

# New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy

## Site Visit Report

### Description of Training Organization

Agency did not provide this information. Please contact directly - (505) 827-9249.

### Source of Official Student Records

In order to award credit, colleges and universities require proof of completion of coursework issued by the training organization. A student who has completed training provided by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety Law Enforcement Academy may obtain such records of this training by contacting:

New Mexico Department of Public Safety Law Enforcement Academy  
4491 Cerrillos Road  
Santa Fe, NM 87507

### Description of Training Programs

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 20 weeks (800 hours) – Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA); 29 weeks (1,145 hours) – New Mexico State Police Academy (SPA)

**Program Objective:** To provide participants with the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to serve effectively at the entry level as a law enforcement officer in the State of New Mexico.

**Learning Objective:** Upon successful completion of this program, the graduate will be able to perform all routine duties of a law enforcement officer in the State of New Mexico.

**Instructional Methods:** A combination of lecture, discussion, practical exercise, scenario, group discussions, and simulations.

**Learning Assessments:** Written and practical examinations are used.

### Description of Team

Three assessment consultants and one Criminal Justice Training Assessment coordinator were on the team. Below is a list of all participants; CJTA and Excelsior College has full curriculum vitae on file for each.

Sutham Cheurprakobkit, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Kennesaw State University  
Kennesaw, Georgia

N. Prabha Unnithan, Ph.D.  
Director of Graduate Studies  
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William H. McDonald, Ph.D.  
Criminal Justice Program Chair  
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John Jay College  
New York, NY

Eric C. Schultz, MA  
Senior Assessment Coordinator  
Criminal Justice Training Assessment  
Albany, New York

### Description of Visit

From September 20th to 22nd, 2006, four representatives of Criminal Justice Training Assessment conducted a site visit to the New Mexico Department of Public Safety (DPS) Law Enforcement Academy to assess the Basic Law Enforcement and New Mexico State Police Academies. On the first morning the team assembled at the New Mexico DPS Academy. Following a brief organizational meeting and introductions to the academy staff, the assessment team was shown to the lab to access all the necessary materials and to begin the assessment process. The team determined that the remainder of the day would be spent organizing the various subject modules of the training programs into familiar college course content areas. Before finishing for the day, the course areas were discussed, assigned to a specific faculty member, and the review began.

The team began the second day by continuing to review the assigned materials. Due to the quality and nature of delivery of the materials, the assessment team was able to complete the assessment by mid-afternoon of the second day. In the late afternoon of the second day, the team conducted an exit-interview/debrief with the academy's contact personnel.

### Credit Recommendations

#### Summary of Credit Recommendations

**Program:** New Mexico Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) and New Mexico State Police Academy (SPA)

	BLEA	SPA
Defensive Tactics	3 credits	4 credits
First Aid and CPR	1 credit	1 credit
Health and Wellness for the Crim. Just. Professional	3 credits	4 credits
Human Behavior in Law Enforcement	3 credits	3.5 credits
Introduction to Firearms	2 credits	3 credits
Introduction to Law Enforcement	2.5 credits	3 credits
Introduction to Laws and Procedures	3 credits	4 credits
Police Operations	2 credits	3 credits
Police Patrol Procedures	3 credits	4 credits
Principles of Criminal Investigation	3 credits	3.5 credits
Traffic Enforcement and Collision Investigation	3 credits	3.5 credits
Vehicle Dynamics and Operations	1 credit	1.5 credits
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29.5 credits</b>	<b>38 credits</b>

