



Disaster Canine Search Specialist TNG-10S

Program of Instruction

Updated: August 2009



Texas Engineering Extension Service
Urban Search and Rescue

TEEX is a member of the
National Domestic Preparedness Consortium

Course Details

Course Length: Five days long, eight training hours each day (50 total training hours). Class is from 0800 to 1700 each day.

Delivery Location: Delivered in [Disaster City@](#), TX – within the city limits of College Station, TX or at an equivalent training facility.

GSA Approval:

The Disaster Canine Search Specialist course is listed on GSA Schedule 84. TEEX has special registration requirements for GSA participants. Please contact the TEEX US&R Division to register for a GSA-approved course. For more information on ordering from Federal Supply Schedules, please visit: www.gsa.gov



Certificate: TEEX certificate of completion

Prerequisites for Canine Handlers: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Due to the strenuous nature of search and rescue activities, participants should secure a professional evaluation of their physical condition prior to enrolling in these courses.

Special Instructions for canines to accompany handlers to the course:

- Make sure the canine has up-to-date vaccinations.
- Canine team must be affiliated with a state, regional, or city Search and Rescue organization.
- A female canine in heat will not be allowed to attend.
- Canine must have basic obedience including the ability to recall.
- Only one canine allowed per handler.
- Canine should give a bark indication when detecting live human scent.

Target Audience:

This course is designed for all Disaster Canine Search Specialists, Disaster Search Team Managers, and US&R Task Force Leaders. The course mirrors the course taught by FEMA to Canine Search Specialists on the FEMA National US&R Task Forces. Course participants include emergency responders from the following six disciplines/services:

- Fire Service (FS)
- Law Enforcement (LE)
- Civil Defense (CD)
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Industrial Customers (IND)
- Military (MT)

Mission Area: Respond

Level of Training: Performance – Offensive

Required Equipment:

This course requires students to bring with them specific equipment. The course participants should arrive with the following items:

- Helmet (must be ANSI rated Z89.1 – Type 1) with headlamp
- Steel toe safety boots (must be ANSI Z41 PT99 M1/75 C/75)
- Eye protection (must be ANSI Z 87.1)
- Work gloves, knee pads & elbow pads
- Standard work/duty clothing including long sleeve shirts for every day of class
- Raingear suitable for search and rescue operations. Class is conducted rain or shine
- Hand held flashlight
- Flat collar and training collar, leash, and long line
- Crate for hotel room, water bowl, and at least two canine toys & canine treats

Course Overview

Course Background

This course was designed to mirror the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 50 hour Canine Search Specialist course currently taught to members of the national FEMA US&R teams. Many jurisdictions have requested to receive the official FEMA 50 hour Canine Search Specialist course, however only members of one of the 28 FEMA National US&R teams can attend a FEMA sanctioned Canine Search Specialist course. TEEEX offers this 50 hour Disaster Canine Search Specialist course by combining the entire relevant curriculum from the FEMA course and adding additional material and utilizing the unique Disaster City® facilities. Two modules were removed from the FEMA curriculum that is not relevant when delivering this course to state or regional participants. All of our instructors are L1 or L2 FEMA Canine Search Specialist Instructor certified.

Course Description

This course teaches the fundamental elements of disaster canine search: canine selection, bark alert, obedience, directional control, agility and search. Additionally, handlers will learn the basics of canine behavior, propagation of scent and disaster search strategy. Search Managers will learn the basics managing a disaster canine program and of deploying canines in the disaster environment.

Course Purpose

The purpose of the Disaster Canine Search Specialist course is to provide the handler with the skills necessary to train their disaster search canine in the fundamental elements of disaster search. This course is designed to teach the beginning Disaster Canine Search Specialist the skills necessary to bring a disaster canine up to the FEMA Foundation Skill level. More experienced canine and handler teams will have the opportunity to improve their foundation skills and train in Disaster City® and the unique collapsed structures and three different large rubble piles (two concrete piles and one wooden pile). Included in this course are troubleshooting techniques for handlers to utilize when training their canine.

Course Format

Classes will begin at 7:30 a.m. each day. Participants should plan travel to arrive the night before classes begin. For the purpose of making hotel arrangements, participants could make reservations in the cities of College Station, TX or Bryan, TX. Course delivery consists of didactic instruction, participant activities, and hands-on task-oriented practical exercises. Course delivery consists of 50 percent didactic classroom presentations and lectures, and 50 percent hands-on and task-oriented practical training in Disaster City®.

