

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE
REGULAR BASIC COURSE
LEARNING DOMAIN 35
FIREARM / CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Effective date of outline: August 1, 2013

I. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know and practice all procedures for the safe handling of all firearms while on and off duty.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. State the four fundamental rules of firearms safety

1. Treat all firearms as if they are loaded
2. Always point firearm in the safest possible direction
3. Always keep fingers off the trigger until ready to fire the weapon
4. Be sure of the target and beyond it before firing.

B. Explain basic safety guidelines to be followed at a firing range

1. A firing range consists of a firing line and targets. Officers are positioned on the firing line and fire at the targets.
2. While on the firing line an officer can be easily distracted by noise or actions of others, or when receiving guidance from an instructor it is critical that officers always remain conscious of the location of their firearms.

C. Describe the safety precautions for proper storage of firearms

1. All firearms must be kept out of the reach of children or immature adults
2. Keep firearms inaccessible from other unauthorized personnel
3. Store ammunition separately from firearms.
4. Take all precautions against theft by storing firearms in a secure location and in locked container. If no secure container is available, a locking device should be used or the firearm should be disassembled before storing

II. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the workings, the capabilities, and limitations of firearms in order to operate them safely and effectively.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. Describe the basic information about a semiautomatic pistol and magazine, including:

1. Primary components and their functions
2. Steps for loading/unloading
3. Steps for rendering the semiautomatic pistol safe

B. Describe the cycle of operation that takes place with each single pull of a semiautomatic pistol trigger

1. Firing

2. Unlocking
3. Extracting
4. Ejecting
5. Cocking
6. Feeding
7. Chambering
8. Locking

C. Describe the basic information about a revolver, including:

1. Primary components and their functions
2. Steps for loading/unloading
3. Steps for rendering the revolver safe

D. Describe the basic information about shotguns, including:

1. Advantages and limitations
2. Primary components and their functions
3. Steps for loading/unloading
4. Steps for rendering the shotgun safe

III. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the capabilities and limitations of the ammunition they use in their firearms to operate them safely and effectively.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. State the guidelines for the safe handling of ammunition

1. Treat every round as though it were fully charged and capable of discharging
2. Use only type and caliber of ammunition specifically recommended by the firearm's manufacturer.
3. Never fire a threat you do not intend to hit.
4. Avoid dropping live rounds or hitting them with any object.
5. Learn the sound and feel of a good firing and know what to do when round misfires.
6. All ammunition should be replaced on a regular basis
7. Never use ammunition where the pressure level exceeds industry standard for the firearm being used.

B. Describe the primary components of firearm cartridges

1. Primer
2. Powder charge
3. Bullet
4. Cartridge case
5. Blank shell

C. Explain the chain of events that takes place when a projectile is discharged from a cartridge

1. Primer detonated
2. Powder ignited

3. Bullet expelled

D. Describe the primary components of a shotgun shell

1. Primer
2. Powder charge
3. Wad
4. Load
5. Shell case

E. Define shot pattern as it relates to shotgun shells

1. Shot travels down the barrel of the shotgun in a tight group. As the pellets exit the muzzle, they begin to spread apart forming what is referred to as shot pattern. A shot pattern is the diameter of a circle in which the shot will fit.

F. Explain the correlation to the distance traveled by the shot and the size of the shot pattern

1. The shot pattern will increase in size as the shot travels toward the threat. Test results indicate that the shot spread for No.00 buckshot is approximately one inch for each yard of distance.

G. Describe the three ways shot placement can stop a threat, to include:

1. Central nervous system
2. Critical blood loss
3. Psychological

IV. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know how to properly inspect, clean, and care for their firearms to ensure that they function safely and effectively.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. Describe the components that may prevent problems and that should be examined during a routine safety inspection

1. Difficulty firing
2. Moving parts that jam
3. Cartridges that do not feed properly

B. Describe the materials, equipment, and environment needed to properly clean firearms

1. Solvent
2. Lubricant
3. Cleaning patches
4. Personal protection materials
5. Bore brush
6. Cylinder brush
7. Firearms should only be cleaned in area that is safe, well ventilated and free from dust, dirt, moisture.

- C. Apply routine procedures for cleaning firearms
 - 1. There is no standard for the order in which a component should be cleaned. No matter what order though, cleaning should be done in a thorough manner.

V. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must comprehend and practice the fundamental skills of firing firearms to be effective in reactive and precision situations during live fire exercises.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Apply the proper steps for drawing and holstering
 - 1. Drawing a firearm should be smooth, continuous motion
 - 2. Holstering is securing a firearm in a holster making it ready for use.
- B. Demonstrate the following elements to accurately shoot a firearm:
 - 1. Grip
 - 2. Stance
 - 3. Breath control
 - 4. Sight alignment/sight picture
 - 5. Trigger control
 - 6. Follow-through
- C. Describe the types of malfunctions and demonstrate clearing methods for:
 - 1. Semiautomatic pistols
 - 2. Revolvers
 - 3. Shotguns
- D. Describe limitations officers may encounter when shooting under low light/nighttime conditions
 - 1. Impaired vision
 - 2. Accuracy
 - 3. Flash disorientation
- E. Describe conditions an officer may face when in a combat situation
 - 1. Rapid threat assessment
 - 2. Shoot/ no shoot decisions
 - 3. Multiple threats
 - 4. Moving targets
 - 5. Varying target distances
 - 6. Multiple shooting positions
 - 7. Movement
 - 8. Use of cover and concealment

- F. Describe possible physiological and psychological responses an officer may experience under the stress of a combat situation
1. Physiological response can be Auditory changes, Tunnel vision, Color distortion, time distortion and physical detachment.
 2. Psychological response can be fear is a emotional response to a perceived threat, anger is a feeling displeasure from a injury, mistreatment or opposition
- G. Explain steps officers can take to prepare themselves for the extreme stress of combat
1. Mental preparation
 2. Physical conditioning
 3. Proper nutrition
 4. Equipment maintenance
 5. Confidence building
 6. Initial and ongoing training
 7. Support groups

VI. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the terminology, capabilities, exposure symptoms, and decontamination procedures in order to safely and effectively handle and deploy chemical agents and gas masks.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. State the statutory requirements for the possession and use of chemical agents
1. Under statutory law peace officer may use chemical agent one they have satisfactorily completed instruction in their use under Penal Code Sections 835 (a) and 1403.
- B. Describe four methods used to deploy chemical agents
1. Aerosol
 2. Fogging
 3. Pyrotechnics
 4. Blast expulsion
- C. Describe environmental and physical conditions that can impact the effectiveness of a chemical agent
1. Wind
 2. Rain
 3. Temperature
 4. Distance
 5. Proximity of others
- D. State the guidelines for safely carrying, drawing, and deploying hand-held canisters of chemical agents
1. Hand-held canisters can be worn on the officer's duty belt or other form of holster. Canister can also be concealed within clothing, bags, or cases.
 2. When a hand-held canister is drawn, either from a holster or other location, officers should first make sure it is right-side-up. Canisters which are not held upright will not discharge properly and can lead to loss of the propellant.
 3. The target of all hand-held aerosol agents is the face of the suspect.

- E. Apply decontamination procedures that should be followed after a chemical agent has been used
1. Expose subject to fresh air
 2. Flush subjects face with water
 3. Utilize with non-oil based soap (e.g., Johnson's baby soap). If necessary
- F. Discuss the physiological and psychological effects of each of the following chemical agents used by peace officers:
1. OC (oleoresin capsicum)
 2. CN (chloroacetophenone)
 3. CS (ortho-chlorobenzylidene-molononitrile)
- G. Demonstrate proper procedures peace officers should follow when using gas masks, to include:
1. Inspection and proper fit
 2. Cleaning and storage

VII. REQUIRED TESTS

Exercise testing is mandated and regulated by POST Commission Procedure D-1, which states:

Academies/presenters shall provide the following to students who fail a required exercise test on the first attempt:

- An opportunity to review their test results
- A reasonable amount of time, as determined by the academy/presenter, to prepare for a retest
- An opportunity to be retested on the failed test, if the student fails the second test, the student fails the course

Required exercise testing for each format of the basic course is set forth in the Training and Testing Specifications (TTS). The student is required to successfully pass each exercise test outlined below for the specific course of instruction the student is enrolled in.

FIREARMS SAFETY

All firearms exercise testing must be conducted under written academy/presenter safety procedures and or protocols established in accordance with the POST safety guidelines. Students are required to comply with every aspect of presenter safety procedures and or protocols during firearms training and testing.

- A. An **exercise test** requires the student to demonstrate competency in **basic** handgun shooting principles using a handgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **daylight** conditions on a **basic** course of fire.

The student is required to shoot from multiple distances of 1 to 15 yards or greater using a presenter approved service handgun and fire a minimum of 50 rounds of service ammunition with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load and reload the handgun using the loading device authorized by the presenter and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles
5. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- B. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **basic** handgun shooting principles using a handgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **low light/night time** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **basic** course of fire.

The student is required to shoot from multiple distances of 1 to 15 yards or greater using a presenter approved service handgun and fire a minimum of 50 rounds of service ammunition with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load and reload the handgun using the loading device authorized by the presenter and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles
5. Flashlight/Lighting System/Existing Light
6. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- C. An **exercise test** that requires a student to demonstrate competency in **combat** shooting principles and tactics using a handgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **daylight** conditions on a **combat** course of fire.

The course of fire must simulate the physical and mental stress that would be most nearly created by actual field **combat** situations. The test will minimally include threat assessment, multiple targets, left and right handed shooting positions, multiple shooting positions, and the use of cover and concealment.

