



MOUNTAIN LEADER – COLD WEATHER AND ALPINE OPERATIONS

MOUNTAIN LEADER – COLD WEATHER AND ALPINE OPERATIONS is a 5-day / 40-hour off-the-shelf formal training program that was developed to provide the requisite planning, command and control, and operational skill-sets for organizations that require extended tactical operations in a hostile / non-permissive cold weather and/or mountainous/alpine environment. This course is ideal for government, military, law enforcement, and TEMS organizations who possess the requirement for skill-sets involving the pursuit of fleeing fugitives, counter-drug operations, rural crime investigations, eco-terrorism, immigration/border operations, counter-smuggling, counter-poaching, investigations of militant/separatist organizations, counter-terrorism, and infiltration of emergency response, reconnaissance/surveillance, and sniper/observers.

The program was modeled from training programs of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and Department of Defense (DOD), including the U.S. Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center and the U.S. Army Mountain Warfare School and is among the most comprehensive and progressive tactical training program of its kind found outside of these organizations. Students will operate from a patrol base and participate in a variety of day and night Situational Training Exercises (STXs). STXs are conducted with weapons and full kit (live fire and FX marking cartridges) in order to provide conditions as close to real world as possible, short of actual combat conditions. Graduates of this course will be well qualified to lead, plan, coordinate, train personnel, and conduct extended cold weather and/or mountainous/alpine operations in a hostile / non-permissive tactical environment while assuming a position as a patrol member. Instructors for this course will have operational experience from the following USSOCOM organizations:

- U.S. Marine Force Recon
- U.S. Army Special Forces Operational Detachment – Alpha (ODA)
- U.S. Army Ranger Battalions
- U.S. military mountaineering organizations

COURSE CONTENT includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Case studies
- Mountain safety and survival
- Overview of cold weather tactical operations
- Cold weather clothing
- Cold weather injuries and medical considerations
- Cold weather bivouac considerations
- Effects of cold weather on equipment, weapons, ammunition
- Command and control (C4I)
- Warning order, patrol order, 5-paragraph operational order
- Operational planning
- Development of priority intelligence requirements (PIRs)
- Patrol base operations
- Land navigation with compass, map, and GPS
- Route planning
- Camouflage, cover, and concealment
- Direct action and reconnaissance patrols
- Tactical radio and visual communications
- Reconnaissance and surveillance
- Danger areas, counter ambush, immediate action
- Fire and maneuver
- Climbing and rappelling
- Knot tying and rope management
- Mobility with snow shoes and cross country skis
- Night operations
- Tactical formations and movement
- Situational Training Exercises (STXs)



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ACCREDITATION:

Recce Group is approved and recognized by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA) as an institutional service provider of training. Our InstSP number is 301.

PREREQUISITES:

Course is restricted to U.S. government agencies and armed forces, U.S. Department of State-allied agencies and armed forces, law enforcement, public safety, security, and tactical emergency medical support organizations. Students must provide credentials verifying affiliation with above-listed organization(s). Minimum age for enrollment is 18.

Students should be in excellent physical condition and have no debilitating medical conditions or any medications that could affect physical ability and judgment.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Students must score 75% on a final written examination and successfully complete all performance objectives.

MANDATORY STUDENT EQUIPMENT:

Note: Equipment may be leased or purchased upon request and advance notice.

- Tactical BDUs (woodland, urban, or alpine pattern) – minimum 2 sets
- Tactical footwear (pair)
- Boonie cap with lanyard
- Watch cap / cold weather cap
- Cold weather clothing (layered)
- Leather gloves (rappelling/fast rope)
- Load bearing belt / vest and tactical equipment (consistent with unit SOP)
- Canteens / hydration system
- Tactical belt
- Camouflage stick / paste
- Goggles
- Range bag (eye/ear protection, weapon cleaning kit)
- Fixed blade knife / utility tool
- Compass (Lensatic or Silva Ranger)
- Wet/cold weather parka
- Hand cuffs/flex cuffs
- Log book and (2) pencils
- 20 foot length of 9-11 mm climbing rope
- Stubai Locking-D carabiners (2)
- Flashlight with red/white lens (extra bulb and batteries)
- Body armor/ballistic vest (consistent with unit SOP)
- Sunglasses
- Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) (4)
- Carbine/sub gun (live fire)
 - 200 rounds live fire ammunition
 - Tactical sling
 - Minimum of 3 ammunition magazines
 - Ammunition pouches
 - Optics and tactical lights (if normally utilized)

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OPTIONAL STUDENT EQUIPMENT:

- Cross country skis and poles
- Snow shoes
- Semi-automatic handgun (live-fire) minimum size 9mm
 - 100 rounds of live ammunition
 - Minimum of 3 ammunition magazines
 - Tactical holster
 - Ammunition pouches
 - Tactical lanyard – phone cord type (if normally utilized)
- Radio and headset/PTT
 - Night vision goggles w/ batteries
 - Miscellaneous call-out gear (anything that would enhance your training experience)

STUDENTS RECEIVE:

- Student manual
- Graduation diploma upon successful completion of all performance objectives.