
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
THE BASIC SCHOOL
MARINE CORPS TRAINING COMMAND
CAMP BARRETT, VIRGINIA 22134-5019**

**WARFIGHTING II
MCDP 1-3 TACTICS
W2B0001XQ
STUDENT HANDOUT**

Warfighting II MCDP 1-3 Tactics

Introduction

MCDP 1-3 is about winning in combat. Winning requires many things: excellence in techniques, an appreciation of the enemy, exemplary leadership, battlefield judgment, and focused combat power. Originally published in 1991 as FMFM 1-3 Tactics, and revised in 1997 as MCDP 1-3 Tactics. *Tactics* is in consonance with MCDP 1, *Warfighting*, and the other Marine warfighting publications. Presuming an understanding of maneuver warfare, MCDP 1-3 applies it specifically to the tactical level of war.

Importance

The concepts and ideas within this publication are battletested. Throughout our history, one of the most important reasons for the success of the United States Marine Corps has been the military skill of our leaders at every level of command. Through their tactical skill and battlefield judgment, our commanders achieved tactical and operational advantage at the decisive time and place. Like MCDP 1, it is not prescriptive but descriptive, providing guidance in the form of concepts and ideas. This publication establishes the Marine Corps' philosophy for waging and winning battles.

In This Lesson

Students are expected to read MCDP 1-3 in whole. The student handout will serve as a venue for the Learning Objectives to be given to student officers at The Basic School.

Learning ObjectivesTerminal Learning Objectives

TBS-OFF-2102 Given a mission, implement Marine Corps Warfighting concepts to accomplish the mission.

Enabling Learning Objectives

TBS-OFF-2102p Without the aid of reference define the difference between the Art and Science of tactics in accordance with MCDP 1-3.

TBS-OFF-2102q Without the aid of reference define the difference between probabilistic and deterministic views of combat in accordance with MCDP 1-3.

TBS-OFF-2102x Without the aid of reference, given a scenario, apply the six tactical tenants to accomplish the mission.

TBS-OFF-2102s Without the aid of reference define the doctrinal development cycle in MCDP 1-3.

