



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
ADVANCED INFANTRY TRAINING BATTALION
SCHOOL OF INFANTRY (WEST)
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IULTC
08 Aug 23

Policy Letter

From: Company Commander, Infantry Unit Leaders Training Company
To: Students

Subj: INFANTRY UNIT LEADERS TRAINING COMPANY STUDENT TACTICAL STANDARD
OPERATING PROCEDURES (SHORT TITLE: IULTC STUDENT TACSOP)

Ref: (a) ScolO 1510.1K Student Training SOP

1. Purpose. To provide gear and tactical expectations for all students assigned to Infantry Unit Leaders Training Company (IULTC).

2. Execution and Supervision. All students assigned to IULTC courses will adhere to this TACSOP and share responsibility in its enforcement. Combat Instructors and IULTC staff will enforce adherence to the TACSOP. Course Staff Non-commissioned Officers in Charge (SNCOIC) and Chief Instructors are delegated the authority to approve practical deviations from this policy to enhance mission performance.

3. Field Uniform. Serviceable uniforms will be worn at all times.

a. Sleeves will be rolled down with no half or quarters rolls, and no cuffing. Exceptions will be authorized by the Course SNCOIC/Chief Instructor in accordance with the SOI West HOTSOP in reference (a).

c. Utility blouses and trousers will have required name tapes.

d. Blouses may be tucked into the trousers in the field or during combat conditioning. Blouses will be untucked immediately following the event.

e. Covers will be worn when not wearing a helmet. Students will wear the field boonie cover.

f. Boots will be Marine Corps approved. No ISOMATs or unauthorized gear added to boots. Trousers will be bloused over boots. Exceptions will be authorized by the Course SNCOIC/Chief Instructor in accordance with the Regimental HOTSOP in reference (a).

g. Rain and cold weather gear will be used when appropriate and in a manner that does not interfere with combat effectiveness. Marines will remove insulating layers prior to movements unless other guidance is provided from the Chief Instructor. Neck gaiters will not be worn unless approved by the Chief Instructor. The watch cap will never be worn underneath the helmet.

4. Body Armor. Students will wear government issued body armor or body armor approved by their owning unit's Commanding Officer (CO/O-5 or higher). While assigned to IULTC, the following applies to the set-up and wear of the Marine Corps issued plate carriers and Marine Corps issued helmets.

a. Only unit issued and approved patches are authorized for wear. Rank will be worn on flak patches. All patches will be subdued or tactical in color and maintain good order and discipline.

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- b. Individual First Aid Kits (IFAK) will be worn.
 - c. Hydration pouches/systems will be secured to the back of the plate carrier and must be serviceable. Nalgene bottles clipped to the plate carrier or patrol belt are not authorized.
 - d. Students will the ability to wear six magazines.
 - e. Helmets will be worn with appropriate covers/camouflage in accordance with the students' home unit SOP. The chin strap will be buckled unless able to strap around a worn gas mask.
 - f. Camelback hoses will be threaded through weak side flak shoulder straps to prevent interference with the Marine's workspace.
5. Gloves. Gloves will be worn or carried - shooter's preference. The chief instructor may dictate all students wear gloves.
6. Eye Protection. Ballistic spectacles and goggles that are listed on the authorized protective eyewear list (APEL) and are compatible with the universal prescription lens carrier (UPLC) are authorized for use. Lenses will not be reflective or mirrored.
7. Hearing Protection. All personnel will utilize Hearing Protective Devices (HPDs) while conducting live-fire training. When a student or instructor is employing a Multi-Purpose Anti-Armor Anti-Personnel Weapon System (MAAWS), double hearing protection will be worn. The Chief Instructor is authorized to increase the level of HPDs based on the decibels produced by the weapon system and/or prolonged exposure to decibels during live-fire training.
8. Packs
- a. Students will use government issued packs or packs approved by their owning unit. Packs must be intended for military use, capable of carrying the necessary load and contribute to mission performance.
 - b. All packs will have straps clipped, neatly rolled, and fastened with subdued colored tape or Velcro.
9. Pouches
- a. Admin pouches are authorized if reasonable size and do not impede the wear of other tactical gear.
 - b. Color will be subdued.
 - c. Radios will be carried in the assault pack/main pack or in a radio pouch woven to the flak or the fighting load carrier. Radios will never be carried in magazine pouches. Radio pouches will be issued and returned at the conclusion of the course.
10. Sub-load Belt, Weapons and Optics Guidance
- a. Non-issued war belts are authorized, must be coyote brown, black, or multi-cam in color. When dictated by the Chief Instructor, all pouches will

