MISSION: This course teaches university employees lifesaving options during an active killer event based on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s theory of “Run-Hide-Fight.”

INSTRUCTION: The four-hour course is broken down into four, 60-minute blocks of instruction. Instructors have background and knowledge in police work and most are members of the Special Emergency Response Team (SERT). Instructors have specific areas of certifications including: National Tactical Officer Association (NTOA), Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC), National Rifle Association (NRA), Pennsylvania State Firearms Instruction, and Pennsylvania State Defensive Tactics Instruction.

Stage 1: This section begins with an introduction and interaction with the class including a short quiz that allows the instructors to gain knowledge of the background and capabilities of the class. The quiz is reviewed with the class and begins an open dialogue that is encouraged and continues through the entire course. The course then moves through a PowerPoint presentation that gives a brief history of active killer events. The “epicenter of violence” is explained in this section and the foundation is developed for creating “situational awareness” and “survival mindset.”

Stage 2: This section is based on extremely basic defensive tactics that are taught to the participants. The defensive tactics are taught and demonstrated by defensive tactic instructors certified through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. After the instruction and demonstration, participants are given the opportunity to perform the tactics. A minor level of physical activity is required. Those who are unwilling or unable to participate may simply observe.

Stage 3: In this section, the class is split up and taken to their daily workspaces. The instructors then discuss ways to “Run-Hide-Fight” from the areas that they work. By splitting the class up into the specific areas where they work, coworkers can interact and develop a plan to survive an active killer event.

Stage 4: In the final section, a scenario-based situation is presented to the class. In the scenario, the class is exposed to a realistic situation and asked to perform any of the options they were taught in the previous sections of the course. Once the scenario is completed, instructors will debrief the class and the overall course will be reviewed.

GOAL: Upon completion of the course, attendees will have a better understanding on how to prepare themselves with options to survive an active killer event.

To schedule a training session, please first discuss with your department head and then contact Pitt Police Sgt. Paul Burgh at (412) 624-5667 or pab32@pitt.edu (from a university account only).