

POST RIFLE COURSE

COURSE TITLE:	FIREARMS/TACTICAL RIFLE Includes all shoulder-fired weapons that are not a shotgun
COURSE NUMBER:	32075
COURSE HOURS:	16
COURSE GOAL:	To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a Rifle
AUDIENCE:	Sworn Peace Officers, including Level I and Level II Reserve Officers who are being introduced to a rifle and will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment
NOTE:	Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training mandate to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Under the supervision of a qualified instructor, and using an approved law enforcement rifle, each student will:

- I. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Polices for handling firearms.
- II. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
- III. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
- IV. Demonstrate the ability to properly load, unload, and fire the weapon and to clear malfunctions that might occur with the weapon.
- V. Demonstrate the ability to apply the fundamentals for rifle marksmanship to fire accurately from the prone, kneeling, sitting and standing positions.
- VI. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.

REQUIRED CONTENT

Commission Regulation 1081

- (1) Law Update
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Nomenclature, Specifications/maintenance (care, cleaning & breakdown) and Capabilities
- (5) Dry practice drills (lecture) – skill development
- (6) Tactical Considerations (lecture) - skill development
- (7) Live Fire drills (range) - skill development
- (8) Proficiency testing and Qualification

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. Introduction and Orientation (classroom)

- A. Registration / Orientation
- B. Distribute, sign and discuss Range Safety Rules and associated regulations. Students will fill out top of proficiency standards and sign all other miscellaneous paperwork.
- C. Discuss the role of the Patrol Rifle in the urban patrol environment.
 1. The patrol rifle compared to the handgun and shotgun.
 - a. Advantages, disadvantages, and typical applications.
- D. Discuss the role of the MP5 submachine gun in the urban environment
 1. The MP5 compared to the patrol rifle, handgun and shotgun.

II. Laws and Agency Policy (classroom)

- A. Penal Code section 32610(b)
 1. Possession of Within Scope of Employment
- B. Penal Code section 33220(b)
 1. Training requirement
- C. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
 1. Use of Force options
 2. Department Policy, liability, public perception and oversight of use. (Outside agencies will be instructed to read, review and be familiar with their agency policy regarding the patrol rifle).
- D. Law Update
 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
 2. Graham vs. Conner

III. Safety and Range Rules (classroom and range)

- A. The Four Basic Safety Rules include
 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.
 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.
 4. Always be sure of your target and beyond.
- B. Range Rules
 1. After weapons have been grounded, and the line has been called safe by an instructor do not touch the weapon until all students are back from their targets, and the instructor has given the okay.
 2. If a problem arises on the line, raise your non-gun-hand to summon an instructor.

IV. Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities (classroom)

- A. Nomenclature (Rifle)
 1. Front and Rear Sights
 2. Bolt Catch
 3. Magazine Release
 4. Safety/Selector
 5. Magazine
 6. Sling and Sling Attachments
- A1. Nomenclature (MP5)
 1. Front and Rear Sights
 2. Cocking Lever
 3. Bolt Assembly
 4. Bolt Head Carrier with Recoil Spring Tube
 5. Locking Roller
 6. Locking Piece
 7. Magazine and Magazine Release
 8. Three Position Safety Selector
- B. Specifications
 1. Type of Weapon
 2. Barrel Length
 3. Overall Length
 4. Caliber
 5. Magazine Capacity
 6. Weight (empty)
 7. Type of Sights
 8. Approximate Muzzle Velocity

- C. Capabilities
 - 1. Maximum Range
 - 2. Maximum Effective Range
 - a. Effective range (with optics) 0-600 yards
 - 3. Penetration of Soft Body Armor
 - 4. Full/Semi-Automatic
- D. Ballistics and wound dynamics: Review the principals of trajectory and how they relate to shot placement with the Colt AR-15. Identify the variables affecting penetration of the projectile fired by the AR-15. Capabilities and limitations of the weapon. Effective use during lethal force confrontations.
- E. Identify the principals of how bullet wounds incapacitate suspects.
 - 1. Difference between rifle projectile compared to handgun.
- F. Discussion of ballistics.
 - 1. Effective range (with optics) 0-600 yards
 - 2. Normal urban deployment is within 100 yards.