Course Descriptions

**Defensive Tactics** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 4 credits, lower divisions for SPA)

*Program:* Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

*Location:* New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

*Length:* 88 (+22.5 for SPA) hours

*Dates:* December 2003 to September 2007

*Objectives:* At the completion of this course students will be able to: Explain the difference between deadly and non-deadly force and identify the circumstances in which each type of force may be used; Explain the applicable New Mexico State Law, US Constitutional Law, civil law, and agency policy for the use of non deadly and deadly force to effectuate an arrest, protect the lives of officers and third parties, and protect property; Analyze case studies to determine the legality and appropriateness of police officer conduct in use of force situations, and explain relevant principles of civil liability; Explain the use of force decision making process; Apply the Reactive Control Model to use of force situations in the force decision process, documentation of the incident, report writing, post-incident analysis, and litigation; Identify and explain the principles and concepts of subject control according to the "Reactive Control Model;" Demonstrate appropriate self defense and custody control techniques, and handgun retention techniques using the "Lindell Handgun Retention System;" Demonstrate the proper procedures for approaching, controlling, handcuffing, field searching, and transporting a suspect; Identify the proper situations, legal authorities, and tactics for to conducting a frisk or pat down search; Explain the use of OC spray in the force continuum (RCM), and the circumstances where the application of OC is considered reasonable; Demonstrate a working knowledge of the OC aerosol projectors and other OC products (both mechanical and practical employment), appropriate use of each; proper first aid and decontamination procedures; Identify and describe the body points or areas identified as "target areas," "avoid strike areas," and "non strike areas" when using a baton to control a suspect using a baton.

*Instruction:* Students must complete no fewer than: sixty-eight hours (12 additional for SPA) of "Mechanics of Arrest, Restraint and Control," one hour (one and one-half additional for SPA) of "Medical Implications," three hours (two additional for SPA) of "OC Spray," two hours of "Transporting Prisoners," seven hours (six additional for SPA) of "Use of Force Continuum/Judgment Issues," and seven (one additional for SPA) of "Use of Force Legal Issues." Instructional methods for this course include: lectures, practical exercises, group discussions, videos, power point presentations, and case studies. Evaluation methods include: written examinations, practical applications and exercises, and case studies.

*Credit Recommendation:* In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, four semester credits for SPA.

**First Aid and CPR** (1 credit, lower division)

*Program:* Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

*Location:* New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

*Length:* 16 hours

*Dates:* December 2003 to September 2007

*Objectives:* At the completion of this course students will be able to: Satisfy the requirements of the American Red Cross Basic First Aid and CPR Curriculum; Describe a primary and secondary first aid survey; Identify HIV and HBV and describe strategies for protecting against blood borne pathogens during first aid activities; Recognize the symptoms and provide first aid for specific illnesses and injuries; Explain appropriate legal principles.

*Instruction:* Students must complete no fewer than: three hours of "Bloodborne Pathogens," nine hours of "CPR for the Professional Rescuer," and four hours of "First Aid." Instructional methods for this course include lecture, power point presentations, video presentations and exercises, practical exercises, and skills assessment. Evaluation methods include: written examinations and practical exercises.

*Credit Recommendation:* In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, one semester credit.

**Health and Wellness for the Criminal Justice Professional** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 4 credits, lower division for SPA)

*Program:* Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

*Location:* New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

*Length:* 76 (+39.5 for SPA) hours

*Dates:* December 2003 to September 2007

*Objectives:* Upon completion of this course, students will be able to: Explain the basic concept of stress, causes of stress for law enforcement personnel, the affects of stress on the human body's physical, mental and emotional well being; and appropriate coping techniques; Explain the basic elements of proper nutrition, and identify and explain the basic guidelines for healthy eating as defined by the American Dietetic Association; Describe the components and benefits of physical fitness and a healthy life style; Identify the basic components of physical fitness and its primary components; Successful meet the physical fitness standards of the NYDPS Law Enforcement Academy.

*Instruction:* Students must complete no fewer than: seventy-two hours (thirty-six additional for SPA) of "Academy Physical Requirements," two hours (two and one-half additional for SPA) of "Emotional Health and Stress Management," one hour of "Nutrition," and one hour (one additional for SPA) of "Physical Fitness." Instructional methods for this course include lecture, video presentations, over heads, practical demonstration and practical exercises. Evaluation methods include written examinations, practical application, and practical exercises.

*Credit Recommendation:* In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, four semester credits for SPA.