Students can attend the Disaster Canine Search Specialist course in two formats:

1. Open enrollment classes – TEEEX offers the course on fixed dates approximately two times per year. Any student meeting the prerequisites may enroll in the course online. This course typically has a broad cross section of responders and offers an excellent ability for lessons learned from other departments.
2. Contract classes – TEEEX can provide this course exclusively for a jurisdiction or region. These courses must have a minimum of 16 and can have a maximum of 24 participants. When conducting contract classes, TEEEX can add curriculum to meet specific requirements of the sponsoring jurisdiction.

Course Scope

The scope of this course addresses priorities and capabilities that Department of Homeland Security is encouraging state and local jurisdictions to establish. This course assists with establishing priorities for the National Planning Scenarios¹, the National Preparedness Guidelines², the Target Capabilities List³, and the Universal Task List⁴.

National Planning Scenarios

The National Planning Scenarios¹ are a reference to help federal, state, local, and tribal entities at all levels of government evaluate and improve their capabilities to perform their assigned missions and tasks in major events. This course gives a state/region the capability to conduct wide area search operations in twelve out of the fifteen National Planning Scenarios¹:

- Scenario 1: Nuclear Detonation – 10-Kiloton Improvised Nuclear Device
- Scenario 2: Biological Attack – Aerosol Anthrax
- Scenario 3: Biological Disease Outbreak – Pandemic Influenza
- Scenario 4: Biological Attack – Plague
- Scenario 5: Chemical Attack – Blister Agent
- Scenario 6: Chemical Attack – Toxic Industrial Chemicals
- Scenario 7: Chemical Attack – Nerve Agent
- Scenario 8: Chemical Attack – Chlorine Tank Explosion
- Scenario 9: Natural Disaster – Major Earthquake
- Scenario 10: Natural Disaster – Major Hurricane
- Scenario 11: Radiological Attack – Radiological Dispersal Devices
- Scenario 12: Explosives Attack – Bombing Using Improvised Explosive Devices

National Preparedness Guidelines

The National Preparedness Guidelines² defines what it means for the Nation to be prepared for all hazards. There are four critical elements of the *Guidelines*:

- (1) The ***National Preparedness Vision***, which provides a concise statement of the core preparedness goal for the Nation.
- (2) The ***National Planning Scenarios***¹, which depict a diverse set of high consequence threat scenarios of both potential terrorist attacks and natural disasters. Collectively, the 15 scenarios are designed to focus contingency planning for homeland security preparedness work at all levels of government and with private sector. The scenarios form the basis for national planning, training, exercises, and grant investments needed to prepare for emergencies of all types.
- (3) The ***Target Capabilities List***³ (***TCL***), which defines 37 specific capabilities that communities, the private sector, and all levels of government should collectively possess in order to respond effectively to disasters.
- (4) The ***Universal Task List***⁴ (***UTL***), which is a menu of some 1,600 unique tasks that can facilitate efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from the major events that are represented by the National Planning Scenarios. It presents a common vocabulary and identifies key tasks that support development of essential capabilities among organizations at all levels.

Course Scope (continued)

The *Guidelines* establish a capabilities-based approach to preparedness. Simply put, a capability provides the means to accomplish a mission. The *Guidelines* address preparedness for all homeland security mission areas: prevention, protection, response, and recovery. A capability consists of the combination of elements required to deliver the desired outcome.

TEEX US&R courses primarily deal with the Search and Rescue (Land-Based) capabilities found within the Respond Mission Area and the outcome is: The greatest number of victims (human and, to the extent that no human remain endangered, animal) are rescued and transferred to medical or mass care capabilities, in the shortest amount of time, while maintaining rescuer safety.

In order to support a consistent nationwide approach to implementation, the *Guidelines* establish three capabilities-based preparedness tools and a National Preparedness System. To help correctly balance the potential threat of major events with the requisite resources to prevent, respond to, and recover from them, the *Guidelines* also includes seven national priorities. The priorities fall into two categories: overarching priorities that contribute to development of multiple capabilities, and capability-specific priorities that build selected capabilities from the TCL for which the Nation has the greatest need. **Priorities that apply to this course are highlighted in red.** The overarching priorities are:

- 4.1 Expand Regional Collaboration
- 4.2 Implement the NIMS⁶ & the National Response Framework⁵
- 4.3 Implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan

Additionally, the National Preparedness Guidelines² has four capability specific priorities:

- 4.4 Strengthen Information Sharing and Collaboration Capabilities
- 4.5 Strengthen Interoperable and Operable Communications Capabilities
- 4.6 **Strengthen CBRNE Detection, Response, and Decontamination Capabilities – *this course specifically addresses this National Preparedness Goal priority***
- 4.7 Strengthen Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis Capabilities

Course Scope (continued)

Target Capabilities List

The September 2007 version of the Target Capabilities List³ (TCL) provides guidance on the specific capabilities and levels of capability that Federal, State, local, and tribal entities will be expected to develop and maintain. The TCL is designed to assist jurisdictions and agencies in understanding and defining their respective roles in a major event, the capabilities required to perform a specific set of tasks, and where to obtain additional resources if needed. The TCL is considered a “living” document that will continue to be refined over time. The TCL identifies 37 essential capabilities. The applicable tables of the Response Mission: Search and Rescue (Land-Based) – Target Capabilities (page 407 thru 419 of the September 2007 TCL) that deal with Search and Rescue are included below. **Personnel having completed the Disaster Canine Search Specialist course give jurisdictions the capabilities that are highlighted in red.**

Capability Definition

Search & Rescue (Land-Based) is the capability to coordinate and conduct search and rescue (SAR) response efforts for all hazards, including searching affected areas for victims (human and, to the extent that no humans remain endangered, animal) and locating, accessing, medically stabilizing, and extricating victims from the damaged area.

Outcome

The greatest number of victims (human, and to the extent that no humans remain endangered, animal) and rescued and transferred to medical or mass care capabilities, in the shortest amount of time, while maintaining rescuer safety.

Performance Measures and Metrics and Critical Tasks

Activity: Direct Search & Rescue Tactical Operations	
Definition: In response to notification of entrapment, provide management and coordination of SAR capability, through demobilization for single or multiple teams	
Critical Tasks	
Res.B4a 3.1	Receive and accept SAR request/activation order
Res.B4a 3.2	Participate in SAR planning process and operational briefings
Res.B4a 3	Plan and coordinate SAR operations at incident site
Res.B4a 3.4.1	Direct SAR resources according to the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the Incident Command System (ICS), and consensus-level technical rescue standards
Res.B4a 3.4.3	Determine need for deployment of additional SAR assets
Res.B4a 3.6.1	Provide timely situational awareness and response information
Res.B4a 3.6.1.1	Establish and maintain a chronological log of events in the field
Res.B4a 3.6.2	Document and collect SAR operations information, including chronological log of events in the field for use in after action review
Res.B4a 3.7.3	Re-assign/rotate technical specialists, as needed
Res.B4a 3.3.3	Maintain accountability of all SAR personnel
Res.B4a 3.2.1	Identify logistics capability of incident site to determine whether deployed SAR teams must be self-sustaining
Res.B4a 3.7	Develop SAR team reassignment/demobilization plan

Course Scope (continued)

Target Capabilities List (continued)

Activity: *Activate Search & Rescue*

Definition: In response to notification, mobilize and arrive at the incident scene to begin operations

Critical Tasks

Res.B4a 3.1	Receive and accept SAR request/activation order
Res.B4a 4.3	Participate in Search and Rescue (SAR) planning process and operational briefings
Res.B4a 4.2	Initiate mobilization procedure
Res.B4a 4.2.1	Assemble personnel and equipment at designated location
Res.B4a 4.2.2	Deploy Federal, State, regional or local SAR resources commensurate with request
Res.B4a 4.2.2	Transport team (personnel and equipment) to incident scene
Res.B4a 4.2.3	Collect and analyze incident information to assist SAR capability deployment decisions

Activity: *Provide Materiel and Other Support*

Definition: Upon arriving on scene, provide, track, and maintain equipment and supplies as well as support base of operations

Critical Tasks

Res.B4a 4.3	Participate in Search and Rescue (SAR) planning process and operational briefings
Res.B4a 5.1	Establish base of operations
Res.B4a 5.2	Maintain accountability of team equipment/supplies
Res.B4a 5.1.1	Provide medical care for SAR personnel, including the K-9 first responders

Activity: *Conduct Search and Rescue Reconnaissance*

Definition: Once on scene and equipped, provide rapid assessment of assigned SAR work areas and recommend search priorities/tactics to management.

Critical Tasks

Res.B4a 6.1.1	Assess incident site to determine search and rescue course of action
Res.B4a 6.1.2	Assess the incident site for hazardous materials (hazmat) and other environmental conditions
Res.B4a 6.1.3	Develop map of search area to be used in SAR tactical operations
Res.B4a 6.3	Communicate findings and recommend priorities to Team Management

Activity: *Search*

Definition: Upon being assigned search area, begins search operations.