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be loaded onto the sub-load belt to allow the expeditious transition between PPE Levels.

b. The four basic weapons safety rules and muzzle awareness will always be observed. You will always demonstrate incorruptible weapons handling procedures to be tactically proficient and safe in training. If not writing or involved in a tactical action requiring both hands (i.e., CASEVAC), your dominant hand will be holding the pistol grip with your finger straight and off the trigger. The only sling you will use is the two-point sling issued to you. The only time a weapon will be passed off or set down is when briefing an order, for maintenance, digging a fighting position, or sleeping. M27 IAR bipods were designed to enhance marksmanship, not to ground your weapon. Carry your weapon like you intend to kill someone.

c. Night vision goggles (NVGs) will be stowed in an appropriate NVG pouch when not in use - never be loosely stored or transported. NVGs will be stored in a zipped pouch and dummy corded to the Marine's body.

11. Accountability. All personnel, weapons, optics, communications assets, vehicles, special gear, and all associated stock list (SL-3) items will be ruthlessly accounted for.

a. Accountability will go (at a minimum) at first light, prior to sunset, and before/after any movements.

b. Leaders will always maintain accountability and will be prepared to give accurate reports at all times. All turnovers or linkups between units will include appropriate personnel and gear accountability and inspections by the senior gaining leader.

c. Leaders will personally observe all personnel and assigned gear.

d. Reports will only be given in numbers. For example, "First Squad, 13 of 13 Marines."

e. Student billet holders will always know how many personnel and serialized items are in their charge. Proper chain of custody with date/time and signature is required for the transfer of all serialized gear.

f. Personal weapons and optics will be worn, carried, or within one arm's reach. Larger optics may be secured in a Marine's assault pack.

g. NVGs will be dummy-corded at all times, connected to the Marine's body or helmet. Night aiming devices and RCOs/SDOs/SCOs will be dummy-corded when mounted on your weapon, not to interfere with the operation of the weapon system. Radio A-bags/optic SL-3 bags will be properly woven and/or dummy-corded to packs as appropriate. This means they will be properly stowed, and dummy-corded in a pouch that is fully zipped in a manner that will not unzip during movements.

h. Student leaders will ensure their unit carries the necessary mission essential gear, such as poleless litters, EPW kits, LZ marking kits, MAAWS sleeves, and IR flashers.

i. Account for and maintain your gear. Marines do not lose gear. As soon as missing gear is identified, immediately report the missing gear to a Combat Instructor. Combat Instructors will supervise the search.

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j. Ammunition line-outs will be conducted following all training. There is no excuse for "missed" or unaccounted for ammunition, brass, or dunnage. In the event ammunition is discovered, the Course Chief will be notified, and it will be turned over to him or a Combat Instructor immediately. Never dispose of ammunition in trash cans, "in the bushes", or any other form of illegal ammunition handling.

12. Maintenance. All assigned weapons, optics, communications assets, vehicles, special gear, and associated SL-3 will be maintained with the supervision of the IULTC instructor cadre and in accordance with associated technical manuals.

a. Weapons. Priority of weapons maintenance is crew-served weapons, personal weapons, and then associated SL-3 gear. Weapons maintenance will occur a minimum of once a day during field evolutions.

b. Optics. Optics will be inspected daily.

c. Communications. Communications maintenance will occur a minimum of once a day during field evolutions.

d. Vehicles. Vehicle inspections will be performed daily by the drivers. Authorized camouflaging of vehicles does not rescind the need to do detailed, daily inspections of the entire vehicle.

13. Pre-Combat Checks/Pre-Combat Inspections (PCC/PCI) and Continuing Actions. The following actions are the minimum expectations of all personnel at all times, and the supervision of such actions is the responsibility of assigned small unit leaders and Combat Instructors:

a. The following items will always be carried in the prescribed location, and inspected during PCCs/PCIs:

(1) Kill Cards (1 in left shoulder pocket and 1 in IFAK)

(2) Military Identification Card (left breast pocket)

(3) Allergy Dog Tag (laced in left boot)

(4) Dumb Watch (no GPS, phone, Bluetooth, or internet capabilities). Any deviation must be authorized by the SNCOIC/Chief Instructor.

