



SHADOW COUNTRY SNIPER SCHOOL

Student Gear List

STUDENT GEAR LIST

Required equipment for Shadow Country Basic and Advanced Sniper Courses

EVERY ITEM ON THIS LIST IS MANDATORY UNLESS MARKED OPTIONAL.

Arriving without a listed item puts you at risk of missing training. If a shortfall in your equipment or preparation slows the class down, correcting it will be on your own time while instruction continues.

Read this list as soon as you receive it. If anything on it is unclear, or you are unsure whether your equipment meets the standard, contact Nate as early as possible — not on the morning of day one.

1. RIFLE AND OPTIC

- **Precision rifle** — capable of 1 MOA or better. Know your twist rate and barrel length.
- **Tactical rifle scope** — MOA or MIL.
- **Bipod**
- **Sling** — two-point, suitable for hasty sling-supported shooting and tripod use.
- **Scope-mounted night vision** — if available. (OPTIONAL)

2. OPTIC KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS — KNOW BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

There are too many scope variants and model-specific requirements for instructors to research yours on the range. Use your agency mentor, the manufacturer, or the manufacturer's videos to sort this out ahead of time.

- **Know your reticle scale** — MOA or MIL, and what your hash marks represent (for example, 0.5 MIL increments or 2 MOA increments per mark).
- **Know your focal plane** — first focal plane or second focal plane.
- **If second focal plane** — know the exact magnification at which the reticle reads true MIL or MOA.
- **Bring every tool your scope requires** — turrets, ring caps, and base screws.
 - Correct Allen wrenches to slip your turrets and to tighten your rings to the rail or base.
- **Know your inch-pound torque specifications** — for your scope ring cap screws and base screws.
- **Know how to slip your turrets to zero** — and how to set your zero stop.

3. AMMUNITION

- **1,000 rounds of match-grade ammunition** — 800 rounds is the absolute minimum if budgeting is tight.
- **No bonded or barrier ammunition on steel** — it will destroy the steel targets. If you are unsure what you have, call Nate before you travel.
- **20 rounds of barrier or bonded ammunition** — if available. (OPTIONAL)

4. SHOOTING SUPPORT AND LOAD CARRIAGE

- **Shooting tripod** — this is a tripod-heavy course. A quality tripod is strongly recommended.
- **Front support bag** — such as the Armageddon Gear Schmedium mid-size Game Changer.
- **Rear support bag or sand sock**
- **Deployment backpack** — sized to carry your equipment for the day.
- **Shooting mat** (OPTIONAL)



SHADOW COUNTRY SNIPER SCHOOL

Student Gear List

5. OBSERVATION AND LIGHT

- **Laser rangefinder**
- **Handheld binoculars** — dual-eye rangefinding binoculars satisfy both this and the rangefinder requirement.
- **Headlamp**
- **Quality flashlight**

6. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- **Hearing and eye protection**
- **Gas mask** — operational, with a filter installed.
- **The PPE you deploy in as a sniper** — vest, plate carrier, or light vest.
 - Helmet optional if your agency SOPs allow deploying without one.

7. DATA, DOCUMENTATION, AND ELECTRONICS

- **Data book**
- **Notepad** — medium or large, plus a black Sharpie, pens, and pencils.
- **GEO Ballistics app, downloaded before class** — the free version is acceptable; the paid version (about \$15) is recommended.
 - Another solver is fine, but understand that instructor support may not be available if the staff is not familiar with it.
- **Kestrel** (OPTIONAL)

8. MAINTENANCE AND CONCEALMENT

- **All cleaning equipment you will need for the week**
- **Urban and vehicle hide materials your department uses** — not expected if you are flying in.
- **Dept. vehicle to shoot from** (OPTIONAL)

9. SUSTAINMENT

- **Food for the full training day** — lunches are working lunches and the class does not leave the facility. Bring what you intend to eat.
- **Two gallons of drinking water per day, minimum**
- **Sunscreen, rain gear, and a scarf or shemagh**



SHADOW COUNTRY SNIPER SCHOOL

Student Gear List

BASELINE LOADOUT

Day one, and the standing loadout for the remainder of the course

Throughout this course, every item you are using is stowed in your backpack, on your rifle, or on your body.

— NO GEAR STREWN ABOUT THE FIRING LINE —

IN YOUR DEPLOYMENT BACKPACK

- Fully loaded magazines, plus a **constant** reserve of 100 rounds minimum
- Tripod, carried on or in the pack, with the capacity to hold the rifle alone using both hands
- Front support bag
- Rear support bag
- Rangefinder
- Binoculars
- Headlamp
- Flashlight
- Hearing and eye protection, if not carried on your body
- Data book
- Notepad, black Sharpie, pen, and pencil
- **All of your scope tools**
- Sustainment items — food, water, snacks

ON YOUR BODY

- Weather-appropriate clothing. Vest PPE is not needed on day one.
- Phone with the GEO Ballistics app already downloaded
- Hearing and eye protection

ON YOUR RIFLE

- Bipod and sling

All other gear list items may remain staged in your vehicle.