Critical Tasks

Res.B4a 4.3	Participate in SAR planning process and operational briefings
Res.B4a 7.1	Ensure scene/site safety (security, shoring, debris)
Res.B4a 7.2	Conduct area search for victims
Res.B4a 7.2.1	Search for victims using canine, physical, and electronic search capabilities
Res.B4a 7.2.2	Identify and record potential/actual victim locations (live and dead)
Res.B4a 7.3	Direct ambulatory victims to safe assembly point
Res.B4a 7.4	Report progress of search efforts on a regular basis to SAR lead
Res.B4a 7.5	Maintain accountability for search personnel, equipment, and supplies

Course Scope (continued)

Universal Task List

The Universal Task List⁴ (UTL) is a useful planning reference: a comprehensive menu of tasks that may be performed in major events illustrated by the National Planning Scenarios¹. The UTL describes “what” tasks need to be performed. Federal, state, local and tribal entities reserve the flexibility to determine “who” needs to perform them and “how” to perform them. While no single jurisdiction or agency is expected to be able to perform all the tasks, it is expected that tasks will be chosen based on specific roles, missions, and functions. The UTL should be used by entities at all levels of government as a reference to help them plan, organize, equip, train, exercise, and evaluate personnel from the critical tasks that they may need to perform in major events that could occur across town or across the Nation. The UTL is considered a “living” document that will continue to be refined over time. The applicable tables of the UTL (pages 82 thru 83 of the Version 2.1 issued May 23, 2005) that deal with Search and Rescue are included below. **Jurisdictions with personnel that have completed the Disaster Canine Search Specialist course will have the capacity to perform the following tasks outlined in red:**

Function ID	Sequence Number	Task
Res.B.4	1	Develop plans, procedures, and protocols to prepare for urban search and rescue operations
Res.B.4	1.1	Develop policies and procedures for urban search and rescue
Res.B.4	1.2	Establish, maintain, and manage the national urban search and rescue response system
Res.B.4	1.3	Ensure appropriate legal issues pertaining to liability claims, including the application of the good Samaritan laws, are understood and resolved
Res.B.4	1.4	Establish plans, procedures and protocols for logistical support for urban search and rescue assets
Res.B.4	2	Develop and conduct exercises and training for search and rescue
Res.B.4	2.1	Develop urban search and rescue training programs
Res.B.4	2.2	Provide training for urban search and rescue augmenting organizations
Res.B.4	3	Coordinate urban search and rescue response
Res.B.4	3.1	Provide resource & technical support
Res.B.4	3.1.1	Manage urban search and rescue mutual aid agreements
Res.B.4	3.1.2	Provide technical assistance, training, and operational support to urban search and rescue teams and assets
Res.B.4	3.1.2.1	Provide portable shelters for use by urban search and rescue task force
Res.B.4	3.1.2.2	Provide mobile feeding units for urban search and rescue task force
Res.B.4	3.1.3	Identify need for additional assistance
Res.B.4	4	Conduct Search and Rescue
Res.B.4	4.1	Assess situation and needs
Res.B.4	4.2	Assess incident site to determine search and rescue course of action
Res.B.4	4.2.1	Collect assessment information from damage assessment teams for inclusion in situation reports and for decision-making regarding US&R resources
Res.B.4	4.2.2	Issue additional advisories and alert and activation orders as required
Res.B.4	4.2.3	Determine need for deployment of additional US&R assets
Res.B.4	4.3	Conduct urban search and rescue operations
Res.B.4	4.3.1	Activate urban search and rescue support (US&R)
Res.B.4	4.3.1.1	Activate the national urban search and rescue response system for any incident of national significance

Course Scope (continued)

Universal Task List (continued)

Function ID	Sequence Number	Task
Res.B.4	4.3.2	Deploy urban search and rescue task forces or teams
Res.B.4	4.3.3	Evaluate the disaster site for hazardous materials
Res.B.4	4.3.3.1	Identify heavy machinery support requirements
Res.B.4	4.3.4	Direct search and rescue teams and collapse-site teams
Res.B.4	4.3.5	Search and extract victims from site
Res.B.4	4.3.5.1	Direct the use of heavy machinery in recovery effort
Res.B.4	4.3.5.2	Stabilize and support entry and exit points for urban search and rescue operations
Res.B.4	4.3.6	Provide status reports on urban search and rescue operations
Res.B.4	4.3.6.1	Provide timely situational awareness and response information and establish and maintain chronological log of events in the field
Res.B.4	4.3.7	Formulate redeployment plans for urban search and rescue assets and personnel
Res.B.4	4.3.7.1	Formulate decisions on the demobilization of regional and State first responder assets and personnel
Res.B.4	4.3.8	Provide care for rescuers, including the K-9 first responders

