Washington State Patrol

Site Visit Report

Description of Training Organization

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is the state police agency for Washington State. WSP is comprised of the Office of the Chief and six major bureaus: Field Operations, Fire Protection, Forensic Lab Services, Investigative Services, Management Services and Technical Services.

• The Office of the Chief is comprised of Government and Media Relations, Audit/Inspection Division, Labor and Risk Management and the Department Psychologist.

• The Field Operations Bureau is primarily responsible for traffic law enforcement, collision investigation, and motorist assists on 17,524 miles of state and interstate highways. The bureau is comprised of eight districts, the Special Operations Division, the Explosives Unit, the Honor Guard, the Canine Unit, and Vessel and Terminal Security (VATS). The Problem Oriented Public Safety (POPS) program is also administered by the Field Operations Bureau.

• The State Fire Marshal and Fire Protection Bureau have broad responsibility to ensure fire and life safety for the people of Washington State. The Fire Protection Bureau consists of Emergency Mobilization, Fire code and Information Services, Fire Services Training, and the Regional Fire Protection Services.

• The Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau was created in 1999 and is the administrative headquarters of the Toxicology Laboratory and Crime Laboratory Divisions as well as the Implied Consent Section, which is made up of the Breath Test and Drug Recognition Expert Programs of the Washington State Patrol. Bureau offices are located at 2203 Airport Way South in Seattle.

• The Investigative Services Bureau provides overall administrative and support services to the traffic and investigative programs of the department, as well as to many other state agencies. The bureau is comprised of the Commercial Vehicle Division, Investigative Assistance Division, Criminal Investigation Division, and the Office of Professional Standards.

• The Management Services Bureau was created to serve the entire agency by overseeing Budget and Fiscal Services, the Human Resource Division, the Property Management Division, and the Research and Planning Section.

• The Technical Services Bureau provides support services and information technology for the entire department, as well as many other law enforcement and government agencies throughout the state. This bureau is comprised of the Communications Division, the Criminal Records Division, the Electronic Services Division, the Information Technology Division, and the Training Division.

The department’s total work force, including commissioned personnel, technical, clerical, supervisory, and administrative positions, is 2100+. WSP is funded by appropriations of the Washington State Legislature with a total budget of over 369 million (July 1 2003 – June 30, 2005).

The Academy offers the following instruction - A 6-week Arming Class and a 15-week Trooper Basic Training Class received by all state trooper recruits; In-Service Training and Specialized Training programs offered to WSP Troopers and all law enforcement jurisdictions.

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 Washington State Patrol may obtain such records of this training by contacting:

Washington State Patrol Academy
631 W. Dayton Airport Road
Shelton, WA 98585-8945

Description of Training Programs

The courses listed below comprise the 6-week Arming Class and 15-week Trooper Basic Training program offered by the Washington State Patrol Academy. This is a 1,043 hour, 21-week basic training and meets or exceeds all law enforcement standards for the State of Washington.

Location: Washington State Patrol Academy Shelton, WA
Length: 21 weeks (Arming 6 weeks 236 hours and Trooper Basic 15 weeks 807 hours)
Program Objective: To provide participants with the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to serve effectively at the entry level as a Washington State Trooper.
Learning Objective: Upon successful completion of this program, the graduate will be able to perform all routine duties of a Washington State Trooper.
Instructional Methods: Traditional methods with a focus on Adult Based Learning Principles including lectures with audio-visual enhancements, readings and handouts; role-play exercises; demonstrations; and practical exercises.
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 have full curriculum vitae on file for each.