V. Firearm Care, Disassembly/Assembly, and Maintenance (classroom)

- A. Refer to the manufacturer's care and operation manual.
- B. Discuss proper cleaning and maintenance.
 - 1. Clean from breech to muzzle.
 - 2. Particular attention to bolt groups and chamber areas.
 - 3. Proper lubrication procedures and importance of lubrication to reliable functioning.
 - 4. Demonstrate magazine disassembly and cleaning procedure.
 - 5. Refer to the manufacturer's care and operation manual.

VI. Basic Shooting Skills (Dry Practice Drills (Classroom Lecture)) (range)

- A. Stance/Position
 - 1. Standing
 - 2. Kneeling
 - 3. Sitting
 - 4. Prone
- B. Sight Alignment/Picture
 - 1. Sight Alignment
 - 2. Top of front sight post centered in the rear peep.
 - 3. 100 percent focus is on the top edge of the front sight post. The rear peep and target are blurred.
 - 4. Instructor will illustrate proper sight alignment.
- C. Sight Picture
 - 1. Defined as the relationship of sight alignment to the target.

- D. Trigger Control
 - 1. Emphasize that this is the single most important element.
 - 2. Shooter must apply gradual pressure on the trigger for a surprise trigger break so as to not disturb sight alignment when the shot is made.
- E. Grip/Stock Weld
- F. Breathing
 - 1. Breath must be held at the moment the shot is made.
 - 2. Breathing while firing will cause vertical stringing of shots.
 - 3. Holding breath too long will cause vision to blur and muscles to tremble, so the shot must be made before this happens.
- G. Follow Through
 - 1. Maintain all the elements throughout the shot.
- H. Sling Installation
 - 1. Demonstrate proper sling mounting. How sling is used, weapon retention during immediate action drills and as a carry system only.
- I. Sling mounting
 - 1. Demonstrate how to use and mount various slings and systems.
- J. Grip
 - 1. Dominant hand high on the pistol grip with index finger laying on the side of the frame outside the trigger guard. Thumb on safety lever .
 - 2. Support hand supporting fore end just ahead of magazine well.
 - 3. Pressure: Dominant hand pulls the weapon into the shoulder while the support hand supports and guides the weapon.
- K. Mounting Position
 - 1. The butt-stock is placed in the shoulder pocket. Not the shoulder joint or bicep.
 - 2. Shoulders are slightly bladed and rolled forward. Dominant elbow is bent and support elbow is pointed toward the ground.
 - 3. Cheek is resting on the butt-stock with the head erect.
 - 4. Weapon is stable with dominant hand pulling the weapon into the shoulder, the cheek is welded to the butt-stock, and the support hand is guiding the muzzle.
- L. Stance
 - 1. The officer is standing upright in the F.I. position.
 - 2. Comfortable weight distribution, with an aggressive forward lean.
- M. Use only Semi-automatic fire (Patrol Rifle Only).
- N. Loading / Unloading the Weapon
 - 1. Loading:
 - a. Point the weapon in a safe direction.
 - b. Selector on safe.
 - c. Bolt locked to rear.
 - d. Rotate weapon slightly towards center, and grasp magazine in the support hand.

- e. Insert magazine into the well until seated correctly.
 - f. Release bolt to chamber the first round.
 - 2. Unloading is an administrative procedure:
 - a. Safety on, pointed in a safe direction, finger off trigger.
 - b. Remove magazine.
 - c. Bolt back and locked to rear.
 - d. Visually and physically inspect chamber.
- O. Immediate Action
 - 1. Two types.
 - a. Emergency, no cover = transition to handgun.
 - b. Non-emergency with cover.
 - 2. If Cover is available the officer can drop to one knee and either reload or clear the malfunction.
 - 3. Malfunctions:
 - a. Empty Weapon.
 - b. Failure to feed.
 - c. Failure to eject.
 - d. Double feeds.
 - 4. Speed Reload
 - 5. Tactical Reload

VII. Clearing Malfunctions and Stoppages (range)

- A. In close quarter confrontations, consider immediate transition to the handgun
- B. Failure to fire
 - 1. "Tap, Rack, Assess"
 - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
 - 2. Stove pipe
 - a. Tilt rifle so that ejection port faces the ground
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
 - 3. Feed way stoppages
 - a. Lock the bolt to the rear
 - b. Remove the magazine from the weapon
 - 1. Discard magazine
 - c. Clear live rounds from the receiver and chamber
 - d. Insert a fresh loaded magazine
 - e. Chamber a round
 - f. Obtain sight picture
 - g. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