Course Scope (continued)

Additional Courses

TEEX US&R can provide additional courses related to search and rescue at Disaster City® or on-site at your jurisdiction:

US&R Search Program:

1. [Disaster Technical Search Specialist](#)
2. [Disaster Canine Search Specialist](#)
3. [Disaster Canine Workshop](#)
4. [Wilderness Search and Rescue](#)
5. [Wide Area Search](#) NOTE: offered at no cost to any eligible jurisdiction
6. [Canine Emergency Medical Care](#) NOTE: offered online at no cost to any eligible participant

US&R Rescue Program:

1. [Structural Collapse - Awareness](#)
2. [Collapse Rescue Operations](#)
3. [Structural Collapse Technician 2](#)
4. [Advanced Structural Collapse 3](#)
5. [Advanced Structural Collapse 4](#)
6. [Medical Considerations for the Rescue Technician](#)
7. [Rescue in a Contaminated Environment \(RICE\)](#)

US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist Program:

1. [WMD – Enhanced US&R Operations](#)
2. [WMD Considerations for US&R Hazardous Materials Specialists](#)

US&R Swiftwater & Flood Rescue Program:

1. [Swiftwater Rescue – Awareness](#)
2. [Swiftwater Rescue – Operations](#)
3. [Swiftwater Rescue – Technician](#)
4. [Swiftwater Rescue – Technician Refresher](#)

US&R Medical Program:

1. [Disaster Medical Specialist](#)
2. [WMD Considerations for the Medical Specialist](#)
3. [Medical Effects of Primary Blast Injuries](#) NOTE: offered online at no cost to any eligible participant
4. [EMS Operations & Planning for WMD](#) NOTE: offered at no cost to any eligible jurisdiction

US&R Command Staff Program:

1. [Search and Rescue Plans Officer](#)
2. [Search and Rescue Safety Officer](#)
3. [Search and Rescue Communications Specialist](#)
4. [Disaster Logistics Specialist](#)
5. [ICS for Structural Collapse Incidents](#)
6. [Developing a State/Regional CBRNE Task Force](#)

International US&R Program:

1. [International Urban Search and Rescue](#)
2. [International Structural Collapse Rescue](#)

US&R Full-Scale Exercise Program

Course Scope (continued)

Course Resource Requirements

The following items are provided by TEEEX for the delivery of this course:

- Classroom capable of handling all course participants
- Computer loaded with Microsoft PowerPoint®
- Computer Projector and screen
- Flip chart and/or whiteboard or chalkboard
- Flip chart markers and/or whiteboard markers or chalk
- Student Manual
- Instructor Manuals
- Unit 1 – 13 Microsoft PowerPoint® presentation slides
- All tools, equipment, and supplies required to complete field exercises
- All patient simulators and live victims.

Unit Summary

Module #	Module Title	Time Allocation
Day One		
Unit 0	Course Introduction and Safety	30 minutes
Field Exercise	Obedience	30 minutes
Unit 2	Canine Behavior & Drive	1 hour
Unit 3	Role of the Helper	1 hour
Unit 4	Bark Alert	1 hour
Admin 0.1	Lunch	1 hour
Field Demonstration	Basic and Advanced Bark Alert Demonstration	30 minutes
Field Station Exercises	Bark Barrels, Bark Box and Helper Training Field Exercises	5.5 hours
Day Two		
Field Exercise	Obedience and Overview of the Day's Activities	45 minutes
Unit 5	Scent Theory	1 hour
Unit 6	Direction and Control	1 hour
Unit 6A*	<i>The Search Team Manager and the Canine Search Specialist</i>	<i>1 hour</i>
Unit 7	Agility	1 hour
Unit 7A*	<i>Canine Search Operations and the Role of the Search Team Manager</i>	<i>1 hour</i>
Admin 0.2	Lunch	1 hour
Field Demonstration	Directability, Agility and Scent Theory Demonstrations	1.5 hours
Field Station Exercises	Directability, Agility, and Bark Alert Field Exercises	3 hrs 45 min

*Units listed in bold and italics are designed for Search Team Managers.

