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1 Oct 99

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WEAPONS TRAINING BATTALION  
MARINE CORPS COMBAT DEVELOPMENT COMMAND  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5040**

**DETAILED INSTRUCTOR GUIDE**

LESSON TITLE

MARINE CORPS RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP

COURSE TITLE

SUSTAINMENT LEVEL RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP (PHASE I, II, III)



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**INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION CHECKLIST**

**ESSENTIAL DATA**

LESSON DESIGNATOR	SLR.00
LESSON TITLE	Marine Corps Rifle Marksmanship
DATE PREPARED	1 October 1999
TIME	15 min
METHOD	Lecture
LOCATION	Indoor/outdoor classroom
INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED	One Primary Marksmanship Instructor (PMI)
REFERENCES	MCRP 3-01A
TRAINING AIDS/EQUIPMENT	None



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**DETAILED OUTLINE**

**MARINE CORPS RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP**

**INTRODUCTION**  
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1. **GAIN ATTENTION.** The primary mission of the Marine rifleman is to locate and destroy the enemy by fire and to repel assault by the enemy with fire and close combat. The rifle is the Marine's primary means of accomplishing his mission. Combat-ready Marines must be highly proficient in the use of the service rifle and have the confidence to deliver accurate fire under the most adverse battle conditions.
2. **OVERVIEW.** This lesson will provide an overview of the Marine Corps Rifle Marksmanship Program and how the three phases of marksmanship training relate to each other.
3. **INTRODUCE LEARNING OBJECTIVES.** This lesson is provided as an overview of the Marine Corps Rifle Marksmanship Program. There are no Terminal or Enabling Learning Objectives for this lesson.
4. **METHOD.** This lesson will be taught in a classroom setting using lecture.
5. **EVALUATION.** The Marine will not be tested on the material in this lesson.

**TRANSITION:** The Marine Corps Rifle Marksmanship Program consists of three phases of training that progressively teach, reinforce, and refine marksmanship skills to a combat-ready level.

**BODY**  
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**1. (10 MIN) MARINE CORPS RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM**

- a. **Introduction.** Shooting is a learned skill. The Marine Corps Rifle Marksmanship Program teaches and reinforces fundamental shooting skills. Program emphasis systematically shifts to combat application. The application of these skills is gradually refined to a combat-ready level.



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b. Three-Phase Program. Marine Corps rifle marksmanship is taught sequentially in three basic phases: Preparatory Marksmanship Training (Phase I), Known Distance Firing (Phase II), and Field Firing (Phase III). These basic phases teach the Marine the application of marksmanship fundamentals to function as an individual or part of a unit engaged in combat.

1) Phase I: Preparatory Marksmanship Training.

During this phase, Marines develop a sound foundation of marksmanship knowledge and practice skills under close supervision. This phase provides the basis for all follow-on training. Correct firing techniques must become instinctive; therefore, it is important to develop and master weapons handling skills during this stage of training. Upon completion of Phase I, proficiency must be demonstrated in the following:

- a) Performing weapons handling.
- b) Performing preventive maintenance.
- c) Firing a group.
- d) Establishing a BZO.

2) Phase II: Known Distance Firing. During Phase II training, the knowledge and firing techniques learned in Phase I are applied on a known distance (KD) range.

Further development and refinement of those skills are achieved during live fire. Because this phase provides the opportunity to apply the fundamental marksmanship skills learned to date, it is essential that the Marine practice and employ correct firing techniques and make a continued effort to master weapons handling skills. Upon completion of Phase II, proficiency must be demonstrated in engaging stationary targets.

3) Phase III: Field Firing. In Phase III training,

Marines apply the firing techniques taught in the first two phases to field firing (combat-type) situations. Phase III training will further refine these techniques until they become instinctive and second nature. This phase will also help the Marine develop increased confidence with his weapon. Where possible, Phase III training is conducted immediately upon completion of Phases I and II. Upon completion of Phase III, proficiency must be demonstrated in the following:

- a) Engaging targets of limited exposure time.
- b) Engaging targets during low light and darkness.



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- c) Engaging targets while wearing the field protective mask.
- d) Engaging multiple targets.
- e) Engaging moving targets.
- f) Engaging targets at unknown distances.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: The material just covered illustrates how much there is to master in marksmanship training. Beginning with the safe handling of the weapon through engagement of combat targets, the key to a Marine rifleman's success will be the ability to consistently apply the fundamentals of marksmanship to become a confident and accurate marksman.

SUMMARY:  
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This lesson provided an overview of the Marine Corps Rifle Marksmanship Program and an introduction to the knowledge and skills that must be mastered to complete Phases I, II, and III marksmanship training. Remember, Marines accomplish their mission primarily through proficient use of the rifle. The success of the Marine rifleman lies in the continued development through all phases of training to make him combat-ready and effective.