. Ready gun position
 - b. Strong hand on pistol grip
 - c. Weak hand on forearm
 - d. Butt of stock against shoulder hollow
 - e. Muzzle pointed towards the ground at approx. 45 degree angle
5. Kneeling
 - a. Supported (skeletal)

- (1) Sit back on heel of strong foot
 - (2) Weak elbow supported on weak, upright knee
 - (3) Weak elbow extended slightly beyond knee to avoid bone to bone contact
 - (4) Body weight shifted slightly forward
- b. Unsupported (muscular)
 - (1) Sit back on heel of strong foot
 - (2) Torso is upright
 - (3) Body weight shifted slightly forward
- C. Weapon manipulation
1. Assembly area loading
 2. Assembly area unloading
 3. Combat loading
 4. Weapon clearing
- D. Sighting the weapon (Bead sights)
1. Sight alignment
 - a. Lay the side of your face on the stock of the shotgun (cheek weld).
 - b. Both eyes should either be open or the shooter should close the eye that is furthest from the weapon.
 - c. Look along the grooves, (rear sight), and raise or lower the barrel until you see the bead (front sight), centered in the middle of the grooves.
 - d. The front bead should be in focus and the rear sight should be fuzzy.
 - e. The tip of the bead should be placed at the base of the area that you want to impact with the projectile(s). A good

point of aim for this weapon is the lower chest/upper abdomen.

2. Point shooting

E. Shotgun ammunition

1. Deploying the appropriate ammunition

a. 00 Buck

b. Slug

F. Sling techniques

1. American

2. African

3. Repel/grapple

IX. AR-15

A. Shooting Positions

1. Offhand/shoulder

a. Placement of feet (shoulder width)

b. Bladed stance (position of interrogation)

c. Bend weak knee and lean forward slightly

d. Shifting of bodyweight (60% front / 40% rear)

e. Comb of weapon brought up to face

f. Cheek weld

g. Butt placement (full contact with shoulder hollow)

h. Heel placement (even with or slightly below top of shoulder)

- i. Weak hand on fore-end (elbow down)
 2. Prone position
 3. Sitting position
 4. Kneeling position
 5. Muscular versus Skeletal positions
- B. Weapon manipulation
 1. Malfunctions/clearance drills
 - a. Standard malfunction
 - b. Double feed/Stove pipe
 2. Loading and unloading
 - a. Magazine changes
- C. Sight alignment/Sight Picture
 1. Iron sights
 2. Scope/Dot sights
 - a. Hold over and hold under
- D. AR-15 Course of fire
 1. The student will be provided with an AR-15 loaded with a five round magazine along with a second 5 round magazine, which they must maintain in a pocket or waistband. There will not be a round in the chamber of the weapon, which is consistent with the manner in which the officer would find the weapon stored inside their police vehicle.
 2. The student, from a standing position behind cover, will be required to chamber the first round and fire five rounds, reload and fire an additional five rounds at a target positioned 25 yards away. The student must complete this drill within 15 seconds and obtain 8 out of 10 center body mass hits on the Q-target.

3. The student will then load the weapon (AR-15) so that it is patrol ready.

X. Firearms Training Simulator

A. Use of Force Considerations

1. Departmental Policy **Cat.1(h)**
2. Case law and other legal issues **Cat.1(h)**
3. Reasonable Force **Cat.1(i)**
 - a. Lethal and less lethal force options **Cat.1(k)**
 - b. Reassessing threats during any use of force incident when tactically safe and appropriate to do so and adjusting to the situation accordingly
4. Moral Obligations **Cat.1(j)**

B. Tactics

1. Contact Officer/Cover Officer
 - a. Threat identification **Cat.1(e)**
(Target recognition and analysis)
 - b. Communication
2. Cover versus Concealment
 - a. Caliber of suspect's weapon
 - b. High ground

C. Simulation Scenarios

1. Safety guidelines/Orientation
 - a. No weapons, live ammunition or chemical agents
2. Sight alignment, trigger control, accuracy drill
 - a. Playback of the drill results

3. Scenario One
 - a. Review of students' performance and decision making
4. Scenario Two
 - a. Review of students' performance and decision making
5. Scenario Three
 - a. Review of students' performance and decision making

XI. Shotgun, AR-15 and pistol exercise

A. Safety guidelines/Orientation **Cat.1(c)**

B. Body drag

1. The student will be told that their partner was just shot and they must drag him to safety. The officer must perform a 165 pound dummy drag of approximately 7 yards and leave the dummy behind the simulated vehicle, which is positioned at the 25 yard line.

C. AR-15

1. After completing the dummy drag, the officer will remove the AR-15 from the rack, charge the weapon and get into a prone shooting position while concealing themselves behind one of the two wheels of the simulated vehicle. From this position, the officer will fire 6 rounds at the two red steel threat targets (12" disks), dividing the rounds equally between the two targets, which will be located in the bullet trap area.
2. Students must correctly identify the threat targets and then shoot and hit the threat targets 5 out of 6 times.