Unit Summary (continued)

Day Three		
Field Exercise	Obedience and Overview of the Day's Activities	45 minutes
Unit 1	Selection and Screening	1.5 hours
Unit 8	Advanced Rubble Search	1 hour
Unit 9	Other Considerations	30 minutes
Admin 0.3	Lunch	1 hour
Field Demonstration	Disaster Search in Rubble Pile Three	45 minutes
Field Station Exercises	Search Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motivation - Distractions - Confined Space - Rubble Search 	5.5 hours
Day Four		
Field Exercise	Obedience and Overview of the Day's Activities	45 minutes
Unit 10	Canine Search Strategy & Tactics	1 hour
Unit 12A	Search Team Manager (STM): Canine Search Operations	1 hour
Field Exercise	Mapping	1 hour
Unit 13	Operational Exercise - Pre-Briefing	15 minutes
Admin 0.4	Lunch and Break before Evening Field Exercise	1 hours
Unit 13:	Operational Exercise: Each participant rotates through Station 1, 2, and 3, with two hours at each station.	8 hours
Day Five		
Admin 0.5	Review of the Evening Exercise	1 hour
Admin 0.6	Creating a Successful Canine Program	1 hour
Unit 12	Canine First Aid	2 hours
Unit 11	Program Updates and Evaluation Process	2 hours
End of Course	Course Evaluation and Graduation	1 hour
TOTAL CLASS HOURS		50 hours

Unit 0: Course Introduction

Summary: The students will become familiar with the general overview of the course, and instructors will explain the goal of the course, and describe the course outline and structure. Students will also complete all registration and class rosters forms. Upon completing the administrative tasks, students will receive a lecture on safety in the disaster environment.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 0 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: Upon completion of this unit, the participant will be able to describe the course and complete required registration forms and understand course safety issues.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 0-1 Complete all introductory activities including course registration forms;
- 0-2 Explain the goal of the course;
- 0-3 Describe course outline and structure; and
- 0-4 Understand safety issues and procedures used in the disaster environment.

Duration: 30 minutes

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 1: Selection and Screening

Summary: This unit discusses the components of selecting an appropriate disaster canine candidate. Selecting a canine with the highest likelihood of success is a necessity in the US&R training environment. The screening described measures a canines' genetic predisposition in the areas of drive, nerve strength and sociability.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 1 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to describe the components of canine selection.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 1-1 Explain why there is a need for a standardized screening process;
- 1-2 Identify the pros and cons of choosing a puppy versus a young adult;
- 1-3 Identify successful canine breeds;
- 1-4 Explain the screening process and criteria;
- 1-5 Describe the characteristics of a qualified disaster canine candidate; and
- 1-6 Describe the quick screening process.

Duration: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment. Field demonstration of screening and screening practice for students after the lecture.

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 2: Canine Behavior and Drive

Summary: This unit provides students a basic understanding of canine behavior, communication between canine and handler and the factors that motivate a canine. Handlers often lack the ability to ‘read’ their canine’s behavior and to utilize that knowledge in effective training.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 2 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: Upon completion of this unit, students will be able to describe the basic aspects of canine communication, behavior, and drive.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 2-1 Explain how handlers and canines communicate;
- 2-2 Describe common canine signals;
- 2-3 Identify the factors that influence behavior;
- 2-4 Describe basic learning principles;
- 2-5 Identify and describe canine drives; and
- 2-6 Describe how to apply canine drives to search training.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 3: Role of the Helper

Summary: This unit explains the role that the helper plays in training the canine. The helper is the person who is actually rewarding the canine. The helper's role is crucial for the canine's successful training.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 3 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: Upon completion of this unit, students will be able to perform the functions of the helper.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 3-1 Demonstrate proper communication, technique, and timing:
 - Inside the remote alert box
 - On the rope of a alert box
 - In an alert hole
 - On the rubble pile
- 3-2 Develop an effective canine reward system; and
- 3-3 Improve reward-timing skills.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by field stations to train helper skills

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 4: Bark Alert

Summary: The bark alert is the required trained indication that disaster canines must give when they have located live human scent. This unit addresses how canines are often required to search out of sight of their handlers and must be able to give an audible alert when they make a find.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 4 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to explain and apply the actions necessary to teach the canine to perform an independent of handler bark alert indicating the location of the human scent.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 4-1 Explain the rationale for the bark alert; and
- 4-2 Explain how reinforcement training and behavior chaining are used to train the desired behavior.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by a demonstration and field station to train the bark alert.