The student is required to fire a minimum of 30 rounds of service ammunition using a presenter approved service handgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load and reload the handgun using the loading device authorized by the presenter and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Judgment/Decision Making
5. Basic Shooting Principles
6. Combat Shooting Principles/Tactics
7. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- D. An **exercise test** that requires a student to demonstrate competency in **combat** shooting principles and tactics using a handgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment under **low light/night time** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **combat** course of fire.

The course of fire must simulate the physical and mental stress that would be most nearly created by actual field **combat** situations. The test will minimally include threat assessment, multiple targets, left and right handed shooting positions, multiple shooting positions, and the use of cover and concealment.

The student is required to fire a minimum of 30 rounds of service ammunition using a presenter approved service handgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load and reload the handgun using the loading device authorized by the presenter and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Judgment/Decision Making
5. Basic Shooting Principles
6. Combat Shooting Principles/Tactics
7. Flashlight/Lighting System/Existing Light
8. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- E. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **basic** shotgun shooting principles using a shotgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **daylight** conditions on a **basic** course of fire.

The student is required to fire 20 rounds of service ammunition at multiple distances from 3 to 15 yards or greater, using a presenter approved shotgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles
5. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- F. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **basic** shotgun shooting principles using a shotgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment under **low light/night time** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **basic** course of fire.

The student is required to fire 20 rounds of service ammunition at multiple distances from 3 to 15 yards or greater using a presenter approved shotgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles
5. Flashlight/Lighting System/Existing Light
6. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- G. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in shotgun **combat** shooting principles and tactics using a shotgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **daylight** conditions on a **combat** course of fire.

The course of fire must simulate the physical and mental stress that would be most nearly created by actual field **combat** situations. The test will minimally include threat assessment, multiple targets, left and right handed shooting positions, multiple shooting positions and the use of cover and concealment.

The student is required to fire a minimum of 12 rounds of service ammunition using a presenter approved shotgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Judgment/Decision Making
5. Basic Shooting Principles
6. Combat Shooting Principles/Tactics
7. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- H. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **combat** shooting principles and tactics using a shotgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **low light/night time** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **combat** course of fire.

The course of fire must simulate the physical and mental stress that would be most nearly created by actual field **combat** situations. The test will minimally include threat assessment, multiple targets, left and right handed shooting positions, multiple shooting positions and the use of cover and concealment.

The student is required to fire a minimum of 12 rounds of service ammunition using a presenter approved shotgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Judgment/Decision Making
5. Basic Shooting Principles
6. Combat Shooting Principles/Tactics
7. Flashlight/Light System/Existing Light
8. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

VIII. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- A. Each student will participate in a simulation that requires exposure to a nonlethal, riot control chemical agent. The simulation must involve the following:
1. Exposure to a non-lethal, riot control chemical agent
 2. Proper use of a gas mask including the pre-inspection, fitting and clearing of the mask
 3. Decontamination techniques
- B. Each student will participate in a simulation that requires exposure to a non-lethal, aerosol chemical agent. The simulation must involve the following:
1. Exposure to a non-lethal, aerosol chemical agent
 2. Proper care, maintenance and deployment of a non-lethal, aerosol chemical agent
 3. Decontamination techniques
- C. Each student will participate in a learning activity designed to reinforce the ability to manipulate their assigned firearm.

If the firearm is a semiautomatic pistol, the learning activity shall minimally include the following techniques to safely and effectively manipulate the semiautomatic pistol in both the left and right hand:

1. Render the weapon safe
2. Release slide
3. Lock slide open
4. Rack slide
5. Holster weapon
6. Un-holster weapon
7. Load Weapon
8. Unload weapon from the holster
9. Clear any malfunctions
10. In battery reload
11. Out of battery speed reload

If the firearm is a revolver, the learning activity shall minimally include the following techniques to safely and effectively manipulate the revolver in both the left and right hand:

1. Render the weapon safe
 2. Open cylinder
 3. Close cylinder
 4. Holster weapon
 5. Un-holster weapon
 6. Load/reload revolver with authorized loading device
 7. Clear any malfunctions
- D. The student will participate in a learning activity to reinforce the ability to inspect, clean and properly maintain their service handgun. The activity shall minimally include techniques to:
1. Visually inspect the weapon
 2. Properly clean the weapon
 3. Ensure the weapon is maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications

- E. The student will participate in a learning activity to reinforce the ability to safely and effectively manipulate a shotgun. The activity shall minimally include techniques to:
1. Open the shotgun action and check for rounds
 2. Inspect the functioning of the firing mechanism
 3. Load and unload the shotgun properly when a round has been chambered
 4. Load and unload the shotgun when no round is chambered and the weapon is cocked and uncocked

IX. HOURLY REQUIREMENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Hours</u>
POST Minimum Required Hours	<u>72</u>
Agency Specific Hours	<u>18</u>
Total Instructional Hours	<u>90</u>