D. Transition to shotgun

1. After firing 6 rounds from the AR-15, the student will transition to the shotgun, which they will remove from the rack. The shotgun will be in a patrol ready condition (4 rounds in the tube and 4 rounds in the side saddle). The student will be instructed to shoot only threat targets during this course of fire. Threat targets are blue and white steel targets and paper targets depicting people who are armed with a weapon.

The student will first charge the shotgun and then advance forward to the first left side barricade located at the 15 yard line. While properly concealing themselves behind the barricade (low) in a kneeling position (skeletal support), the student will fire one round from the left side of the barricade at the blue steel target and one round from the right side of the barricade at the white steel target. The student must shoulder the weapon on their left shoulder while shooting from the left side of the barricade and on the right shoulder when shooting from the right side of the barricade. The student should be loading rounds into the loading tube of the shotgun throughout the course, so as to avoid an empty weapon.

2. The student will then advance forward to the barricade located at the 10 yard line. While properly concealing themselves behind the barricade (high) in a standing position, the student will fire one round from the left side of the barricade at the blue steel target and one round from the right side of the barricade at the white steel target. The student must shoulder the weapon on their left shoulder while shooting on the left side of the barricade and on the right shoulder when shooting on the right side of the barricade.
3. The range will be divided in the middle from front to back with a floor to ceiling tarp in order to simulate a wall of a building. A cone pattern will be created that runs from the 10 yard barricade to the rear of the range where the student will be directed to enter the simulated building through a doorway.

Upon entering the doorway, the student will see two barricades, one located at the 20 yard line and the other located at the 15 yard line. The student will advance forward to the first barricade located at the 20 yard line. While properly concealing themselves behind the barricade (low) in a kneeling position (muscular support), the student will fire one round from the left side of the barricade at the blue steel target and one round from the right side of the barricade at the white steel target. The student must shoulder the weapon on their left shoulder while shooting from the left side of the barricade and on the right shoulder when shooting from the right side of the barricade. **Cat.1(g)**

4. The student will then advance to the next barricade located at the 15 yard line. While properly concealing themselves behind the barricade (high) in a standing position, the student will fire one round from the left side of the barricade at the blue steel target and one round from the right side of the barricade at the white steel target. The student must shoulder the weapon on their left shoulder while shooting on the left side of the barricade and on their right shoulder when shooting on the right side of the barricade.

- E. Transition to pistol and back-up weapon
1. Four paper targets will then turn to face the student for 7 seconds; two of the targets will be threat targets and two will be non-threat targets. The student, who has now used all of their shotgun ammunition, must transition to their primary weapon and shoot and hit each of the two threat targets at least twice in the scoring area. **Cat.1(a)**
 2. If the student carries a back-up weapon, the firearms instructor will yell out that their primary weapon has failed, creating the need to transition to their back-up gun. Four paper targets will then turn to face the student for 7 seconds; two of the targets will be threat targets and two will be non-threat targets. The student must transition to their back-up weapon and shoot and hit each of the two threat targets at least twice in the scoring area. **Cat.1(b)**
 3. The students must have 80 % of their rounds fired impact in the scoring area of the shotgun and pistol targets as well as demonstrate proficiency with properly loading, manipulating and clearing any malfunctions associated with the various weapons in order to pass this portion of the course.

XII. Simmunitions scenario

A. Safety guidelines/Orientation

1. Students will be equipped with their sam browne rig containing a simmunitions weapon, an additional magazine loaded with simmunitions, a portable radio and the appropriate protective equipment
2. No live ammunition or any weapons will be allowed

B. Traffic stop scenario (Single officer unit)

1. Students will be instructed that they are stopping a vehicle for a stop sign violation and that the car is registered to the driver of the vehicle. Students must notify dispatch of the traffic stop, just as they would on any traffic stop conducted in the field. Officers will be told prior to beginning the scenario that they are to obtain all of the necessary items from the driver as if they were going to cite him for the violation and then write the citation as they normally would do so.
2. The suspect will immediately exit the vehicle after being stopped and charge the officer while at the same time attempting to shoot the officer, regardless as to whether or not the officer has yet exited their vehicle. Strikes on the windshield and other glass should be considered by the

evaluator as possible hits on the officer if the officer was in a position to be struck by these rounds when they were fired by the suspect. After shooting at the officer, the suspect will flee on foot.

3. The expectations for the officer are that they use good officer safety during the stop, and they respond appropriately to the threat by using good tactics, making a radio broadcast for assistance as well as notifying other units about the suspect's description, the type of weapon the suspect possessed, the direction of travel and manner in which the suspect fled the scene. Officers are also expected to reassess the threat after engaging the suspect only when it is tactically safe and appropriate to do so and adjust to the situation accordingly.