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 5: Scent Theory

Summary: Searching effectively with a canine in a disaster environment requires an understanding of the movement of scent of trapped live human victims. This unit explains the conditions which affect scent movement in the collapsed structure environment.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 5 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to explain the theory of scent as it relates to canine search for humans in collapsed structure.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 5-1 Explain the physical and chemical characteristics of human scent;
- 5-2 Briefly present the different hypotheses that address the nature of scent;
- 5-3 Discuss the factors that may affect scent;
- 5-4 Explain how scent is transported away from the victim; and
- 5-5 Plan the search of a collapsed structure in order to most efficiently work their canines into available scent.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by a field demonstration

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 6: Direction and Control

Summary: The ability to direct a canine to search in a specific area is a foundation skill necessary for canine disaster search. This unit addresses how often the handler will not have access to the search area and must be able to guide a canine, using voice and hand commands, to the search area.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 6 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to describe and apply the basic principles of canine directability when working with their canine.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 6-1 Explain the rationale supporting canine directability;
- 6-2 Describe the importance of training in small increments, and the use of good timing and effective praise in teaching and combining the foundational skills; and
- 6-3 Effectively proof and problem solve directability.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by field demonstrations and training stations

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 6A: The Search Team Manager and the Canine Search Specialist

Summary: This unit discusses the role of the Search Team Manager and the Canine Search Specialist before, during and after a deployment. A clear understanding of roles and responsibilities of each position is vital to an effective and efficient search team.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 6A presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to describe Search Team Manager’s responsibilities in relation to the Canine Search Specialist.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 6A-1 Describe the overall goal of the canine Search Specialist Training (CSST) Program;
- 6A-2 Describe the roles and responsibilities of the Canine Search Specialist and Search Team manager;
- 6A-3 Identify the relational aspects of working with the Canine Search Specialist before, during, and after a deployment; and
- 6A-4 List the deployment related documentation requirements for both the Canine Search Specialist and the Search Team Manager.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 7: Agility

Summary: This unit addresses how canines must be agile to work in the disaster environment but unlike competition agility, disaster agility requires slow, precise movement in unstable situations.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 7 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to explain the basic principals and methods of canine agility training.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 7-1 Explain the rationale supporting canine agility training;
- 7-2 Discuss the importance of incremental training steps;
- 7-3 Describe reinforcement training and reward based training;
- 7-4 Describe visual and verbal cues;
- 7-5 Explain the importance of safety;
- 7-6 Describe the importance of training the canine in a flexible training field; and
- 7-7 Explain the importance of building and maintaining confidence.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by a field demonstration and agility training stations.

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 7A: Search Team Manager (STM): Canine Search Operations and the Role of the Search Team Manager

Summary: In addition to deployment responsibilities, Search Team Managers are involved in all aspects of disaster canine training and testing. This unit describes the Search Manager’s role in that process.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 7A presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to identify the Search Team Manager’s responsibilities during canine training process and in search operations.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 7A-1 Describe the Search Team Manager’s role in handler and canine training;
- 7A-2 Identify ways to integrate the search canine component into the task force team as a whole;
- 7A-3 Describe the Search Team Manager’s role in canine search team certification;
- 7A-4 List the duties and responsibilities canine handlers have within the task force;
- 7A-5 Describe the Search Team Manager’s role in facilitating the successful completion of the canine handler’s duties and responsibilities within the task force;
- 7A-6 Describe the canine search team’s responsibilities before, during, and after a deployment; and
- 7A-7 Describe Search Team Manager’s role in facilitating the canine search team’s successful completion of their duties before, during, and after a deployment.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 8: Advanced Rubble Search

Summary: Expanding a Canine Search Specialist's skills in rubble search is discussed in this unit. As the team readies for the Certificate Evaluation, more complex training scenarios are necessary.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 8 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to explain the rationale for canine proficiency in the foundational elements of disaster search.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 8-1 Explain the importance of exposing canine to varied disaster scenarios;
- 8-2 Describe the importance of the handler being knowledgeable in search strategy and scenting factors and conditions to utilize canine to best advantage; and
- 8-3 Identify and solve problems that develop in disaster scenarios.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by field demonstrations and training stations

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 9: Other Considerations

Summary: Canine Search Specialists can expect to search in a wide range of situations. This unit discusses aspects of searching in confined space, the need to be lifted or lowered into a search area and the likelihood of encountering human remains.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 9 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: Upon completion of this unit, students will be able to explain the actions necessary to prepare for the various mission-related factors a Canine Search Specialist may encounter during a search.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 9-1 Describe how to determine a canine's reaction to human remains scent and what action, if any, to take;
- 9-2 Explain how to prepare a canine search team for working in confined spaces; and
- 9-3 Explain how to prepare a canine search team to deal with issues related to lifting and heights.

