

**Hercules Police Department Patrol Rifle Operator Course**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

**COURSE GOAL:**

Officers participating in the HPD patrol carbine program must possess the training and skills necessary to safely and effectively deploy these weapons systems for duty use. After successful completion of this course, Officers will be able to safely and effectively deploy the AR-15 rifle for duty use in an urban environment. Officers will be trained in matters of HPD policy regarding the use of force/deadly force, their role as a patrol carbine operator, cleaning and maintenance of their assigned firearm, as well as the specific tactical and technical skills necessary to successfully complete the course.

**Officers will review Penal Code section 33220(b), specifically Possession of short –barreled shotguns or short-barreled rifles for use when on duty and the use of such weapons is authorized by the agency and is within the course and scope of the officer’s duties. Officers desiring to carry short-barreled shotguns or short-barreled rifles must complete this course. This course must meet the minimum requirements of Section 1081 of the POST Administrative Manual as listed below. Each requirement has been annotated by its number at the margin of the course section covering it:**

**Rifle Course - Part II - 16 Hours [Long/Short Barrel, Penal Code section 33220(b)]**

- (1) Law Update
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Nomenclature, Specifications, and Capabilities
- (5) Firearm Care, Breakdown, and Cleaning
- (6) Tactical Considerations
- (7) Skill Development and Qualification

Officers will be tested both by written examination as well as technical qualification (FAQ). Officers will also be evaluated on their progress throughout the course by the instructors.

This course will provide the trainee with the necessary knowledge and basic techniques of deploying and operating the tactical rifle and lethal force topics required by POST. The trainee will develop the necessary tactical knowledge and skills to survive and win a realistic lethal force encounter with a patrol rifle.

**Day 1:**

- A. Classroom – Basic overview and operation

1. Overview of Patrol Carbine program
    1. Role of Patrol Carbine Operator
  2. Review of Penal Code Section 33220(b) (1)
    1. Possession of short –barreled shotguns or short-barreled rifles for use when on duty and the use is authorized by the agency and is within the course and scope of the officer’s duties.
    2. Officers desiring to carry short-barreled shotguns or short-barreled rifles must complete this course.
  3. HPD policy review: Use of Force Issues, Agency Mission (2)
    1. Department Policies 200, 204, 300, 312
  4. Use-of-force considerations (2)
  5. Patrol Carbine weapon system(s)
    1. Nomenclature (4)
    2. Basic operation
    3. Disassembly and reassembly-Breakdown (5)
    4. Care and cleaning/preventative maintenance (5)
- B. Range - Familiarization-Safety Issues and sighting in (3)
1. Familiarization firing
    - Iron sights
      1. Optics
  2. Sighting in (Zeroing)
    1. Iron sights
    2. Optics
- C. Lunch
- D. Range/classroom
1. Fundamental skills
    1. Stance
    2. Sight alignment
    3. Trigger control
  2. Intro to position shooting
    1. Standing
    2. Kneeling
    3. Sitting
    4. Prone
    5. Unconventional shooting positions
- E. Classroom – Weapon Cleaning (5)
1. Supervised cleaning of weapon system
    1. No live ammunition in classroom
    2. Group/supervised disassembly and cleaning
    3. Group/supervised re-assembly and function check

## **Day 2:**

### A. Classroom – Ballistics and Perimeters

1. Review of Day 1
2. Ballistics discussion
3. Perimeter containment discussion

### B. Range

1. Position shooting drills
  1. Standing
  2. Kneeling
  3. Sitting
  4. Prone
  5. Unconventional shooting positions
2. Multiple threat engagement
3. Intermediate distance shooting
  1. Stationary targets
  2. Moving targets

### C. Dinner

### D. Range

1. Tactical movement/Tactical Considerations (6)
  1. Firing on the move
2. Barricade shooting
  1. Cover/concealment
3. Low light shooting
  1. Weapon mounted vs. hand held lights

### E. Classroom – Weapon Cleaning (5)

1. Supervised cleaning of weapon system
  1. No live ammunition in classroom
  2. Group/supervised disassembly and cleaning
  3. Group/supervised re-assembly and function check

## **Day 3:**

### A. Classroom

1. Review of Day 2
2. Long distance shooting discussion
  1. Distance estimation/adjustments
  2. Leads for moving targets

3. Weapon transition discussion
  1. Immediate action
  2. Malfunction clearances
  3. Reloading (Out of battery and tactical)
4. Weapon retention discussion
  1. Close quarters grip
  2. Butt stock shoulder roll
  3. Defensive countermeasures

B. Range

1. Intro to long distance shooting
  1. Stationary targets
2. Weapon transitions
  1. Immediate action drills
  2. Malfunction clearance drills
  3. Reloading drills (Out of battery and tactical)

C. Lunch

D. Range

1. Qualification (7)
2. Tactical scenarios
  1. Tactical movement
  2. Threat discrimination
  3. Multiple threats
  4. Cover/concealment

E. Classroom – Weapon Cleaning (5)

1. Final Exam (7)
2. Cleaning of weapon system
  1. No live ammunition in classroom
  2. Un-supervised disassembly and cleaning
  3. Un-supervised re-assembly and function check
  4. Inspection by instructor
3. Conclusion/Evaluation/Dismissal