**Human Behavior in Law Enforcement** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 3.5 credits, lower division for SPA)

*Program:* Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

*Location:* New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

*Length:* 71 (+7.5 for SPA) hours

*Dates:* December 2003 to September 2007

*Objectives:* Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate understanding of perceptions of human behavior. Demonstrate familiarity with issues pertaining to sexual harassment. Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of issues pertaining to cultural diversity and its impact on law enforcement operations. Demonstrate an ability to listen and respond to common Spanish language words and phrases. Demonstrate familiarity with the basic principles of behavior management. Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of crisis intervention techniques in varied law enforcement situations. Demonstrate an ability to handle him or herself during situations involving disputes and conflicts with and among others. Demonstrate learning of techniques for dealing with the mentally ill and other special populations. Demonstrate learning of techniques for dealing with people who are suicidal, have barricaded themselves or are hostages.

*Instruction:* Students must complete no fewer than: twelve hours (one and one-half additional for SPA) of "Behavior Management and Crisis Intervention," three hours of "Cultural Diversity," eight hours of "Disputer Intervention and Conflict Management," twelve hours of "Handling the Mentally Ill & Other Special Populations," ten hours of "Perceptions of Human Behavior," two hours (six additional for SPA) of "Sexual Harassment," sixteen hours of "Spanish Language," and eight hours of "Suicide, Barricaded, Hostage & Suicide by Police." Instructional methods for this course include lectures, group discussions, self-awareness checks, and mock exercises. Evaluation methods include written examinations and practical application exercises

*Credit Recommendation:* In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, three and one-half semester credits for SPA.

**Introduction to Firearms** (2 credits, lower division for BLEA, 3 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 70.5 (+78 for SPA) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** Identify and demonstrate the procedures for the safe storage, safe handling, safe use and effective maintenance of revolvers and semi automatic pistols in a variety of situations. Name the functions parts of pistols and revolvers. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of ballistics. Explain the elements of marksmanship and demonstrate proficiency with Departmental firearms in a variety of shooting positions and situations, including low light conditions. Demonstrate the correct care, maintenance and use of Departmental body armor.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: sixty-nine and a half hours (seventy-eight additional for SPA) of “Basic Firearms,” and one hour of “Body Armor.” Instructional methods include lecture, practical demonstration, practical exercises, and handouts. Evaluation methods include written examinations, practical exercises, and skills demonstration.

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, two semester credits for BLEA, three semester credits for SPA.

**Introduction to Law Enforcement** (2.5 credits, lower division for BLEA, 3 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 41 (+14.5 for SPA) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** Explain the history of American policing, including Sir Robert Peel’s contributions to and impacts on reform efforts and the three major historical periods of American law enforcement. Explain the impact of the technological advances on law enforcement and the emerging trends in law enforcement organizations. Explain the structure, functions, processes, and goals of the criminal justice system in the State of New Mexico, as well as the roles of key officials within the system. Define and discuss the concepts, principles, and benefits of community policing philosophy. Explain police strategies and how to apply such strategies to implementing community policing programs. Define ethics and professionalism. Recognize police code of ethics and identify activities and situations associated with ethical and moral issues. Define civil liability (including tort, negligence, and sovereign immunity) and discuss it as related to law enforcement officers. List the basic requirements for criminal liability under 18 U.S.C. Sections 241 and 242 and under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983. Relate civil liability to use of force, search and seizure, and high speed pursuits. Explain the legal requirements and procedures for taking a child into protective custody. Explain effective interview techniques for children and their parents. Identify proper procedures for responding to domestic calls, including the initial investigation of domestic abuse. Identify indications of possible spousal abuse and criteria needed to determine the primary aggressor in a dual assault case, and available alternatives for assistance to battered women. Explain the rationales for victim compensation and restitution and the purposes and requirements of the New Mexico Crime Victims Compensation Acts. Identify victim’s right provided by the Act and police duties required by the law.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: two hours of “History and Principles of Law Enforcement,” eight hours of “Policies and Procedures” (SPA only), two hours of “The New Mexico Criminal Justice System,” fourteen hours of “Police and the Public and Community Oriented Policing,” five hours (six and one-half additional for SPA) of “Ethics and Moral Issues,” six hours of “Criminal/Civil Liability,” two hours of “Handling Juveniles and Their Problems,” eight hours of “Domestic Violence and Police Response,” and two hours of “Victim Assistance laws.” Instructional methods include lectures (supplemented by PowerPoint presentation, overheads, and handouts), group discussion, group exercise, and case studies. Evaluation methods include written examination.