(5) IFAK

(6) Weatherproofed notetaking gear

(7) Laminated PCC and PCI Checklists

(8) Laminated Fire Plan Sketch grid paper and/or Range Cards

(9) Map, all appropriate GRGs, and Compass (maps will be marked with appropriate TCMs)

(10) Maintenance gear (to include CLP) within reach

b. Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) are not authorized in the field in order to reduce our EM signature. PEDs include, but are not limited to, the following items: phones, non-issued or unencrypted GPS devices, watches with

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GPS capabilities, non-issued tablets, iPods, and headphones. All exemptions must be authorized by Chief Instructor.

14. Camouflage, Concealment, and Signature Management. The following regulations are the minimum expectations of all personnel operating outside of a classroom environment. These regulations are the responsibility of each Marine to enforce; the compromise of any individual due to apathy will result in the compromise of the entire unit.

a. Security and concealment are never compromised. We are always considerate of non-visible aerial and subterranean threats and observation. Cammie paint will be reapplied as needed. Vegetation concealing positions, gear, or vehicles will be refreshed at least once every 24 hours.

b. Gear will be concealed with the environment during tactical scenarios.

c. All students will ensure they maintain strict light discipline during periods of darkness. In a tactical scenario, students will hide all sources of light if a light source is needed (tarp, etc.).

d. Nalgene water bottles are permitted to be secured in packs but must be taped or spray painted with a subdued color.

e. Hand and arm signals and communications discipline will be used during all movements to improve survivability by reducing electromagnetic (EM) and audible signature.

f. Strict noise discipline should be maintained when utilizing radios; preferably a handset will be utilized, though there are acceptable times to use the speaker box. If the speaker box is used, ensure the appropriate volume is selected based on the situation.

15. Note Taking

a. You will have a full-sized Rite in the Rain notebook and pen/pencil out for every class and debrief you receive from an instructor. No exceptions. Map pens will be utilized for maps and overlays, not note taking. You will forget 80% of what is covered unless you write it down.

b. Never eat or sit during orders issue or debriefs unless told it is permissible. You will be engaged and taking notes - eating and sitting are unprofessional and disrespectful to your peers and instructors.

16. Combat Mindset. All movements outside the immediate vicinity of the classroom unless otherwise specified, will be treated as tactical movements. Appropriate movement techniques will be utilized, and security will always be maintained. You will only secure to administrative actions upon direction from the Combat Instructors.

a. Defensive position selection and improvement is required for any unit that becomes stationary, regardless of mission.

b. Security first and security always. The cost for an apathetic attitude towards enemy presence will be paid by your Marines.

c. Priorities of work: Weapon-Gear-Position-Self.

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d. Mouth guards will be always kept on the Marine's right shoulder unless otherwise directed.

e. Expeditionary mindset: Marines will be prepared to move out on a moment's notice.

f. All patrols will be briefed by the patrol leader with appropriate routes (primary and alternate) and all associated tactical considerations.

g. Weapons, optics, and associated SL-3 will be function checked prior to any mission or patrol and prior to sunset.

h. Personal night vision devices will be worn during hours of darkness.

i. Learn how to get accountability, adjust gear, pass word, and issue orders when speaking or yelling is not an option. You must become comfortable and competent operating at night.

j. MREs, dip, and chew are authorized during tactical scenarios - absolutely no cigarettes, vape pens, or Jet Boils.

k. Leave no trace.

l. No commercial energy products (i.e., Monster, 5-hour energy, pre-workout) are authorized for use in the field, nor will they be consumed within 12 hours of a tactical movement. Coffee, tea, and nutritional snacks are authorized.

17. Compliance. IULTC TACSOP is directive in nature. Failure to comply could result in administrative or disciplinary action, including disenrollment and adverse administrative action. It is not an all-encompassing list; however, if you are questioning your actions in the field, then you are probably in the wrong. Your actions during this course will form the physical, mental, and moral habits that you take back to the operating forces and to combat.



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