

# NRA Basic Rifle - Syllabus

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## Course Materials Provided By Instructor

*NRA Guide to the Basics of Rifle Shooting* handbook  
*NRA Gun Safety Rules* brochure  
*NRA Basic Firearm Training Program* brochure  
*Winchester/NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program* booklet  
*NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course Student Examination*  
*Targets*

## Course Materials Provided by Student

Any caliber Rifle\*  
Minimum of 100 rounds of **factory** ammunition to fit your rifle\*\*. **NO RELOADS**  
Approved hearing protection (Provided if student does not have any)  
Approved eye protection (Provided if student does not have any)

\*Please let me know the caliber of rifle you are bringing. I have had problems where rounds have skipped off the top of my berm and have landed in a neighbor's yard almost a mile away. We will make every attempt to put the larger calibers on the bigger part of the berm.

\*\*The exact amount of rounds you shoot will be dependent on you. Since this is a basic course, we are not shooting for a particular amount of rounds on target to qualify. If you feel comfortable with firing 50 rounds, we can stop at 50. If you need to fire 150 rounds to feel comfortable, then bring 150 rounds. We will dismiss from the range so if you need extra time on the range I will work with you.

## Description:

The NRA Basic Rifle Shooting Course introduces the students to the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary for owning and using a rifle safely. Through this course, the students will learn about rifle parts and operation, ammunition, gun safety, zeroing rifle sites, and rifle shooting fundamentals. The Basic Rifle Course will also help prepare the student for participation in other NRA courses.

## Duration:

The Basic Rifle course is 14 hours in length (Additional time may be desirable in order for students to develop skills before moving on to the next lesson.) The course length may vary depending on the instructor/student ratio and the participants' abilities.

**Goals:**

<b>Lesson I: Rifle Knowledge and Safe Gun Handling</b>	Learning Objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. State the course goal and any special requirements for the seven lessons.</li><li>2. Identify the principal parts of a rifle and types of actions, and demonstrate how they function.</li><li>3. State and explain the NRA rules for safe gun handling.</li><li>4. Explain and demonstrate how to handle a rifle in a safe manner.</li></ol>
<b>Lesson II: Ammunition Knowledge and the Fundamentals of Rifle Shooting</b>	Learning Objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Identify the components of a rifle cartridge and their functions.</li><li>2. Identify the different types of rifle ammunition and explain their intended use.</li><li>3. Explain and demonstrate how to ensure the ammunition is correct for a rifle.</li><li>4. Identify and define the three major types of cartridge malfunctions and how to respond safely when they occur.</li><li>5. Explain and demonstrate the five fundamentals of shooting a rifle.</li><li>6. Explain the purpose of the Winchester/NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program.</li></ol>
<b>Lesson III: Firing the First Shot</b>	Learning Objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to safely assume the benchrest position with a rifle.</li><li>2. Safely shoot a rifle using the fundamentals of rifle shooting at a target on a range from the bench rest position.</li><li>3. Safely zero a rifle from the benchrest position.</li><li>4. Identify the materials needed to clean a rifle.</li><li>5. Safely clean a rifle.</li></ol>

<b>Lesson IV: Standing Shooting Positions</b>	<p>Learning Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to safely assume the standing position with a rifle.</li> <li>2. Safely shoot a rifle using the fundamentals of rifle shooting at a target on a range from a standing position.</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson V: Prone and Kneeling Rifle Shooting Positions</b>	<p>Learning Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to safely assume the prone position with a rifle.</li> <li>2. Safely shoot a rifle using the fundamentals of rifle shooting at a target on a range from the prone position.</li> <li>3. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to safely assume a kneeling position with a rifle.</li> <li>4. 21. Safely shoot a rifle using the fundamentals of rifle shooting at a target on a range from a kneeling position.</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson VI: Sitting Rifle Shooting Position and Review of Positions</b>	<p>Learning Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to safely assume a sitting position with a rifle.</li> <li>2. Safely shoot a rifle using the fundamentals of rifle shooting at a target on a range from a sitting position.</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson VII: Rifle Sports and Activities</b>	<p>Learning Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain ways to pursue rifle-shooting activities after the course.</li> <li>2. Explain the criteria for selecting a rifle.</li> <li>3. Identify various shooting organizations and explain how to become involved with them.</li> </ol>

**Evaluation:**

Student must take a 50 question written examination. No minimum passing score is required. All questions and correct answers will be discussed in class.

