

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE  
REGULAR BASIC COURSE  
**LEARNING DOMAIN 35**  
FIREARMS/CHEMICAL AGENTS

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 every firearm as if they are loaded
  - 2. Always keep the firearm pointed in the safest possible direction
  - 3. Always keep the finger off the trigger until ready to fire the firearm
  - 4. Be sure of the target and what is beyond it before firing the firearm
- B. Explain basic safety guidelines to be followed at a firing range
  - 1. Listen carefully to range staff
  - 2. Request clarification when unsure
  - 3. Wear eye and ear protection
  - 4. Keep firearms holstered until instructed
  - 5. Barrel pointed safe direction
  - 6. Raise non-shooting hand to ask questions
  - 7. Never go in front of the firing line without permission
  - 8. Finger on trigger only just prior to firing
  - 9. Don't pick up dropped items without permission
  - 10. Stop firing on command
  - 11. Dry fire only as instructed
- C. Describe the safety precautions for proper storage of firearms
  - 1. Keep firearms inaccessible to children or other unauthorized persons
  - 2. Store ammunition separately from firearms
  - 3. Secure in safe place and locked container
  - 4. PC 25100 criminal storage

41. 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

#### 42. 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 line as if live
  - 2. Use only type/caliber recommended by manufacturer
  - 3. Never fire at a threat you don't intend to hit
  - 4. Avoid dropping/hitting live rounds
  - 5. Learn sound and feel of live rounds
  - 6. Replace on regular basis
  - 7. Never use ammo with higher pressure than standard for the firearm being used
- B. Describe the primary components of firearm cartridges
  - 1. Case
  - 2. Primer
  - 3. Powder
  - 4. Bullet
- 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. Case
2. Primer
3. Powder
4. Wad
5. Load

E. Define shot pattern as it relates to shotgun shells

1. Diameter of circle in which shot will fit
2. Pattern size increases with distance
3. Average spread=1 inch per yard

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

1. 10 yards = 10 inches
2. 20 yards = 20 inches
3. 30 yards = 30 inches

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

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

#### 43. 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. Barrel
2. Frame
3. Sights
4. Cylinder
5. Cylinder release
6. Firing pin
7. Grip
8. Magazine

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

1. Solvent
2. Lubricant
3. Cleaning patches
4. Personal protection materials.
5. Other: q-tips
6. Screwdriver
7. Bore brush
8. Cylinder brush
9. Cleaning brush
10. Cleaning rod

11. Patch holder
12. Small container
13. Clean, safe, well ventilated
14. Positive state of mind
15. Assemble supplies
16. Unload firearm and magazine
17. Ammo away from cleaning location

C. Apply routine procedures for cleaning firearms

1. Render weapon safe
2. Field strip
3. Clean
4. Lubricate
5. Reassemble
6. Clean magazine
7. Function check

44. 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. Defeat retention; master grip
2. Lift, clear holster
3. Extend toward target or to low ready
4. Finger off trigger; out of guard
5. De-cock if necessary
6. Offhand away
7. Muzzle toward holster
8. Thumb over hammer/slide
9. Seat in holster; release grip
10. Refasten retention

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. Night vision
  2. Limited depth perception
  3. Limited target ID
  4. Flash disorientation
  5. Officer limitations
- E. Describe conditions an officer may face when in a combat situation
1. Rapid threat assessment
  2. Shoot/ no-shoot decisions
  3. Multiple targets
  4. Moving targets
  5. Varying target distances
  6. Multiple shooting positions
  7. Movement
  8. Use of cover and/or concealment
- F. Describe possible physiological and psychological responses an officer may experience under the stress of a combat situation
1. Fight or flight
  2. Loss of fine motor skills
  3. Auditory changes
  4. Tunnel vision
  5. Color distortion
  6. Time distortion
  7. Physical detachment
  8. Other
  9. Fear
  10. Anger
  11. Post combat stress
- 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 on-gong training
  7. Support groups

#### 45. 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. Used solely for self-defense
  2. No felony/assault convictions
  3. Not a narcotic addict

4. Not selling/furnishing to minor
  5. Aerosol spray < 2.5 ounces
  6. Minors
  7. Aircraft
- B. Describe four methods used to deploy chemical agents
1. Aerosol
  2. Fogging
  3. Pyrotechnic
  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. Carry in an area easy to access yet minimizes accidental discharge
  2. Hold right side up
  3. Conceal until about to deploy
  4. Safety mechanism
  5. Deploy at face of target
- E. Apply decontamination procedures that should be followed after a chemical agent has been used
1. Eyes
  2. Skin
  3. Nose
  4. Chest
- 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-chlorobenzyl Dene-malononitrile)
- G. Demonstrate proper procedures peace officers should follow when using gas masks, to include:
1. Inspection and proper fit
  2. Cleaning and storage

#### 46. 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** that 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** 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.

#### 47. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- A. Each student will participate in a simulation that requires exposure to a non-lethal, 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. Unholster 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. Unholster 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

Description	Hours
POST Minimum Required Hours	<u>72</u>
Agency Specific Hours	<u>87</u>
Total Instructional Hours	<u>159</u>