Donald Dixon, PhD
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
College of Health and Human Services
California State University Sacramento
Sacramento, CA

Sandy Boyd, EdD
Professor of Career Education and Social Sciences
College of Marin
Kentfield, CA

William Lindhart, MA
Lieutenant Oregon State Police (Retired)
Jefferson, OR

Jeffrey Lindhart, MA

Timothy Birch, MS
Assessment Coordinator
Criminal Justice Training Assessment
Excelsior College
Albany, NY
Program: BAC Datamaster Technician Training (7 credits, lower division)

(Includes 4 courses offered in 4 weeks: Datamaster Technician, Alco Sensor III (PBT) Technician, Solution Changer Basic and Basic Instructor)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class

Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA

Length: 295 hours

Dates: September 1999 through June 2009

Objectives: Recall and apply the operation, theory, testing and maintenance of Datamasters, recall the policies and procedures for breath tests, apply mathematics, metrics and statistics to breath test theory and physiology of alcohol. (There are 74 specific objectives in the 4 course outlines)


Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, seven semester credits.

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class

Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA

Length: 58 hours

Dates: September 1999 through June 2009

Objectives: Recall and apply the operation, theory, testing and maintenance of Datamasters, recall the policies and procedures for breath tests, apply mathematics, metrics and statistics to breath test theory and physiology of alcohol. (There are 74 specific objectives in the 4 course outlines)


Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, seven semester credits.
**Washington State Patrol**

**Objectives:** Define the role of the investigator in prevention of collision and the importance of collision investigation; identify the 15 steps of CI, recognize the general procedures of interviewing drivers, passengers and witnesses, identify information located on the road at a collision and reconstruct the collision, identify impact, vehicle damage and types of thrust, identify three rules of measuring and 3 types of reference points and be able to use the two basic methods of measuring, construct a field sketch using triangulations and/or coordinate measuring, construct a scale diagram using the NUTI template, identify the regulations that apply to fatal collision investigations, write a complete fatality report, identify the importance of arriving at a collision scene safely and of parking in a safe and strategic location.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than three hours of “Introduction to CI,” three hours of “15 steps of CI,” three hours of “Information from People,” three hours of “Information from the Road,” three hours of “Information from the Vehicle,” four hours of “Measuring and Diagramming,” four hours of “Fatal Investigation and Use of Forms,” eight hours of “One and two car collision investigation and hit and run,” one hour of “Safe Response,” two hours of “Legal Blood Draw,” two hours of “Speed Estimation,” and twenty-two hours of scenario practice and practical examinations for Collision Investigation. Instructional methods for this course include lecture, discussion, practical classroom exercises, outside practical exercises, self-paced study assignments. Evaluation methods include quizzes, written examinations and practical examinations.

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

**Communications (2 credits, lower division)**

**Program:** Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class

**Location:** Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA

**Length:** 28 hours

**Dates:** September 1999 through June 2009

**Objectives:** Applicable effective communications skills in all public and non-public, verbal and non-verbal contact situations.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than eight hours of “Radio Communications,” three hours of “Tactical Communications,” two hours of “Incident Command System,” four hours of “Time and Activity System/Time and Activity Report (TAR/TAS),” and eleven hours of “Report Writing and Interoffice Communications.” Instructional methods include lecture and group discussion supplemented by PowerPoint, videos, practice with blank forms and whiteboard. Evaluation methods include written examinations, supervised practice and successful completion of records forms, role-playing exercises and study assignments.

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

**Defensive Tactics (2 credits, lower division)**

**Program:** Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class

**Location:** Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA

**Length:** 88 hours

**Dates:** September 1999 through June 2009

**Objectives:** Describe and list the elements in the “use of force continuum.” Explain and specify the legal statutes covering use of force. Demonstrate the proper use of the ASP baton, handcuffs, flashlight (as a defensive weapon) and aerosol sprays. Employ various defensive tactics takedowns, controls and other techniques in gaining and or maintaining subject custody. Assess the appropriate level of force needed and the type of tool or technique best suited for the situation. Describe subject escalation and de-escalation protocols. Compare and evaluate the potential risks of various weapons that may be used against an officer.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than two hours of “Introduction to Defensive Tactics,” two hours of “ASP Baton,” two hours of “OC Spray,” one hour of “Edged Weapons,” one hour of “Weapons Retention,” and no fewer than eighty hours of defensive tactics practical exercises. Instructional methods include lecture, demonstration, practice, and proficiency assessment. Evaluation methods include written examination and skills qualification.

