

**COURSE:** OAL216M Advanced Firearms Training  
**CREDIT:** 1 Semester Hour  
**SEMESTER:** Fall 2025, Session 2  
**TIME:** TBD – Please check the Canvas Portal for this class  
**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Teddy D. Bitner  
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## I. DESCRIPTION

Course will provide students with the fundamentals of firearms and the basics of the sport. Course content includes techniques and safety for handguns, shotguns, and rifles. Students will experience a shooting experience off campus as a capstone to the course (Fee: \$50).

*This is an in-class modular course (not available online) which requires hand-on manipulation and qualification with firearms consistent with safety requirements and Missouri statutes associated with handguns. The course is divided into three sections: Pre-session requirements; in-class requirements (dates in the Tentative Class Schedule later in this syllabus); and post-session requirements.*

## II. OBJECTIVES

- A. The purpose of this course is to acquaint you with the basics of safely handling and shooting a pistol, a rifle, and a shotgun.
1. Articulate the basic safety rules for handling a firearm consistent with biblical expectations for consideration of other human lives (PLO 2, 4, 5) (Assessments A, B).
  2. Demonstrate the safe handling and shooting a firearm consistent with biblical expectations for consideration of other human lives. (PLO 2,4,5) (Assessments A,B)
  3. Acquire an understanding of the importance of firearms safety and everyday applications consistent with biblical expectations for consideration of other human lives (PLO 2,4,5) (Assessments A,B,C,D,E)
- B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student:
1. Identify and demonstrate adherence to the general safety rules through the course consistent with biblical expectations for consideration of other human lives. (PLO 2,4,5) (Assessments A,B,C,D, E)

2. Identify and demonstrate proper shooting positions for each type of firearms with commitment to professional attitudes and development. (PLO 2) (Assessments A,B)
3. Identify and demonstrate basic shooting fundamentals with commitment to professional attitudes and development. (PLO 2) (Assessments A,B,C)
4. Demonstrate the ability to safely qualify with a pistol, a rifle, and a shotgun on an active range with commitment to professional attitudes and development. (PLO2) (Assessments A).

### III. REQUIREMENTS (ASSESSMENTS)

#### A. Qualification. Students will be required to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to qualify on the Los Angeles Police Department Qualification Course with a handgun.
2. Qualify on the US Marine Corps MEU/SOC course with a rifle.
3. Demonstrate the ability to safely use a shotgun on a live fire range.

#### B. Examination. Students will take a written examination at the end of the course.

#### C. Discussion questions. You will attend or watch the lecture and answer discussions questions. You will comment on at least one classmate's post.

#### D. Pre-session reflection paper. The pre-session reflection paper will be due as indicated in Canvas. Format for the pre-session paper is the American Psychological Association 7<sup>th</sup> Edition [Student Paper format](#) The paper will comprise the following elements:

- a. Discussion how familiar you are with firearms (handgun, rifle, and shotgun) (250 words)
- b. Discussion of why you decided to take the course (250 words)
- c. Discussion of your expectations for the course (250 words).

#### E. Post-session reflection paper. The post-session reflection paper will be due as indicated in Canvas. Format for the post-session paper is the American Psychological Association Publication Manual (7<sup>th</sup> Edition) [Student Paper format](#). The paper will comprise the following elements:

- a. Discussion of how comfortable you are handling a firearm after experiencing the qualification process (250 words).
- b. Description of the importance of the safe handling of firearms in everyday life (250 words).
- c. One or two things you learned from the course (250 words).
- d. Recommendations for improvement of the course (150 words).

#### F. Special requirements.

- a. Students may provide their own firearm. Required equipment includes:
  - i. Handgun – holster, two magazines, and a magazine holder.
  - ii. Rifle – Two magazines and a rifle sling.
- b. Students must provide their own ammunition for the course. Minimum ammunition requirements are: 200 rounds of handgun ammunition, 100 rounds of rifle ammunition, and 25 rounds of shotgun ammunition.
- c. Semi-automatics and revolvers handguns up to .45 caliber are acceptable, however, magnum rounds (specifically .327 magnum; .357 magnum; .44 magnum, or 10mm) may not be allowed depending on the range. Semi-automatic rifles (AR-15, AK-47, or similar rifles) work best for the course. For shotguns, pump-action or semi-automatic shotguns work best for the course.
- d. Dorm students must coordinate with the instructor for firearm and ammunition storage during the course, as firearms are not authorized in the dormitory.
- e. Students who do not have access to firearms for the course should coordinate with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the qualification date so that an adequate number of firearms will be available for practice and qualification.
- f. For students wishing to use the instructor's firearms, plan on purchasing 22 long rifle ammunition for the handgun and rifle portions of the class and 12 gauge ammunition for the shotgun.
- g. NO LIVE AMMUNITION WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM AT ANY TIME!!

#### IV. METHODS

- A. Conduct of in-class sessions will include a combination of lecture, demonstration, and performance. Student interaction during the conduct of each class session is strongly encouraged.
- B. Grading and Attendance. You may miss up the equivalent of one week of class without penalty. If you miss more than one week, your grade will be lowered by one letter grade. If you miss more than two weeks of class, your grade will be lowered by one additional letter grade (a total of two letter grades).

In computing the final grade, I will weigh the work of the course in the following proportions:

Class Participation	10%
Papers	25%
Final Exam	20%
Range Qualification	20%
Discussion Questions	25%

## V. TEXTBOOKS

Rick Sapp. *The NRA step-by-step guide to gun safety: How to care for, use, and store your firearms*. Fairfax, VA: National Rifle Association, 2016. ISBN: 978-1510714052. Retail price is \$19.99. Used copies may be available from vendors for approximately \$2.37.

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

## VI. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE:

<u>Module</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
1	October 20-24, 2025	Introductions (Discussion Question 0) Discussion Question 1	Sapp, pages 6 to 35
2	October 27-31, 2025	Pre-Session Reflection Paper Discussion Question 2	Sapp, pages 36 to 63
3	November 3-7, 2025	Discussion Question 3	Sapp, pages 64 to 111
4	November 10-14, 2025	Discussion Question 4 Classroom Work (TBD) Range Work (TBD)	Sapp, pages 112 to 139
5	December 1-5, 2025	Post-Session Paper due Discussion Question 5	Sapp, pages 140 to 156
6	December 8-12, 2025	Final Exam Due	No reading assigned

### Special Notes:

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Grades on late assignments will be reduced by 4% for each day the assignment is late.

I will accept late assignments until midnight on the last day of the cycle. I will not accept assignments beyond that point. Students may contact the registrar to apply for additional time to complete the class.

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

All class papers must follow the [American Psychological Association Publication Manual \(7<sup>th</sup> Edition\) Student Paper format](#). An example of the APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition student paper format is at [Purdue OWL](#).