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Basic/Intermediate Pistol, Personal & Home Defense Course Outline

Welcome to Blue Mesa Shooting Academy & our "Basic Pistol and Personal Defense Class." A carefully developed shooting course consisting of practical pistol shooting theory & practice, it is designed primarily for beginning & intermediate students. Every effort is made to provide a comfortable learning environment & experience for everyone, especially the ladies. It is fun, informative and practical. Colorado gun laws, self defense tactics, awareness, preparedness & home defense are covered. We also cover such topics as shooting techniques, skill, firearm presentation, and carry options, but, and just as important, we will spend a significant amount of time on when to shoot and when not to shoot. The class will consist of approximately 30 hours of training, & will be enjoyable and informative, but strict emphasis will be placed on safety at all times. An inexpensive text-book is required for the class. Class tuition is \$225. per student. **While the Instructor is NRA certified & course completion exceeds training requirements for your CCW permit, this is not an official NRA course.** This is a more extensive course consisting of 30 hours of training. The official NRA course is 18 hours.

Four very important gun rules which we subscribe to very religiously and will follow to the letter are:

1. Always treat all guns as if they are loaded.
2. Never point a gun at anything you are not willing to destroy.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
4. Always be certain of your target.

All firearms are to be brought to class unloaded and are to remain that way. Classes will run approximately 2 or 3 hours each and will meet one night per week for a total of 8 weeks. There will be 3 range sessions on weekends lasting for approximately 3 to 4 hours each, one of which will be an afternoon & night shoot. Students will need to supply their own firearm, holster, gun belt, additional magazines (or speed loaders), and ammunition. We can special order tactical flashlights, and accessories at a reasonable prices. We have made arrangements with Colorado West Tool Sport & Pawn to special order guns at competitive prices should you need a new firearm. Kimber pistols (and other brands) are available from Jerry's Outdoor Sports 507 30 Rd. Grand Junction, 81504 245-1502.

Topics to be covered & tentative schedule

Session 1

Introductions and orientation.
Discussion of "Predators"
Introduction to mind set.
General Discussion of Various CCW Topics
Weapon storage

Session 2

Mind set discussions (additional)—Introduction to color code awareness system
Video "Jeff Cooper color code awareness system"—Discussion
Introduction to drawing techniques (1,2,3,4,5 Presentation)—Use of Front Sight —Trigger Control

Session 3

Review and elaboration of color code system

Video "Principles of Home Defense"

Discussion of various gun types, sizes & calibers, for different uses, concerns and requirements.

Single action vs. double action firearms.

Pistol

Revolver - use only in double action mode for self defense

Discussion of various modern materials used in gun manufacture - blued steel, stainless steel, aluminum, polymer, titanium & scandium

Trigger control — Front Sight—Press Check—Draw Practice

Session 4

Discussion of various types of holsters, (cross draw, strong side, sob [small of back] etc.) different materials - leather, horsehide, sharkskin, snakeskin, & cant vs. straight. Custom, (stronger/more expensive) re-enforced top, color (black, brown, tan) - choose as carefully as your gun

Discussion "Revert to training"

Emphasis on using front sight & sight alignment

Discussion of difference between "cover and. concealment"

Action vs. Reaction

Draw practice

Session 5

Discussion of different bullet types for different requirements or Objectives

Some hollow points tend to clog up on clothing and do not expand properly

Pass around samples of various bullet types

Trigger control & practice

Double taps/hammers

Malfunction Clearing — Tap, Rack, Bang - Jams - Stovepipe clearing—Limp Wristing

Draw practice

Session 6

Proper use of flashlights

Tactical reloading & Speed reloading

Revolver reloading (Normal & using speed loaders)

Discussion of "letting gun run dry"

Shooting from kneeling positions & from prone positions Draw Practice

Session 7

CCW class. This might very well be described as the heart of the course. It will run a full 3 hours. We will provide handouts & have an extensive discussion of two video presentations. Several different shoot/no shoot scenarios will be discussed. Colorado CCW laws will be covered.

Session 8

Rotate Shooting 45 Degrees Left & Right—180 Degree
Discussion of differences between N.D. & A.D.
Discussion of various hostage situations - Shoot — don't shoot — scenarios
Introduction to room clearing — Never Try Alone!
Techniques
 Cutting the pie
 Do not rub against wall
 Levels (up and down)
Draw practice using Television Simulation

Range Session 1

We run a hot range. Magazines may be loaded at this point, but no rounds are to be chambered without direct supervision of instructors or designated assistants. Revolvers are to be unloaded until told otherwise. Emphasis on gun safety and safe handling techniques will be strictly enforced. Exercises will consist of the following:

3 yard line

Draw and fire accurately one or two rounds at a time as per instructions. Whistle will designate the “go signal” This will be repeated several times.

7 yard line

Same as above

Discussion of any problems & concerns. Accuracy, not speed is the objective of this session/exercise.

Range Session 2

Safety concerns same as for session 1. Exercises will be as follows:

7 yard line

Draw and fire accurately as directed
Tactical & speed reloads
90 degree turns, right & left
180 degree turns

Failure Drills Practice

15 yard line

Draw and fire accurately as directed
Shooting from kneeling position
 Begin placing more emphasis on speed while maintaining accuracy

Repeat above exercises & practice

Practice double taps / accelerated pairs / hammers

Failure Drills Practice

Range Session 3

Introduction to "Real Life Tactical Shooting"

Meet in afternoon at classroom for Gun cleaning demonstration, and student "hands on practice."

Move to range

Review & practice all the above shooting exercises

Clearing techniques

Introduction to "Shooting W/ Movement" Four Direction Movement & Diagonal Movement.

Dinner at nearby restaurant

Introduction to movement (forward, backward & diagonal)

Introduction to shooting from cover and concealment

Night shoot using flashlights & movement

MISSED CLASSES

We realize that life sometimes gets in the way of our special interests and occasionally one may encounter a conflict & have to miss class. At the same time, our fee schedule is based on a reasonable return for time invested. As a result, we allow one missed class at no charge. After that we will charge a make up fee of \$25.00 per student for each missed class. Any missed classes must be made up to receive a certificate of completion.

Definitions

Tactics - any maneuver or adroit management to gain an objective

Tactics short definition - **CHEAT**

Adroit synonyms - skillful, expert, practiced, able, clever, adept, competent, or accomplished

IWB - Type of holster (Inside waistband)

SOB - Type of holster (Small of Back)

Cover - Hidden from view using something that will stop a bullet E.G. Rock, tree, etc.

Concealment - Hidden from view using something that will not stop a bullet E.G. Grass

Misfire - Cartridge does not fire after primer is struck by the firing pin.

Hangfire - a perceptible delay in the ignition of a cartridge after primer has been struck by the firing pin

Squib load - less than normal pressure or bullet velocity after ignition of the cartridge.

Compliant - doing exactly as instructed (ordered)

"Laws that forbid the carrying of arms...disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes...Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."

Thomas Jefferson