VIII. Tactical Applications (classroom lecture)

- A. Based on agency guidelines and training
- B. Physical environment
- C. Be aware of cover and concealment
- D. Rifle caliber rounds will penetrate soft body armor...(yours or theirs!).
- E. The Patrol Rifle affords the opportunity to maintain safe distances to adversaries.
- F. The Patrol Rifle affords an increased effective range over the service shotgun and handgun.
- G. The Patrol Rifle affords more accuracy than a service shotgun with a rifled slug.
- H. The Patrol Rifle is easier to load and re-load than a service shotgun.
- I. The Patrol Rifle has a larger ammunition capacity than a service shotgun.
- J. Use of the AR-15 for building containment.
 - 1. Proper distance from building.
 - 2. Weapon discipline.
 - 3. Cover and concealment.
- K. Setting up a perimeter.
 - 1. Identifying sides of the building.
 - 2. Differences between inner vs. outer perimeter.
 - 3. Tactical approach to structure.
- L. Containment and Evacuation.
 - 1. Tactical positions required.
 - 2. Identifying structural features, such as entries and exits.
 - 3. Auxiliary buildings and sheds.
- M. Identifying possible suspects.
 - 1. Evaluate occupant situation.
 - 2. Determine suspects, their weapons, and equipment.
- N. Rules of engagement.
 - 1. Tactical positions: tasks and responsibilities.
 - 2. Role of perimeter officer if resistance is encountered.
- O. Proper Weapon Handling.
 - 1. Muzzle discipline.
 - 2. Communication.

IX. Shooting Decision (range)

- A. Know your abilities and limitations, and those of your weapon.
- B. Exercise fire discipline within agency guidelines and the parameters of applicable State and Federal laws.

X. Skill Development / Live Fire Drills-done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors. (Range)

- A. Dry Firing Exercises
 - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.

2. Dry fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
Instructors will explain the shooting positions, their advantages/disadvantages, and best practical application. The instructors will then demonstrate the shooting positions. The instructors will then ensure the students are able to perform safe, accurate shots while in these different positions.
- B. Live Firing Exercises
1. Zero Weapon - 30 rounds - Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
The instructors will assist the student in getting their rifles to a precise zero through the exercise.
 - a. Zero at 25 yards.
 - i. Demonstrate proper prone position.
 - ii. Fire several 5 shot groups.
 - iii. The instructors will diagnose the targets and determine if any sight adjustments need to be made.
 - iv. The students will then confirm their zero and repeat steps i-iii.
 - b. Group point of aim, point of impact.
 - c. Shoot at 10 yards to see that rounds will hit low due to front sight height. The students will learn about sight off-set and the importance on making sure their barrel is clear of any obstructions before firing.
 - d. Shoot at 50 yards.
 2. Live fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
 - a. Shooting Position Drills - 60 rounds
 - i. These will be done at 25 yards.
 - ii. Students will be shown kneeling, squatting, sitting, prone, rested, and barricade positions and demonstrate proficiency in each one.
- C. Live fire at various distances based on agency mission and environment.
- a. Sling Carry Drills - 30 rounds
 - i. American carry.
 - ii. African carry.
 - iii. Three point sling.
The instructors will explain the difference of the three sling options and their practical application. They will then demonstrate the sling positions and have the student show their proficiency with them.
 - iv. Two point sling (MP5 Only)
 - b. Carrying Positions - 60 rounds
 - i. Low Ready.
 - ii. Eyes - Muzzle -Target.
 - iii. Indoor Carry.
- D. Live fire at multiple targets.
- a. Static Turns Live Fire - 50 rounds
 - i. 90 degree to left.
 - ii. 90 degree to right.
 - iii. 180 degree turn.

The instructors will ensure the students maintain muzzle discipline.

- E. Precision shooting exercises.
 - a. Handgun Transitions - 20 rounds
 - b. Live Fire Distance Shooting - 50 rounds
 - i. Students will demonstrate proficiency in engaging targets from distances of 50 to 200 yards. The student officers will employ the various shooting positions.
- F. Reloading and firing exercises.
 - a. Reload Drills - 80 rounds
 - i. Failure Drills
 - ii. Tactical Reload
 - iii. Speed Reload

