

CENTURION TRAINING GROUP—BASIC MANTRACKING INFORMATION & EQUIPMENT PREDEPLOYMENT INFO

Centurion Training Group courses typically combine classroom & lecture, field time and range time. The Basic Mantracking course has some classroom presentation, but most of it outside, some at the spoor pits and more out in the field. Students should be prepared for physical activity (including *lots* of walking) as well as for inclement weather. Training will be delayed only as long as absolutely necessary, and will be called off only in cases of life-threatening weather. The following is a guideline for what you will need at the course.

This list is current as of 12 SEP 06.

◆ We suggest a copy of David Scott-Donelan's Tactical Tracking Operations: The Essential Guide for Military and Police. It's an excellent read and contains a lot of useful information. It is NOT mandatory. You can purchase one before the class, or we typically have a few new copies available the first evening of class for \$30 each. Use either the Amazon link provided at TacticalTracker.com, or send an e-mail requesting however many you want to order, to TTOSCorporal@aol.com, which will get you a Paypal bill for the book and the shipping. Typically these books are sent out priority mail. (Note: This contact e-mail and the books we sell at the course are less expensive than if you buy a new one off the net).

◆ Chow (see below)

◆ Field uniform(s) (BDU type or similar, in preferred military or civilian camouflage pattern) **NO black or dark blue**. These colors are unsuitable in a field environment of any terrain. Mossy Oak, NatGear, etc. are fine, as is olive drab.

◆ Boots—must be broken in and problem free (all students should have at least one pair of boots suitable for hiking in rough terrain, and a spare pair is advisable)

◆ Hat—soft cover, cap or boonie. Helmet is unnecessary.

◆ Inclement weather/rain gear, cold weather gear if appropriate

◆ Load-bearing equipment or tactical vest (NOT black)

◆ Canteens, water bottles, Camelback, etc.

◆ Dowel rod or stick, 1/2" to 3/4" thick and approx. 3' long; painted in color or pattern for use in the bush, with at least three or four rubber bands on it (for use in marking print length, stride length, etc.)

◆ Weapon (long gun; AR15, M4, Shotgun, etc.) *This will be utilized for patrolling and realism; at this time no live fire is included in the basic course **THOUGH THIS MAY CHANGE**. Students will be notified in a timely fashion if live fire is intended.

Students needing to borrow a weapon during training should coordinate this with CTG ahead of time.

◆ Bedding (blankets, pillow, sleeping-bag, woobie, whatever). Students will bunk by training team. There are several bunkbeds in each cabin (which *does* have electricity). There are heaters in the cabins, but they do little more than take the edge off at night, during cold weather, so students are advised to bring a warm bag or a couple of good blankets if seasonally appropriate. Feel free to bring a fan or electric blanket, depending on the season; despite a large percentage of our students being military, we don't enforce any mandatory misery, privation or inordinate fatigue.

◆ Personal toiletries. Showers and bathrooms are communal "barracks style" and will be shared by instructors and staff. There are lights and outlets in the bathrooms, and reasonable amounts of hot water available. Classes so far have averaged 10 to 12 students plus 4 to 6 staff and we've yet to actually run out of hot water.

NOTE: Civilian law enforcement personnel may carry their handgun, however they will NOT be a part of the training cycle and should never leave the holster unless there is an emergency or real world event. Civilians with a concealed carry license will be considered on a case by case basis. Violations of safety rules, or inappropriate/unsafe behavior with a firearm, will be grounds for immediate dismissal (or, if flagrant, an arrest by one of the instructors) without refund or credit for portions of the class completed.

Chow:

Students should bring whatever snacks, pogie-bait or gedunk they feel they will need during training and in the evening. The dinner meal on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will be provided. Coffee will be available in the mornings. Students are responsible for their meals Sunday night and Mon--Wed breakfast and lunch. There are full kitchen facilities available; ovens, grills, microwaves, etc. There are two large refrigerators, including one walk-in, as well as an ice machine. Pots, pans, plates, silverware, etc. is all on-site. **Note:** Lunch on Monday will be at the classroom. Lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday will be in the field; students and cadre will be expected to carry their meal & sufficient water with them. Students should plan on preparing something for their evening meal Sunday at the conclusion of the lecture period (though they can also run in to town).

Cost: Students will not be charged for their tuition, nor do any instructors draw any pay, ever. These classes are done as a small effort to help local law enforcement and our military, as a sort of public service (and, in some cases where faith is a consideration, as our works). HOWEVER, we do require the students pay \$165 to defray the cost of the training area, the group camp, training materials and student handouts. This cost applies to all students, including those that do not stay on site, because we divide our total cost up amongst the total number of attending personnel. We also have organization memberships in various tracking and tactical related professional organizations that our students may opt to participate in (these fees also come out of that amount).

Alcohol policy: Alcohol is permissible in the evenings, *in moderation* and subject to state laws, and only at the training site. With the exception of runs made in to town for supplies or necessities, we respectfully request that students remain in camp throughout the course, and certainly if any "adult beverages" are to be consumed. Given the nature of the typical student (law enforcement and military personnel) it should not be difficult to show restraint; you're all big boys and girls, you carry guns for a living, please act like adults.

Optional Items:

Compass-wrist type preferred
Binoculars-no larger than 8x power
GPS
Camouflage paint/cream
Day Pack/Assault Pack
Whistle
Signal Mirror
Agency radio, PRR, Motorola 'Talkabout'-type Comms
Digital Camera
Small camera-equipped binocular
Scrim scarf, sniper veil, etc.
Field/camouflaged gloves
Weapon cleaning kit
Knee pads
Gaiters

NOTE: 'Ghillie Suit' type gear is NOT necessary, nor is it practical for a tracking team attempting to close the Time-Distance Gap. Ghillie material on hats, load-bearing gear, and uniforms, to break up the silhouette is fine and encouraged. A full-blown ghille suit will only impede the wearer on a tracking operation.

Certification Certificates of completion will be awarded to those students who successfully complete the course in accordance to and with the tactical skills and standards required. Responsibilities & Liability It must be clearly understood that neither the school, host agency or cooperating agencies can or will assume responsibility for loss or damage to, or theft of, personal or departmental equipment.

College/Continuing Education Credit: The Centurion Training Group apprentice mantracking course has been accredited by Oklahoma's CLEET for 24 hours of continuing education credit for Oklahoma law enforcement. Additionally, for those that wish to pursue it, Redlands Community College has offered 2 credit hours in Criminal Justice for those who have successfully passed the course (<http://www.redlandsc.edu/Academics/CriminalJustice/Pages/default.aspx>). As of this date (September, 2006) we are working to finalize our affiliation with Tulsa Community College to provide for some sort of credit there as well.

WE ALSO ASK THAT STUDENTS WHO ARE WILLING, DONATE A PATCH FROM THEIR AGENCY, DEPARTMENT, UNIT OR ORGANIZATION FOR OUR SCHOOL GUIDON. PLEASE BRING ONE OR MORE WITH YOU IF POSSIBLE. (There are typically other students who want to trade.)

General queries for information can be sent to Training@CenturionTrainingGroup.org.