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, two and one-half semester credits for BLEA, three semester credits for SPA.

**Introduction to Laws and Procedures** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 4 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 65 (+18.5 for SPA) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate understanding of authority and jurisdiction as they pertain to law enforcement. Demonstrate familiarity with Constitutional law, criminal law, issues pertaining to criminal and arrest procedures, procedures for search and seizure, civil and liquor laws. Demonstrate a familiarity and understanding of laws and issues of jurisdiction pertaining to Native American (Indian) country. Demonstrate understanding of juvenile law and justice. Demonstrate understanding of how to present courtroom testimony as a professional. Demonstrate familiarity with prosecution procedures and case preparation.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: six hours of “Authority and Jurisdiction,” two hours (one additional for SPA) of “Civil Laws,” two hours of “Constitutional Law,” five hours of “Courtroom Testimony and Demeanor,” ten hours (two additional for SPA) of “Criminal Law,” seven hours (eleven additional for SPA) of “Criminal Procedures and Laws of Arrest,” one hour of “Indian Country,” two hours of “Juvenile Law and Justice,” one hour (two and one-half additional for SPA) of “Liquor Laws,” fourteen hours (two additional for SPA) of “Police Officer as Prosecutor/Legal Practice Exercise,” and fifteen hours of “Search and Seizure.” Instructional methods for this course include lectures and group discussions. Evaluation methods include written examinations and practical application exercises

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, four semester credits for SPA.

**Police Operations** (2 credits, lower division for BLEA, 3 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 28.5 (+2) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** At the completion of this course students will be able to: Identify the five categories of Critical Incidents, the four phases of a Critical Incident, the tasks to be accomplished in each phase, and the appropriate management styles of the Incident Commander; List and explain specific strategies and actions necessary to control various Critical Incidents, the duties of the first officer on the scene, and the 7 Critical Tasks to be accomplished during the Crises Phase; Demonstrate the ability to manage various types of Critical Incidents by applying the 7 Critical Tasks in simulated exercises; Describe the main components of the N.I.I.M.S. Incident Command System; Identify the various criminal gangs in New Mexico and their distinguishing signs; Explain the history of each gang, inter-gang relationships, organizational structures, and primary criminal activities; Describe the strategies and techniques to recognize gang activity; List terrorist threat areas in New Mexico and the proper follow up actions to deal with these threats; Identify the various types of crowds, assess the size and nature of crowds, list strategies for identifying leaders and agitators, and describe tactics for responding to specific types of crowds, including unruly groups; Demonstrate a basic understanding of police crowd and riot control procedures, including proper procedures for effecting arrests in crowd conditions and community policing sensitive dispersal formations for moving congregated persons; Identify manpower, equipment and tactical alternatives used in crowd control situations; Apply relevant New Mexico State Law to crowd control enforcement; Describe the basic concepts of community crime prevention and the crime prevention duties of police officers in specific police activities and functions; Conduct security tests and inspections of business, residences, and related security equipment.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: one and one-half hours of “Crime Prevention and Fear Reduction,” sixteen hours of “Critical Incident Management,” one hour (two additional for SPA) of “Crowd Control and Civil Disorder,” and ten hours of “Special Problems – Gangs and Terrorism.” Instructional

methods for this course include: lecture, class participation, power point presentations, handouts, overhead and video aids, computer simulations, and practical role-playing scenarios. Evaluation methods include: written examinations and practical exercises.

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, two semester credits for BLEA, three semester credits for SPA.