The instructors will explain each type of reload, demonstrate the reload, and then ensure the students can perform the reloads. The students will learn the best application for a given scenario.
- G. Malfunction exercises.
 - a. After you pull the trigger and nothing happens, step away from suspects line of fire
 - b. Conduct 10 degree check of your pistol to see the chamber
 - c. For Type one malfunction (student pulls the trigger, but no bullet fires) step off the line of fire, towards cover (simulated on range), slap the magazine to confirm its seated properly, slightly twist the rifle to the right about 45 degrees and perform a power stroke on your charging handle with your support hand, working the bolt to the rear and letting your hand slap your shoulder and get back on target.
 - d. For a Type two malfunction (stovepipe), step off the line of fire, towards cover (simulated on range), twist your rifle about 45 degrees to the right and perform a power stroke on your charging handle, working the bolt to the rear and letting your hand slap your shoulder and get back on target. Or strip the brass out of the ejection port.
 - e. For a Type three malfunction (double feed) step off the line of fire, towards cover (simulated on range), lock the bolt to the rear. Strip out the magazine in the gun, rack the charging handle three times, insert a fresh magazine, power stoke the rifle and get back on target.
- H. Move and fire exercises.
 - a. Shooting on the move - 100 rounds
 - i. Duckwalk forward
 - ii. Duckwalk backwards
 - iii. Movement side to side
 - b. Sling Carry Drills - 30 rounds
 - i. American carry .
 - ii. African carry.
 - iii. Three point sling.
 - c. Carrying Positions - 60 rounds
 - i. Low Ready.
 - ii. Eyes - Muzzle -Target.
 - iii. Indoor Carry.

- I. Close quarter tactical shooting.
 - a. Close Quarter Drills - 50 rounds
 - i. Movement in tight quarters
 - ii. Weapon retention

- XI. Burst Shooting Drills (MP5 Only)
 - A. Three Yard Static shooting
 - a. Failure Drills – 15 rounds
 - B. Five Yard Static shooting
 - a. Failure Drills – 15 rounds
 - b. Center Mass Drills – 10 rounds
 - C. Seven Yard Static Drills
 - a. Failure Drills – 15 rounds
 - b. Center Mass Drills – 10 rounds
 - c. 90 degree turns – 18 rounds
 - D. Ten Yard Static Drills
 - a. Failure Drills – 15 rounds
 - b. Headshot Drills – 5 rounds
 - E. Move and Fire Exercises
 - a. Shooting on the move – 100 rounds
 - i. Forward Walk
 - ii. Backward Walk
 - iii. Angled forward and Retreat Walk

- XII. **Proficiency Testing and Qualifications (range)**
 - A. The student officer will shoot a qualifying score on a course of fire shooting from standing, kneeling and the prone positions.
 - 1. Must shoot 90 or better.
 - 2. Students must demonstrate safe handling of rifles during the class for all stages.
 - 3. All stages will start from the low ready position.
 - a. Stage #1 : 50 yards - On command, the shooter will assume the prone position and fire a controlled pair in 8 seconds. 6 times =12 rounds.
 - b. Stage #2: 25 yards - On command from kneeling position, 1 controlled pair in 3 seconds. 6 times =12 rounds.
 - c. Stage #3: 15 yards - Single head shots in 3 seconds. 4 times = 4 rounds.
 - d. Stage #4: 10 yards - Failure drill (two rounds to body, one to head) in 3.5 seconds. 4 times =12 rounds.
 - e. Stage #5: 7 yards - Failure drill in 3 seconds. 4 times =12 rounds.
 - f. Stage #6: 5 yards - Failure drill in 2.5 seconds. 4 times =12 rounds.
 - g. Stage #7: 3 yards - Weapon retention, failure drill. From

the underarm position, fire a pair to the body, step back and fire 1 round to the head. 4 times =12 rounds.

MP5 Only Burst Mode

- h. Stage #8: 10 yards – Failure Drill (two rounds to the body, one to head). 2 times = 6 rounds.
- i. Stage #9: 10 yards – Headshot: Single headshot in 3 seconds. 2 times = 2 rounds.
- j. Stage #10: 5 to 3 yards Linear Movement: Begin at 5 yard line, on the command, shooters will move forward to three yard line and fire failure drill. Repeat moving backward from 3 to 5 yard line. 2 times = 12 rounds.
- k. Stage #11: 5 to 3 yards Angled Movement: Begin at 5 yard line, on the command, shooters will move forward to 3 yard line at a 45 degree angle and fire a failure drill. Repeat moving backward at an angle to original position. Completed to both left and right. 4 times = 12 rounds.

IX. Course Evaluation and Critique (classroom)

- A. Student critiques
- B. Hand out certificates