**Cost Per Person:**

General Public                      \$125.00

**Course Schedule:**

Hour	Topics
<p><b>Lesson 1</b> <b>(2 Hours)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. <b>Pistol Knowledge and Safe Gun Handling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Gun Ownership Responsibilities</b></li> <li>B. <b>Why Americans Own Pistols</b></li> <li>C. <b>Types of Pistol Actions</b></li> <li>D. <b>Revolver Knowledge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Frame</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Barrel</b></li> <li>iii. <b>Action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Single Action</b></li> <li>2. <b>Double Action</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>E. <b>Semi-Automatic Pistol Knowledge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Frame</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Barrel</b></li> <li>iii. <b>Action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Single Action,</b></li> <li>2. <b>Traditional Double-Action</b></li> <li>3. <b>Double-action only</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>F. <b>Operating Revolvers and Semi-Automatic Pistols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Single-Action Revolver</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Double-Action Revolver</b></li> <li>iii. <b>Semi-Automatic Pistol</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>G. <b>Safe Gun Handling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Causes of Firearm Accidents</b></li> <li>ii. <b>NRA Rules for Safe Gun Handling</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>H. <b>Safe Pistol Handling Practical Exercises</b></li> <li>I. <b>Summarize Lesson 1</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 2</b> <b>(2 Hours)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>II. <b>Ammunition Knowledge and the Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Pistol Ammunition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Components of a Pistol Cartridge</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Rimfire and CenterFire Cartridges</b></li> <li>iii. <b>Firing Sequence of a Cartridge</b></li> <li>iv. <b>Cartridge designation and Identification</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Multiple Names</b></li> <li>2. <b>+P and +P+ Cartridges</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>v. <b>Storing Ammunition</b></li> <li>vi. <b>Cartridge Malfunctions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Misfire</b></li> <li>2. <b>Hangfire</b></li> <li>3. <b>Squib Load</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>B. <b>Review Safe Gun Handling Rules</b></li> <li>C. <b>Dominant Eye</b></li> <li>D. <b>Position</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Benchrest Position</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Two-Handed Standing Shooting Position</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>E. <b>Grip</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Proper Grip</li> <li>ii. Grip Practical Exercises</li> </ul> <p><b>F. Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Aiming</li> <li>ii. Breath Control</li> <li>iii. Hold Control</li> <li>iv. Trigger Control</li> <li>v. Follow-Through</li> </ul> <p><b>G. Summary</b></p>
<p><b>Lesson 3</b> <b>(2 Hours)</b></p>	<p><b>III. Ammunition Knowledge and the Fundamentals of Pistol Shooting</b></p> <p><b>A. Range Safety Briefing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Purpose of the Shooting Event</li> <li>ii. Range Layout and limits</li> <li>iii. Range Safety Rules</li> <li>iv. Hygiene Guidelines</li> <li>v. Site Specific Range Rules</li> <li>vi. Range Commands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Load</li> <li>2. Commence Firing</li> <li>3. Cease Firing</li> <li>4. Firearm Problems</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>B. Firing the First Shots</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Study the BenchRest Position</li> <li>ii. Practice the BenchRest Position</li> <li>iii. Practice the Position With a Pistol</li> <li>iv. Align Position with Target</li> <li>v. Dry-Fire the Pistol at the Target</li> <li>vi. Shoot at Targets using Live Ammunition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Single-Shot Exercise</li> <li>2. Five-Shot Exercise</li> </ul> </li> <li>vii. Adjust the Rear Sight to Center a Group on the Target</li> <li>viii. Continue Firing five-shot groups from the Bench</li> </ul> <p><b>C. Two-Handed Standing Shooting Position</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Study Position</li> <li>ii. Practice Position without a Pistol</li> <li>iii. Practice Position with a Pistol</li> <li>iv. Align Position with a Target</li> <li>v. Dry-Fire Pistol at Target</li> <li>vi. Single Shot Exercise</li> <li>vii. Five-Shot Exercise</li> </ul> <p><b>D. Evaluation of Shooting Practices</b></p> <p><b>E. Summarize</b></p>
<p><b>Lesson 4 and 5</b> <b>(2 Hours)</b></p>	<p><b>IV. Scoring Target, and Selecting and Maintaining Your Pistol</b></p> <p><b>A. Scoring Targets</b></p> <p><b>B. Selecting and Purchasing a Pistol</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Types of Pistols</li> <li>ii. Factors in Pistol Selection</li> </ul> <p><b>C. Caring for the Pistol</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Cleaning</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cleaning Equipment</li><li>2. Cleaning Procedures</li><li>3. Cleaning Practical Exercises</li><li>4. Pistol Repairs</li><li>5. Pistol Storage</li></ul> <p>D. Summarize</p> <p>V. Continued Opportunities for Skill Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Maintaining Skills<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Winchester Marksmanship Qualification Program</li><li>ii. Training Opportunities</li><li>iii. Competitive Shooting</li><li>iv. NRA Clubs</li></ul></li><li>B. The NRA<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Programs</li><li>ii. History</li><li>iii. Benefits of Membership</li></ul></li><li>C. Course Review</li><li>D. Examination</li><li>E. Student Course Evaluation</li><li>F. Award Completion Certificates</li><li>G. Closing Comments and Questions</li></ul>
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