

2-Day Interview & Interrogation Techniques Course

Advanced Strategies for Obtaining the Truth



Course Overview:

The GDT Strategies 2-Day Interview & Interrogation Techniques Course is an intensive training program designed to equip law enforcement professionals with advanced, rapport-based techniques for conducting effective interviews and interrogations.

This course provides investigators with a variety of strategies and skills to obtain the truth from the most difficult, resistant suspects, while maintaining the highest ethical and legal standards. This training adds emphasis on best practices for narcotics and violent crime investigations.

Course instruction includes live demonstration of interview and interrogation techniques followed by short practical exercises interspersed throughout the course. Participants will leave with hands-on, practical techniques they can immediately begin to use in the field. These proven methods will lead to better communication skills and to increased evidence collection, arrests and successful prosecutions.

"Whether you are new to law enforcement or a seasoned investigator, this is a course you won't want to miss!"

Who Should Attend:

This course is open to all law enforcement professionals, including patrol officers, detectives, federal agents, parole and probation officers, military investigators, prosecutors and members of the intelligence community. Law enforcement supervisors are also encouraged to attend.

Course Topics:

- **Interrogation Legal Considerations**
 - Miranda considerations and best practices for obtaining a valid waiver
 - How to develop an initial admission of guilt into a legally acceptable, comprehensive confession
 - Legal and ethical parameters surrounding the use of trickery and deceit
- **Room Setting and Preparation**
 - Developing a strategy and preparing for an interview or interrogation
 - Adverse impact of interview room distractions
 - Ideal interview and interrogation environment and room set-up
 - Use of interpreters
 - Electronic recordings
- **Interpretation of Verbal and Nonverbal Behavior**
 - Understanding verbal and nonverbal behavior
 - Guidelines for effectively evaluating behavior
 - Different types of deception
 - Truth formula
 - How the interviewer's behavior, the environment and the subject's past experiences can impact the accurate interpretation of behavior
- **Basic Interview Method** – This is a rapport-based, non-accusatory technique used for interviewing victims, witnesses and suspects.
 - How to effectively develop rapport with a subject
 - Active listening skills
 - Different types of interview questions, including open-ended, clarification, behavior provoking and bait questions

- **Two Separate Interrogation Strategies** - GDT Strategies provides two separate and distinctly different techniques for conducting an interrogation – the Direct Accusation and the Non-Confrontational interrogation methods. With these different techniques in hand, an investigator can use the most effective method based on the suspect's background and the nature of the crime.
 - **Direct Accusation Interrogation Method** - This multi-step, rapport-based interrogation technique begins with a direct accusation of the suspect's involvement in the crime. The technique then transitions into theme development to reduce the guilty suspect's resistance, allowing the suspect to tell the truth while saving face and protecting their ego.
 - **Non-Confrontational Interrogation Method** - This highly effective method is a softer, more conversational approach to the interrogation, resulting in fewer suspect denials and objections and thereby eliminates conflict between the suspect and interrogator.
- **Handling Difficult Questions** - Guilty suspects often attempt to put an investigator in a defensive position and take control of the interrogation. Participants will learn strategies for how to respond when a suspect raises difficult questions or attempts to get the upper hand during the interrogation.
- **Strategic Use of Evidence (SUE Technique)** - Participants will learn how the timing, sequence and manner in which evidence is introduced to a suspect can influence the outcome of an interrogation.
- **Preventing False Confessions**
 - Adverse impacts of false confessions
 - Recognizing potential risk factors that contribute to false confessions
 - How to prevent false confessions
 - Maintaining an ethical approach while seeking truthful information

Course Agenda Timeline:

Day 1	
0830 hrs – 1630 hrs	Introduction and course overview
	Difference between interview and interrogation, Miranda legal considerations, Electronic Recordings, Using Interpreters, Room Setting and Distractions
	Evaluating Behavior – interpretation of verbal and non-verbal behavior
	Types of Deception, Truth Formula
	Basic Interview, Types of Questions
	Behavior Provoking Questions and Bait Questions

Day 2	
0830 hrs – 1630 hrs	Overview of Interrogation Strategies
	Direct Accusation Interrogation Method
	Non-Confrontational Interrogation Method
	Drug Related Themes and Assumptive Questions
	Strategic Use of Evidence (SUE Technique)
	Handling Difficult Questions or Comments from the Suspect
	Preventing False Confessions
	Course Summary and Evaluation

About the Instructor:

Gordon D. Taylor, Founder & Lead Instructor, GDT Strategies

With more than 30 years of experience teaching interview and interrogation techniques, Gordon has a unique combination of frontline investigative experience and international training expertise.

Throughout his career, Gordon has trained thousands of law enforcement and intelligence professionals, including personnel from the FBI, ATF, DHS, DEA, CIA, state and local law enforcement agencies, and terrorism investigators serving with national police forces around the world.

Gordon retired from the **U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)** after 25 years as a Special Agent. He served as the head of DEA's Sacramento District for nine years, directing DEA operations across 34 of California's 58 counties.

During his DEA career, Gordon worked at offices in San Diego, Sacramento, Washington, D.C., and at the DEA Academy in Quantico, Virginia. While assigned to the Academy, he served as the lead instructor for interview and interrogation techniques.

As a field agent, Gordon's investigative experience included assignments with a clandestine laboratory enforcement team, an international money laundering squad, and a violent gangs task force. Prior to joining the DEA, he served as a police officer with the **Sacramento Police Department**.

Gordon's expertise extends well beyond the traditional classroom. He has served as a subject matter expert and speaker on interview and interrogation techniques, instructor development, and police media relations. He has also participated in hundreds of media interviews on a variety of drug related issues with local, national, and international news organizations.

Following his retirement from the DEA, Gordon became a consultant and contract instructor for the **U.S. Department of State's Anti-Terrorism Assistance (ATA) Program**. In this role, he has helped develop, update, and deliver specialized training courses addressing the interviewing of terrorist suspects, investigation of terrorist incidents, and police media relations. He continues to provide this invaluable training to law enforcement professionals in developing countries around the world.

From 2013 to 2015, Gordon served as an interview and interrogation consultant and speaker for **Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates**, where he became a Certified Forensic Interviewer (CFI). He has also served as a senior contract instructor for the DEA International Training Program, providing counter-narcotics training to law enforcement officers in Central Asia and Africa.

In addition to the [United States](#), Gordon has provided training to law enforcement and intelligence professionals in the following countries around the world:

[Philippines](#), [Malaysia](#), [South Korea](#), [Thailand](#), [Costa Rica](#), [Canada](#), [South Africa](#), [Colombia](#), [Paraguay](#), [Brazil](#), [India](#), [Bangladesh](#), [Kenya](#), [Uganda](#), [Ghana](#), [Senegal](#), [Guinea](#), [Algeria](#), [Tunisia](#), [Tajikistan](#), [Kazakhstan](#), [Uzbekistan](#), [Lebanon](#), [Qatar](#), [Jordan](#), [Bahrain](#), [Morocco](#), [Bosnia](#), [Maldives](#), [Mexico](#), [Bahamas](#) and [Dominican Republic](#)

Gordon holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Sacramento, and currently resides in Sacramento, California.