ONLINE THE SIX LAYER CONCEPT WORKSHOP

HUMAN TERRAIN MAPPING AND BEHAVIOR PATTERN RECOGNITION

COURSE OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

COURSE LENGTH: 8 Hours (1 Days)

8 Hours Virtual Classroom

COURSE OVERVIEW

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: This workshop is designed for law enforcement, fire, EMT, and security professionals who work are exposed to environments where they are exposed to active human threats and high-pressure situations.

This entire course is conducted online via Zoom through the NTOA's Learning Management System. The Six Layer Concept: Human Terrain Mapping and Behavior Pattern Recognition (HTMBPR) Workshop introduces students to the HTMBPR program and strengthens their ability to observe threat environments and explain their decisions using published science.

The workshop teaches students to establish baselines and identify anomalies using the six layers of human behavior, to recognize factors that affect observation and decision-making, and to apply HTMBPR to threat recognition. Understanding human behavior also supports more effective mission planning that accounts for environmental cues and threat indicators.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

Upon completion of this course the attendee will be familiar with:

1. Describe the origins and purpose of Human Terrain Mapping and Behavior Pattern Recognition (HTMBPR) and its use in observation, threat recognition, and decision-making
2. Explain how Baseline + Anomaly = Decision (B+A=D) relates to the OODA Loop and how agency policy and legal, moral, and ethical considerations guide its use
3. Establish a baseline using cultural, environmental, and situational context, then identify deviations from expected behavior
4. Explain how implicit and explicit biases influence judgment and test assumptions by considering alternative explanations for observed behavior
5. Describe how stress affects visual perception and attention, and how channel capacity, sequencing, change blindness, and adaptation influence situational awareness
6. Form an initial impression using heuristics, then test it against clusters of proxemic, geographic, atmospheric, biometric, and kinesic cues
7. Compare the most probable and most dangerous courses of action to evaluate options for continued observation, de-escalation, or tactical disengagement
8. Apply the six layers in a video scenario to identify clusters of anomalies and explain, orally and in writing, which observations support the threat assessment and chosen response

DAY TO DAY / HOUR TO HOUR AGENDA

ALL TIMES FOR ONLINE COURSES ARE EASTERN TIME – ADJUST FOR LOCAL TIMEZONE

DAY ONE

Hours:	**Instruction:**
1000-1030	Course Introduction, Overview, and Administration
1030-1130	Understand the Origins of Human Terrain Mapping & Behavior Pattern Recognition
1130-1230	Recognize the Human Factors Effecting Observations and Impact on Decision-Making
1230-1330	Other Cognitive Factors That Effect Advanced Critical Thinking
1330-1400	Breakout Group Discussion
1400-1500	Lunch / Break
1500-1600	Understanding of Heuristics, Proxemics, and Atmospherics
1600-1700	Understanding of Geographics, Biometrics, and Kinesics
1700-1800	Practical Application / Case Study
1800-1900	Review of Concepts and Closeout

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Preface
- A. Course Overview
- B. Instructional Goals
- C. Agenda

II. Introduction
- A. Origins and Purpose of Human Terrain Mapping and Behavior Pattern Recognition (HTMBPR)
- B. First Contact and the Consequences of Early Decisions
- C. Baseline + Anomaly = Decision (B+A=D) and the Rule of Three
- D. Agency Policy and the Legal, Moral, and Ethical Basis for Decisions
- E. John Boyd's OODA Loop (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act)
- F. Course of Action Development — Most Probable and Most Dangerous
- G. Response Options — Continued Observation, De-escalation, and Tactical Disengagement

III. Baseline Considerations
- A. Establishing the Baseline for a Person, Place, or Event
- B. Common Human Behaviors and Cultural Context
- C. Perspective and Bias — Implicit and Explicit Bias in Observation
- D. Reassessing the Baseline and Testing Alternative Explanations
- E. Situational Awareness — Perception, Comprehension, and Projection
- F. Effects of Fatigue, Distraction, and Competing Demands
- G. Clear Radio Reports and Specific Be-on-the-Lookout (BOLO) Descriptions
- H. P.A.C.E. Planning for Backup Communications

IV. Observation & Decision-Making Factors
- A. The Eye — Functional Field of View and Perceptual Narrowing
- B. The Brain — Attention, Memory, and Decision-Making
- C. Effects of Stress on Perception and Performance (the "Combat Cocktail")
- D. Context and Relevance in Interpreting Observations
- E. Cognitive Reality, Cognitive Illusion, and Cognitive Dissonance
- F. Urban Masking and Social Camouflage
- G. Channel Capacity, Divided Attention, and Sequencing
- H. Change Blindness and Sensory Adaptation

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V. The Six Layers of Human Behavior

A. Interpreting Clusters of Cues Against the Baseline

B. Heuristics — Pattern Recognition and Errors in First Impressions

C. Proxemics — Interpersonal Distance, Proxemic Pushes and Pulls, and Group Relationships

D. Geographics — Natural Lines of Drift, Habitual Areas, and Anchor Points

E. Atmospherics — Shifts in Sight, Sound, Smell, Feel or Mood of a Person, Place or Situation

F. Biometrics – Life Measurement, Autonomic, Observable Physiological Changes

G. Kinesics — Posture, Gestures, Facial Expressions, and Paralanguage

H. Video Case Analysis — Identifying Anomalies and Potential Threats

I. Articulating the Observations That Support a Response

NTOA PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR MATERIALS

INSTRUCTOR PACKET (sent electronically)

- Course roster
- Instructor agreements

COURSE PRESENTATION MATERIALS

- PowerPoint presentation available on Basecamp for download

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STUDENT INFORMATION

INDIVIDUAL

- This course is conducted entirely online via Zoom, through the NTOA's Learning Management System
- Student should confirm they are able to access Zoom with the device being use and ensure a stable high speed internet connection
- **Computer or tablet device must have webcam and microphone to attend this course – each student needs their own device/login – group attendance is not allowed**
- Student materials will be made available via Dropbox

STUDENT NOTEBOOK CONTENTS

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
Preface	Overview, Instructional Goals, Agenda, Outline
1.	Introduction
2.	Baseline Considerations
3.	Observation & Decision-Making Factors
4.	The Six Layers of Human Behavior