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

**Defensive Basic (4 credits, lower division)**

**Program:** Washington State Patrol Advanced Officer Training

**Location:** Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA

**Length:** 144.75 hours

**Dates:** September 1999 through June 2009

**Objectives:** Identify methods used to initiate a criminal investigation, locate, develop and preserve latent print evidence, recognize standard evidence collection procedures of WSP, recall and apply the basic elements of interviewing and interrogation.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than four hours of “Photography,” two hours of “Computer Forensics,” two hours of “Undercover Procedures,” two hours of “Case Management,” two hours of “Confidential Informants,” four hours of “Surveillance,” four hours of “Search Warrants,” one hour of “Email Crimes,” one hour of “CP,” two hours of “Financial Crimes,” four hours of “Latent Prints,” two hours of “Firearms,” two hours of “Trace Evidence,” two hours of “DNA,” one hour of “Blood,” two hours of “Raid,” two hours of “Identity Theft,” four hours of “Officer Involved Shootings,” and twenty-four hours of “Interviewing and Interrogation.” Instructional methods include lecture, discussion, demonstrations, group work. Evaluation methods include written test, oral presentation and practical application exercises.

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

**Drug Recognition Expert (4 credits, lower division)**

**Program:** Washington State Patrol Advanced Officer Training

**Location:** Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA

**Dates:** September 1999 through June 2009

**Objectives:** Recognize if an individual is under the influence of a drug other than alcohol, or under the combined influence of alcohol and other drugs, or suffering from some injury or illness that produces signs similar to alcohol/drug impairment, list and recall the broad category or categories of drugs inducing the observable signs of impairment, recognize the involvement of drugs in impaired driving situations, list the seven categories of drugs and recognize their effects, recall and properly administer the psychophysical and physiologic examinations used in drug evaluation and classification procedures, document the results of the drug evaluation and classification examination, interpret the results of the examination, prepare a narrative drug influence report, discuss appropriate procedures for testifying in typical drug evaluation and classification cases.

**Instruction:** Students must complete no fewer than eighty hours of “Drug Evaluation and Classification Training,” one-half hour of “Introduction and Overview,” one hour of “Overview of Drug Evaluation and Classification Procedure,” one-half hour of “Psychological Test,” one and one-half hours of “Alcohol as a Drug,” three hours of “Examination of Vital Signs,” four hours of “Eye Examination,” four hours of “Alcohol Workshop,” one hour of “Preparing for DRE School,” two and one-half hours of “Introduction and Overview,” one hour of “Drugs in Society and in Motor Vehicle Operations,” one and one-quarter hours of “Development and Effectiveness of the Program,” three hours of “Overview of Drug Recognition Expert Procedures,” three and one-half hours of “Eye Examination,” two hours of “Physiology and Drugs,” four hours of “Examination of Vital Signs,” two hours of “Demonstration of Evaluation,” two hours of “Central Nervous System Depressants,” two hours of “Central Nervous System Stimulants,” three hours of “Alcohol Workshop,” one and one-half hours of “PDR and Other References,” two hours of “Narcotics,” three and one-quarter hours of “Practice Test Interpretation,” two hours of “PCP,” three and one-half hours of “Narcotic Analgesics,” one and three-quarter hours of “Inhalants,” one and one-half hours of “Practice Vital Signs,” one and one-half hours of “Cannabis,” one hour of “Overview of Signs and Symptoms,” one and one-half hours of “Drug Combinations,” one hour of “Preparing the Narrative Report,” and two and one-half hours of “Case Preparations and
Psychology

Instruction: The “Miranda Warning,” right to counsel, double jeopardy and warrants are employed. Interrogation, arrests and use of force may be employed. Assess and understand the origins and application of such practices and limitations as the “Exclusionary Rule.” Students must complete no fewer than two hours of “Ballistics and Gunshot Wounds,” four hours of “The Heckler and Koch USP Firearm,” two hours of “Range Safety,” one hour of “Night Firing and Use of the Flashlight,” two hours of “Introduction to Firearms,” one hour of “The History of Firearms,” two hours of “Firearms Identification and Handling,” two hours of “Firearms Safety,” three hours of “Fundamentals of Marksmanship,” one hour of “Cover and Concealment,” four hours of “Introduction and Use of the Shotgun,” and sixty-eight hours of practical exercises. Instructional methods include written examinations and skills proficiency qualification.

Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, two semester credits.

First Aid (1 credit, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 24 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009
Objectives: Describe the roles and laws pertaining to the law enforcement first-aid responder. Evaluate and assess situations for scene safety and resources needed. Evaluate, demonstrate and apply a variety of first-aid techniques such as: CPR, mouth to mouth resuscitation, clearing airways, stopping blood loss, safe patient movement, and immobilization of body parts. Care for and assist in emergency childbirth. Recognize the signs and symptoms of infectious diseases. Describe procedures to prevent infectious diseases. Describe power line safety issues.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than twelve hours of “First-aid,” one hour of “Childbirth,” three hours of “Infectious Diseases,” one hour of “Power Line Safety,” and eight hours of first-aid practical exercises. Instructional methods include classroom lecture and practical exercises. Evaluation methods include written examination and skills assessment.

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

Health and Fitness (1.5 credit, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 24 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009
Objectives: Perform warm up and cool down activities. Perform physical activities as directed by the Instructor.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than one hour of “Health and Fitness in Employee Orientation,” seven hours of “Physical Training,” three and one-half hours of “BAC,” and thirteen hours of “TBTC.” Instructions methods include lecture and practical exercise. Evaluation methods include interval minimums (40-40-60%) in WSP Physical Fitness Standards.

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

Introduction to State Patrol Academy (2 credits, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 22 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009
Objectives: Establish clear understanding of fundamental knowledge, values and skills necessary to effectively serve as a member of state patrol. Synthesize the various ways members of state patrol support each other during the commission of their duties. Secure awareness of different ways members of state patrol recognize and respond to challenges or threats to public safety. Obtain knowledge of reasons for, and types of, sanctions applied for inappropriate behavior.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than one hour of “Organizational Structure of WSP,” three hours of “Core Values,” three hours of “Ethics,” two hours of “Heritage and Traditions of the WSP,” two hours of “Regulation Manual,” three hours of “Professional Standards,” four hours of “Terrorism,” two hours of “Criminal Intelligence,” and two hours of “Problem Oriented Public Safety.” Instructional methods include lecture and group discussion supplemented by PowerPoint, videos, handouts and whiteboard. Evaluation methods include written examination, small group discussion, in-class exercises, completion of workbook exercises, and completion of homework exercises.

Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, two semester credits.

Law and Legal Standards (3 credits, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 71 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009
Objectives: Secure firm understanding of the law and legal standards on which state patrol activity is grounded. Identify sources and restrictions on police power based on the national and state Constitution and its Amendments, court structure and function, case law and precedent. Understand how and when searches and seizures, interrogation, arrests and use of force may be employed. Assess and understand the origins and application of such practices and limitations as the “Exclusionary Rule,” the “Miranda Warning,” right to counsel, double jeopardy and warrants are employed.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than three hours of “Courtroom Testimony,” two hours of “Criminal Code,” two hours of “Asset Seizure,” fifty-six hours of “Criminal Law,” and eight hours of additional practical experience in codes, searches, confessions, arrests, juvenile, case law and precedent. Instructional methods include lecture and small group discussion supplemented by PowerPoint, videos, handouts and whiteboard. Evaluation methods include written examinations, practical exercises, and “pop” quizzes.

Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, three semester credits.
Patrol Procedures (4 credits, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 85 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009

Objectives: Recall operations required in use of ACCESS/WACIC, perform a proper building search, define a crisis, compare domestic violence to crisis, recognize the cycle of battering, list the law enforcement officer’s legal requirements when responding to domestic violence, recognize the proper procedures for handling and packaging physical evidence, recognize and recall accepted procedures to safely respond to a felony in progress, recognize the concepts of dog tracking, recall the three responsibilities of utilizing a K-9, describe safe techniques to pursue a suspect on foot, distinguish between low risk and high risk stops, recognize the importance of proper preparation for high risk stops, analyze and choose a the proper tactical approach to search a suspect’s vehicle, recognize and recall tactics, skills and psychology used for officer survival, recognize the methods and skills used in daily routine patrol, perform acceptable violator stop in simulation, demonstrate use of portable radio, demonstrate survival methods in a water emergency situation, identify basic water safety skills, recognize the signs and symptoms of Alzheimer’s Disease and the safe return program, recognize the indicators of post traumatic stress, memorize the elements of a proper death notification, recognize the four facets of emotionally disturbed persons, recognize and manage the components of stress, define the basic skills necessary to safely and effectively manage the initial activities of an emergency involving hazardous materials release.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than one hour of self-based study in “ACCESS/WACIC,” seven hours of “Building Searches,” twelve hours of “Crisis Intervention and Domestic Violence,” seven hours of “Evidence Handling and Packaging,” twenty-five hours of “Officer Safety,” twelve hours of “Patrol Techniques and Violator Stops,” one hour of “Portable Radio Operation,” four hours of “Water Safety,” eight hours of “Psychology,” and eight hours of “Hazardous Materials.” Instructional methods include self-paced study, lecture, demonstration and discussion. Evaluation methods include written examinations, quizzes, and practical field examinations.

Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, four semester credits.

Traffic Administration (4 credits, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 89 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009

Objectives: Ability to interpret and apply motor vehicle code/laws in the administration of a traffic safety and enforcement environment. Demonstrate how to assist the motoring public with common roadside problems (such as: changing a tire, jumping a battery, pushing another vehicle). Analyze and demonstrate how to safely control traffic manually. Explain and demonstrate the proper operation of various speed measuring devices. Recognize and interpret evidence of driving while under the influence of alcohol and or drugs. Administer, interpret, and document field testing for driving while under the influence of alcohol and or drug violations. Assess and evaluate medical conditions opposed to driving while under the influence violations. Describe motor vehicle code violations clearly and convincingly in written and verbal testimony. Explain and demonstrate the proper use of breath alcohol testing equipment. Assess when and demonstrate ability to use fleeing violator intervention techniques. Know the proper operation of child restraint systems.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than twelve hours of “Speed Measuring Devices,” five hours of “Motor Vehicle Code,” sixteen hours of “Field Sobriety Testing,” two hours of “VIN Inspection,” two hours of “Towing and Impounding of Vehicles,” one hour of “Child Restraint Systems,” twelve hours of “Breath Alcohol Testing,” three hours of “Drivers and Vehicle Licensing,” seven hours of “Drugs that Impair Driving,” two hours of “Manual Traffic Control,” three hours of “Motorist Assists,” one hour of “Hollow Strip Spikes,” three hours of “Pursuit Intervention Technique,” and twenty hours of practical exercises. Instructional methods include lecture, discussion and practical exercises. Evaluation methods include written examination and skills observation.

Credit Recommendation: In the lower division associate/baccalaureate degree category, four semester credits.

Vehicle Operations (2.5 credits, lower division)

Program: Washington State Patrol Arming and Basic Training Class
Location: Washington State Patrol Training Academy – Shelton, WA
Length: 79 hours
Dates: September 1999 through June 2009

Objectives: Discuss the qualities of a good driver, recall basic knowledge of a vehicle, including tires, brakes and suspension systems, list procedures of a pre drive check, recognize handling of unusual driving situations, indicate emergency operations risk factors, perform, as required by the WSP, all segments of practical scenarios involving vehicle operations.

Instruction: Students must complete no fewer than two hours of “Driver Awareness in the BAC,” one hour of “Tire Deflation in the TBTC,” twenty hours of “Emergency Vehicle Operations in the TBTC,” fifty-two hours of “Practical Exercise in the TBTC,” and four hours of “Practical Exercise in the BAC.” Instructional methods include lecture, demonstration and controlled practice. Evaluation methods include practical testing and written examination.

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