Duration: 30 minutes

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by field demonstrations and training stations in these areas

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Unit 10: Canine Search Strategy and Tactics

Summary: This unit discusses search strategy specific to the disaster environment. Differing types of collapses and search strategies for each type are explored.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 10 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to describe how the Search Team interacts with other functions and disciplines during Task Force operations.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 10-1 Describe the different phases of a mission;
- 10-2 Identify disaster types and magnitudes;
- 10-3 Describe search and rescue operations;
- 10-4 Explain how to conduct a victim search;
- 10-5 Describe the types of searches conducted; and
- 10-6 Describe structure hazards and marking systems.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 11: Program Updates and Evaluation Process

Summary: The DHS/FEMA Canine Search Specialist training and certification process is one that undergoes regular scrutiny and periodic changes are made to improve the process. This unit keeps the Canine Search Specialist up to date on the status of the program and certification process.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 11 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: Upon completion of this unit, students will be able to describe the current DHS/FEMA Canine Search Specialist Certification Process.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 11-1 Describe how the current canine program evolved; and
- 11-2 Describe the current Canine Search Specialist Certification Process.

Duration: 2 hours

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 12: Canine First Aid Operations Exercise

Summary: Disaster canines work in a dangerous environment without benefit of protective clothing or respiratory devices. They are susceptible to injuries and medical problems. Basic knowledge of canine first aid and medical assessment procedures are discussed in this unit.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 12 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to demonstrate the physical assessment and stabilization of an injured or ill canine.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 12-1 Perform the primary and secondary medical assessment of the canine;
- 12-2 Evaluate that assessment to decide on euthanasia; and
- 12-3 Implement stabilization or transportation of the canine.

Duration: 2 hours

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 12A: Search Team Manager (STM): Canine Search Operations

Summary: The Search Team Manager must understand various conditions, capabilities, and limitations of the search canine team. This unit reviews reconnaissance and detection, as well as explains important search and on-site considerations.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 12A presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to identify the Search Team Manager’s responsibilities during canine search operations.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 12A-1 Describe the components of the reconnaissance team;
- 12A-2 List the information that needs to be communicated to the canine team during deployment;
- 12A-3 Identify the types of searches employed during a deployment;
- 12A-4 List the key safety considerations during search operations;
- 12A-5 Identify the key considerations associated with victims; and
- 12A-6 List the responsibilities related to post-mission duties.

Duration: 1 hour

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Unit 13: Operational Exercise

Summary: This unit allows the students to incorporate skills learned in the class into a realistic search exercise. Students will have the opportunity to be a part of a search team and deploy in several search scenarios.

Instructional Resources Required:

- Unit 13 presentation slides
- Participant Manual
- Computer
- Projector

Terminal Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this unit, students will be able to demonstrate the basic skills of canine search in given scenarios.

Enabling Objective: The participants will be able to:

- 13-1 Utilize the standards developed for canine search operations;
- 13-2 Work with the Instructors on proper search and alerting techniques;
- 13-3 Demonstrate the requirements for proper Search Team operations;
- 13-4 Demonstrate search techniques used during disaster response operations; and
- 13-4 Expose the canine to the scent of human remains.

Duration: 8 hours

Method of Instruction: Facilitated seminar format in a classroom environment followed by multiple field search scenarios.

Instructor Ratio: 1:8

Required Reading: None

Special Instructions: None

Reference Material

This program of instruction references a number of Department of Homeland Security documents which are included below for reference:

1. National Planning Scenarios, Department of Homeland Security
<https://odp.esportals.com>
2. National Preparedness Guidelines, Department of Homeland Security, September 2007
<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/npg.pdf>
3. Target Capabilities List (TCL), Department of Homeland Security, September 2007
<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/training/tcl.pdf>
4. Universal Task List (UTL), Department of Homeland Security, version 2.1
http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/UTL2_1.pdf
5. The National Response Framework, Department of Homeland Security
<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf>
6. National Incident Management System (NIMS)
<http://www.fema.gov/nims/index.shtm>
7. Emergency Support Function 9 (ESF-9), National Response Framework
<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nrf/nrf-esf-09.pdf>
8. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/02/20030228-9.html>
9. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/12/20031217-6.html>
10. Office of Grants and Training, Department of Homeland Security
<http://www.dhs.gov/>
11. TEEX website
<http://www.teex.org>
12. National Fire Protection Association
<http://www.nfpa.org>
13. Disaster Canine Information
<http://disasterdog.org>