

Course Description

CJK0051 | CMS Criminal Justice Defensive Tactics | 2.66 credits

Students will learn how to physically defend themselves, physically control persons under arrest, and know what level of force is appropriate under differing circumstances. Additionally, a physical conditioning program is part of this course. For School of Justice students only.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will understand the structure and goals of the defensive tactics training program by:

1. Defining defensive tactics

Competency 2: The student will be prepared to participate in the defensive tactics training program and demonstrate stretching exercises, falling techniques, and recovery techniques by:

- 1. Applying strategies for optimal physical performance during a defensive tactics training program
- 2. Demonstrating falling techniques
- 3. Demonstrating recovery techniques

Competency 3: The student will understand using reasonable and necessary force when taking a suspect into custody, when working in a correctional environment, or when defending themselves or others by:

- 1. Identifying elements of the Florida Statutes related to the use of force by criminal justice officers
- 2. Explaining the provisions of chapters 944 and 945, F.S., related to the use of force by state correctional and correctional probation officers
- 3. Explaining the concept of objective reasonableness
- 4. Explaining that subject resistance and officer response may change rapidly
- 5. Applying the legal authority for an officer's response to a subject's resistance
- 6. Explaining escalation, de-escalation, and disengagement
- 7. Explaining how the injury potential to an officer may affect their response
- 8. Defining passive resistance, active resistance, aggressive resistance, and deadly force resistance
- 9. Demonstrating officer presence
- 10. Defining physical control and less lethal weapon
- 11. Discussing deadly force in relation to defensive tactics
- 12. Identifying what is needed to justify using deadly force
- 13. Identifying the circumstances when an officer has the duty to intervene
- 14. Identifying the subject's ability, opportunity, and intent as they relate to the officer's response to resistance
- 15. Explaining what totality of circumstances means.
- 16. Identifying various situational factors that may influence the use of force
- 17. Applying reasonable and necessary force to given situations

Competency 4: The student will recognize the effects of survival stress on the body and mind during a critical incident by:

- 1. Explaining how survival stress affects confrontation between a subject and an officer
- 2. Describing the four instinctual reactions when experiencing survival stress
- 3. Describing the psychological changes that may occur while experiencing survival stress
- 4. Describing the physiological changes that may occur while experiencing survival stress

Updated: Fall 2025

- 5. Describing the impact survival stress may have on an officer's decision-making
- 6. Describing the changes that may occur in speech patterns while experiencing survival stress
- 7. Identifying the desired state of awareness or readiness an officer should maintain while on routine duty
- 8. Listing techniques that may assist an officer in managing the effects of survival stress

Competency 5: The student will understand the fundamental principles used in defensive tactics techniques by:

- 1. Describing the fundamental principles of applying defensive tactics
- 2. Describing how to gain control over a subject when applying defensive tactics

Competency 6: The student will be able to demonstrate how to give appropriate verbal direction by:

1. Describing the components of appropriate verbal direction

Competency 7: The student will understand the process of assessing a threat and be able to demonstrate appropriate responses by:

- 1. Identifying the need for doing a threat assessment
- 2. Identifying verbal and non-verbal cues in assessing threats
- 3. Demonstrating the interview stance
- 4. Demonstrating the offensive ready stance
- 5. Identifying relative positioning
- 6. Demonstrating how to maintain a minimum reactionary gap
- 7. Identifying the danger zone
- 8. Demonstrating hand clearing
- 9. Defining reaction time principle
- 10. Demonstrating evasion and redirection techniques

Competency 8: The student will understand the concept of pain compliance and its use in controlling resistant subjects and be able to demonstrate how to apply a pressure point technique by:

1. Demonstrating pressure point techniques

Competency 9: The student will be able to demonstrate proper escort and transporter techniques by:

1. Demonstrating escort and transporter techniques

Competency 10: The student will be able to demonstrate the proper application and removal of restraint devices by:

1. Demonstrating use of restraint devices

Competency 11: The student will be able to demonstrate pat down, custodial, and inmate clothed searches, and articulate the process for conducting a strip/unclothed search by:

1. Demonstrating conducting physical frisks and searches

Competency 12: The student will be able to demonstrate proper blocking techniques and demonstrate properly executed and effective strikes to distract, incapacitate, or gain control of a subject by: Demonstrating blocking techniques by:

- 1. Identifying target areas for empty hand strikes
- 2. Demonstrating striking techniques
- 3. Demonstrating diversion techniques
- 4. Demonstrating kicking technique

Updated: Fall 2025

Competency 13: The student will be able to demonstrate proper takedown techniques by:

1. Demonstrating takedown techniques

Competency 14: The student will be able to demonstrate proper upright grappling and body hold escape techniques by:

1. Demonstrating upright grappling and body hold escape techniques

Competency 15: The student will be able to demonstrate a simulation of a vascular neck restraint technique by:

1. Demonstrating a simulation of a vascular neck restraint technique

Competency 16: The student will be able to demonstrate basic techniques to defend themselves, escape from an attack, and control a subject while on the ground by:

- 1. Demonstrating ground control techniques
- 2. Demonstrating ground escape techniques

Competency 17: The student will be able to demonstrate the proper use and application of intermediate weapons by:

- 1. Identifying target areas for impact weapon strikes
- 2. Demonstrating impact weapon techniques

Competency 18: The student will know the effects of a chemical agent through contamination and decontamination procedures by:

- 1. Identifying the types of chemical agents used by criminal justice officers
- 2. Identifying the active ingredient in oleoresin capsicum
- 3. Identifying the use of the Scoville heat unit (SHU) in measuring the burning effect of chemical agents
- 4. Identifying the physical effects of a chemical agent on a subject
- Describing the correct responses to a subject's prolonged or severe reactions to chemical agent contamination
- 6. Identifying decontamination procedures for contamination from a chemical agent

Competency 19: The student will be able to demonstrate safe and effective methods of retaining weaponry by:

1. Demonstrating weapon retention techniques

Competency 20: The student will be able to demonstrate safe and effective methods of handgun defense, edged weapons defense and simulations of deadly force techniques by

- 1. Demonstrating handgun defense techniques
- 2. Demonstrating the simulation of deadly force techniques
- 3. Demonstrating defense against edged- weapons techniques

Learning outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information

Updated: Fall 2025