**Police Patrol Procedures** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 4 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 81.5 (+48.5) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** At the completion of this course students will be able to: Demonstrate a basic understanding of police patrol operations and explain the different patrol techniques and tactics, and their applications; List the most frequently encountered incidents to which police patrol officers are required to respond including service calls; Identify and demonstrate proper procedures for those patrol activities, duties, and calls for service most frequently encountered by police officers; Define the major goals of patrol including crime prevention, deterrence and detection, public order maintenance, public safety, provisions of emergency service; Demonstrate proper procedures for responding to various types of crime-in-progress calls; Explain the conditions under which pursuit is warranted and the appropriate procedures for conducting a pursuit; Describe the procedures for capturing and destroying dangerous or injured animals; Demonstrate the techniques for safe and effective police conduct in unknown risk, high-risk, and felony traffic stops, and vehicle searches; Conduct night time vehicle stops; Carry out basic police radio communication procedures, including those for suspect and vehicle descriptions and various NCIC checks; Identify the lawful uses of police road blocks and their accompanying hazards, the techniques for setting road blocks in various situations, and the appropriate legal and ethical principles; Demonstrate and explain the legal, tactical and organizational standards for a DWI check point; Explain and demonstrate the nature of technical writing as it applies to police writing, including memoranda, letters, investigative reports, and criminal complaints, using the appropriate standards and mechanics of American English and associated ethical principles; Describe the principles of good note taking and identify the various practical and legal uses of officer's notes; Demonstrate the safe and effective search of buildings during the night time.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: five hours of "Night-time Building Searches Practicum," five hours of "Night-time Vehicle Stops Practicum," fourteen and one-half hours (five and one-half additional for SPA) of "Note Taking and Report Writing," eight hours (eleven and one-half additional for SPA) of "Patrol Activities and Incidents," sixteen hours (fourteen additional for SPA) of "Patrol Procedures," thirteen hours (six and one-half additional for SPA) of "Patrol Response Practicum," five hours (three additional for SPA) of "Radio Procedures," two hours of "Roadblocks and Barricades," one hour (one-half additional for SPA) of "Role of Patrol in Policing the Community," and twelve hours (seven and one-half additional for SPA) of "Vehicle Stop Techniques." Instructional methods for this course include: lecture, power point presentations, group discussions; overheads, handouts, and practical exercises. Evaluation methods include: written examinations and practical exercises.

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, four semester credits for SPA.

**Principles of Criminal Investigation** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 3.5 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 76 (+14 for SPA) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate familiarity and understanding of the police officer's role as first responder. Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of basic interviewing and interrogation techniques. Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of procedures for identifying, collecting and processing evidence. Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of methods for identifying suspects. Demonstrate a basic understanding of investigative procedures for dealing with crimes against people and crimes against property. Demonstrate basic understanding of specific investigative procedures for cases involving injury, death, sex, and controlled substances. Demonstrate basic understanding of methods for dealing with informants and intelligence information. Demonstrate basic understanding of methods for carrying out surveillance. Demonstrate basic understanding of responses to civil complaints and calls for service. Demonstrate basic understanding of how to investigate technological crimes. Demonstrate various practical techniques for crime scene investigations.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: two hours of "Civil Complaints and Service Calls," eight hours (three and one-half additional for SPA) of "Controlled Substances," nine hours (one-half additional for SPA) of "Crime Scene Investigation Practicum," four hours (one additional for SPA) of "Crimes Against People," four hours of "Crimes Against Property," two hours of "Identification of Suspects," sixteen hours of "Identifying, Collecting and Processing Evidence," two hours of "Informants and Intelligence," three hours (five additional for SPA) of "Injury and Death Cases," eight hours (two additional for SPA) of "Interviewing and Interrogation Techniques and Skills," six hours (two additional for SPA) of "Sex Crimes," two hours of "Surveillance," four hours of "Technology Crimes and Investigation," and six hours of "The Officer as First Responder." Instructional methods for this course include lectures, practical applications and group discussions. Evaluation methods include written examinations and practical application exercises

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, three and one-half semester credits for SPA.

