

CIT Topic Rationale Sheet
Presenter Outline

Topic: Diversity

Why is this topic relevant to the STREET ENCOUNTER?

1. Though the encounters may be infrequent, officers should be prepared when called into situations involving individuals with different racial, cultural, and or religious world views.
2. Important differences exist across ethnicities and how mental illness/AoD is viewed.
3. By having basic knowledge of these differences and being able to admit their own ignorance, officers may be able to better engage citizens with different world views than their own.

Proposed learning objectives to prepare the officers for such encounters?

1. Understanding some of the basic differences that exist with respect to power, authority, gender roles, and how help seeking and mental illness/AoD is viewed.
2. Learn engagement strategies officers can use when they find themselves in a situation where they are facing cultural differences, or are unsure of what they are facing.

What do officers need to know about de-escalating this encounter that is unique to the EAR Model?

Engage	Assess	Resolve
Go ahead and ask about customs you are seeing but don't understand		
Tell the person you do not want to be disrespectful, and admit your ignorance if they are doing something you don't understand.		

Possible Resources

The OPOTA Basic curriculum for this topic is Community Diversity, Unit 10.

What approach will be used to present the information? (Note- people learn best through reputation, practice, and active learning approaches).

How much time will be dedicated to this topic?