COURSE OUTLINE

JUST 317 – POLICE TACTICAL SEMINAR

Prepared By: Paul R. Bowdre
A. **TITLE:** Police Tactical Seminar

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 317

C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No

E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring/Fall

G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab each week

H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course acquaints students with the methods and techniques that are recognized by law enforcement professionals as necessary for success in a law enforcement career. Students learn mental as well as physical techniques that are needed to tactically handle situations. Issues of officer safety are identified and discussed. The focus is on an analytical understanding of the tactical challenges faced by U.S. law enforcement officers.

I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
   a. Pre-requisite(s): Introduction to Criminal Justice (JUST 101) and completion of 60 semester credits or permission of the instructor
   b. Co-requisite(s): None

J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):** By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

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<th>Course Objective</th>
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| 1. Identify the most commonly recognized tactical considerations for officers. | 2. Critical Thinking  
 3. Professional Competence |
| 2. Analyze tactical situations to identify the most appropriate strategies and techniques to resolve them. | 2. Critical Thinking  
 3. Professional Competence |
| 3. Contrast tactics for response to an active shooter with more conventional tactics for high-risk calls for service. | 2. Critical Thinking  
 3. Professional Competence |
| 4. Demonstrate awareness of officer safety considerations in handling various types of tactical operations, i.e., building searches, barricaded subjects, armed encounters, vehicle stops, and domestic violence. | 3. Professional Competence |
| 5. Explain use of force considerations. | 1. Communication  
 2. Critical Thinking |
6. Analyze the relative merit of physical restraint tactics that may be used on an aggressive subject.

K. **TEXTS:**


L. **REFERENCES:**


M. **EQUIPMENT:**

- Technology enhanced classroom
- Simulated firearms and edged weapons
- Training handcuffs

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Papers
- Participation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**
I. Overview of Tactical Considerations
   A. Balancing of Safety Concerns with Public Expectations
   B. Review of Officer Death, Assault, and Injury Statistics
      a. Urban versus Rural Variance
   C. Review of Use of Force Statistics
   D. Review of Strategic, Tactical, and Operational Law Enforcement Operations

II. Officer Safety Issues
   A. Review of Models for Officer Safety Awareness
   B. Officer Safety Areas of Focus
      a. Equipment
         1. Safety Equipment
         2. Weapons
         3. Additional Equipment concerns
      b. Planning and Training
      c. Communication
      d. Survival Triangle
         1. Fitness
         2. Mindset
         3. Tactics

III. Known Risk (High Risk) and Unknown Risk Tactics
   A. Frequency of Employing Various tactics
   B. Review of Laws Pertaining to Use of Force

IV. Wellness
   A. Physical Fitness
      a. Power
      b. Endurance
      c. Flexibility
      d. Lifestyle Concerns
         1. Alcohol and Drugs
         2. Diet
         3. Sleep
   B. Mental Fitness (Mindset)
      a. The Cooper Color Code
      b. Grossman Research on Use of Force

V. Tactics for Response to Call
   A. Domestic Disturbance (Violent Acts)
   B. Burglary / Prowler
   C. Robbery

VI. Vehicle Stops
   A. Known Risks
   B. Unknown Risks
VII. High Speed Vehicle Operations  
   A. Review of Laws and Policies Related to High Speed Vehicle Operations  
   B. Review of Crash Statistics  
   C. Review of Tactical Driving Techniques  

VIII. Weapons / Use of Force  
   A. Lethal Weapons / Tools and Legal Considerations  
   B. Less Than Lethal Weapons / Tools and Legal Considerations  

IX. Weaponless Defense  
   A. Overall of Control Tactics  
   B. Overall of Defense Tactics  
   C. Tactics / Weapon Transition  

X. Special Consideration Incidents  
   A. Active Shooter Incidents  
   B. Barricaded and Hostage Incidents  
   C. Terrorism-related Incidents  

XI. Officer Involved Shootings  
   A. Factors Contributing to Officer Involved Shootings  
   B. Tactics Employed During Officer Involved Shootings  
   C. The Aftermath of an Officer Involved Shootings  

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:  

I. Mental Aspects of Policing  
   A. Mental Conditioning  
   B. Tactical Thinking  

II. Tactical Policing  
   A. Building Searches  
   B. Barricaded Subjects  
   C. Armed Robbery Response  
   D. Vehicle Stops  
   E. Domestic Disturbances  

III. Use of Force and Physical Control  
   A. Use of Force Continuum  
   B. Case Law Related to Use of Force  
   C. Physical Restraints Used by Law Enforcement Professionals  
   D. Tactical Handcuffing  
   E. Less Than Lethal Weapons  
   F. Firearms Safety and the Tactical Use of Firearms