**Traffic Enforcement and Collision Investigation** (3 credits, lower division for BLEA, 3.5 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 72.5 (+31.5 for SPA) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** Define basic terms used in the vehicle codes and the functions of law enforcement within the context highway transportation. Identify levels of government related to vehicle codes and regulations and sources of standards for driver/pedestrian behavior and vehicle equipment. Explain and identify laws, techniques and procedures regarding titles, registration, and insurance, as well as being able to identify a proper title, registration, and insurance. Explain laws regarding drivers licenses and identify techniques and procedures on necessary requirements for valid driver's licensing in New Mexico. List four exemptions from licensing requirements and eight causes for withdrawal of operation privileges. Explain the provisions of New Mexico's occupant protection laws. Identify and describe various types of occupant protection devices, how they work, and how effective they are. Define the dynamics of various types of motor vehicle crashes, and discuss the relationship between injury classifications and crash types. Discuss various strategies for traffic enforcement (including when to issue warnings, to arrest the violator, to notify for roadway repair, to remove vehicles for obstructing traffic, and how to assist stranded motorist). Discuss the deterrence effects of DWI enforcement. Demonstrate the ability to recognize and interpret evidence of DWI violations, to administer and interpret standardized field sobriety tests, and to describe DWI evidence clearly and convincingly in written reports and verbal testimony. Define important terms relating to motor vehicles and commercial motor vehicles. Identify equipment standards and driver requirement for commercial vehicles. Explain when safety violations occur and what procedures are needed to take. Define motor vehicle collision and a fatal motor vehicle collision. Identify the three key components of a collision and the proper sequence of events at a collision scene based on severity and type of collision. Demonstrate the ability to conduct a traffic accident investigation, including being able to locate witnesses, record statements of witnesses, and items of evidentiary value that may be present at vehicle collision scene. Identify circumstances that dictate the need for photographs and technical expertise at the scene of a collision. Being able to use different hand movements to direct and maintain a smooth flow of traffic. Recognize an incident involving the hazardous materials and identify basic hazardous materials involved in the incident and its potential. Explain Federal, State, and local standards and procedures for Level I Hazardous Materials response. Identify types of locations that may become targets for criminal or terrorist activity using hazardous materials and explain the

specific actions necessary when an incident is suspected to involve criminal or terrorist activity. Differentiate high speed pursuit from other forms of emergency response. Explain the design, purpose, personnel, department policy, multi-agency cooperation plan, agency resources, and operational considerations associated with pursuit management. Explain the statutory and policy requirements of emergency operation. Explain the use of specific operational emergency equipment in various forms of emergency response. Recognize elements of liability and the psychological and emotional effects resulting from pursuits and emergency response.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: two hours (twenty-six additional for SPA) of "Vehicle Code and Enforcement," one hour (one additional for SPA) of "Title, Registration, and Vehicle Identification," two hours of "Driver Licensing," one and a half hours (one-half additional for SPA) of "Occupant Safety," one hour of "Traffic Enforcement Strategies," twenty-four hours of "DWI Enforcement/Impaired Operator," four hours (four additional for SPA) of "Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement," twenty-four hours of "Collision Investigation," eight hours of "Hazardous Materials," two hours of "Pursuit and Legal Issues," and three hours of "Emergency Response." Instructional methods include lectures (supplemented by PowerPoint presentation, overheads, audio visual aids, and handouts), group discussion and activities, group exercise, assignments, and case scenarios. Evaluation methods include written examination.

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits for BLEA, three and one-half semester credits for SPA.

**Vehicle Dynamics and Operations** (1 credit, lower division for BLEA, 1.5 credits, lower division for SPA)

**Program:** Basic Law Enforcement Academy/State Police Academy

**Location:** New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training Academy, Santa Fe, NM

**Length:** 35 (+50.5 for SPA) hours

**Dates:** December 2003 to September 2007

**Objectives:** Explain important elements and functions of emergency vehicle equipment and operation, including normal patrol emergency vehicle operation. Recognize the importance of proper mental conditioning associated with emergency vehicle operation. Explain principles of vehicle dynamics and their relationship to the operation of the motor vehicle. Identify operational principles and techniques of performance driving. Explain differences in road course content and design. Understand scoring tabulation and course requirements for both precision and road course operation.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than: three hours of "Introduction to Emergency Vehicle Operations," two and a half hours of "Vehicle Dynamics," and twenty-nine and a half hours (fifty and one-half additional for SPA) of "Driving Courses." Instructional methods include lecture, overhead, audio visual aids. Evaluation methods include written examination and driving test.

**Credit Recommendation:** In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, one semester credit for BLEA, one and one-half semester credits for SPA.