

Basic M4 Carbine Course

Program of Instruction (POI)

Day 1

Course Overview

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Course objective
- Classroom set up and etiquette
- Safety & range rules

Equipment Check

- Instructor led check of student equipment to ensure safe and serviceable
 - Carbines
 - Magazines
 - Magazine carriers
 - Ammunition
 - Eye & hearing protection

Lesson 1

- Positive Control
- External and Internal Nomenclature
- Cycle of Operation
- Magazines

Lesson 2

- Safety
- Disassembly
- Cleaning
- Maintenance
- Reassembly
- Function Check

Lesson 3

- Fundamentals of Combat Marksmanship
- Firing Positions
- Loading
- Unloading

Day 2

Lesson 4

- Emergency Reload Drill
- Immediate Action Drill

Lesson 5

- Malfunction Drill
- Tactical Reload Drills

Range 1

- 25M Zero all weapons combined with reloading drills as required

Day 3

Range 2

- 25M Zero all weapons combined with reloading drills as required or
- 25M Firing from prone, kneeling, combat crouch and standing positions with reloading drills as required

Range 3

- 25M Timed drills firing from prone, kneeling, combat crouch and standing positions with reloading drills as required

Day 4

Range 4

- 25M Facing movement drills with reloading drills as required

Range 5

- Various distance drills from 15M to 3M with reloading drills as required

Day 5

Range 6

- Individual move and shoot with reloading drills as required

Range 7

- Battle Buddy move and shoot with reloading drills as required

Review & Graduation

- Instructor & student review of week
- Clarifications
- Recommendations
- Student course critique forms
- Issue certificates of completion

Administrative Instructions

Assumptions

The following assumptions are made in conducting this firearms training course.

- All students are novices to firearms and the M4 Carbine in particular.
- The course will not teach advanced techniques but concentrate on the basic entry level standards.
- The maximum number of students is twenty with one primary instructor and four assistant instructors.
- Instructors are fully qualified and experienced to conduct this training and teach the subject matter.
- Students will provide their own M4 Carbines, ammunition and required ancillary equipment which will be checked by the instructors.
- A list of minimum required equipment will be provided to all students prior to the course.
- A furnished classroom will be available for Day 1 and for the morning of Day 2.
- A standard 25M gallery range will be available for the afternoon of Day 2 and Day's 3, 4, and 5.
- Range supplies and targets will be provided at the range.
- A list of range supplies and stores will be provided prior to the course.
- Security of weapons, ammunition and equipment is the responsibility of the student.

Student Equipment

At a minimum, students must be equipped with the following for the course and it should be available to them each day.

- M4 Carbine in 5.56mm or .223 caliber, with sling attached. If optical or reticle type sights are fitted, student should bring the operators manual with zeroing data.
- At least three (3) 30 round M4 magazines.
- One (1) magazine carrier suitable for holding at least two (2) magazines.
- 500 rounds of ammunition for the M4 Carbine to be used (5.56mm or .223). Students will fire approximately 350 rounds during training, 60 rounds used for remedial and zeroing difficulties, the remaining 90 rounds will be loaded into three magazines as duty/operational/ready ammunition for departure.
- Eye and hearing protection specifically designed for firearms training.
- Water bottle or hydration system.
- Ball cap with peak.
- Gloves (if to be worn carrying/using the weapon).
- Environmental protections such as sunscreen.
- Inclement weather clothing.
- Range suitable clothing or work clothing.

Student Responsibilities

In addition to having the required equipment, student must bring the right attitude. Range and classroom etiquette and discipline will be enforced for the safety and benefit of all. Any student intentionally not adhering to the rules, especially the Cardinal Safety Rules, or disregarding an instructor's directions will be asked to leave. All rules and required etiquette will be clarified on Day 1.

Instructor Equipment

In addition to the same equipment required by the students, instructors will require the following:

- 1 X Civilian 30 round M4 Magazine (Magpul)
- 1 X 20 round M4 magazines
- 1 X 60 round M4 magazine
- 1 X 50 round M4 drum magazine
- 3 X Stripper Clips loaded with 10 dummy rounds each
- 1 X Stripper Clip Loader or spoon
- 1 X USGI bandolier
- 25 X dummy 5.56mm rounds
- 1 X M4 Carbine cleaning kit complete with solvents, oil and sight tools
- 1 X spotting scope/binoculars
- 1 X whistle
- Certificate paper for class certificates (Lead instructor only)

Assistant Instructor (AI) Responsibilities

Along with being the principal safety officers, AI'S are the primary coaches for all training and must take the time to address each and every student's performance regardless of competency. Coaching tips and recommendations should be passed on to all students. The student to AI ratio should be kept manageable at no more than one AI to every five students.

AI'S are the eyes and ears of the primary instructor and should communicate constantly to ensure the primary is allowing enough time for AI'S to coach effectively. The training, especially the live fire range, has sufficient time built in to facilitate coaching. AI'S must be familiar with all techniques being taught to avoid contradiction.

Firearms training now includes the danger of intentional harm from attendees. Prudent firearms trainers now employ an instructor as a Guardian Angel providing security for the entire group. At least one instructor should be designated as the Guardian Angel for the training. This duty can be rotational but should not be a collateral duty. The Guardian Angel is responsible for watching the group for an insider attack. The position also acts as the safety officer, useful for answering the observant student's questions. The Guardian Angel must be armed at all times, including the classroom where the weapon must be concealed and students unaware of the fact.

Logistic Support Requirements

The following logistical support is required:

- Classroom. See classroom layout. AV equipment is not required.
- Live fire range. Twenty-five-yard gallery type range is minimum required. Range with one- or two-hundred-yard firing lines is preferred. Barricades for use as simulated cover will be needed for last two range days.
- Steel targets of any type and paper zero and combat targets together with patching or marking supplies.
- Transportation, meals and lodging are the responsibility of the sponsoring agency or individual.