

## Psychology of Domestic Violence

- [Course Description](#)
- [Course Goal](#)
- [Course Objectives](#)
- [Course Topic Outline](#)
- [Course Content Origin](#)

### Course Description

This course emphasizes developing comprehensive knowledge of domestic violence, the psychological dynamics involved in abusive relationships, the impact of trauma on the victim, statutory laws, and responsibilities and procedures for law enforcement. Several videos have been included in the module to help officers understand the trauma often associated with domestic violence, and how this trauma influences investigations.

### Course Goal

The module's primary goal is to develop officers' domestic violence knowledge to guide and protect them as they fulfill their obligation to domestic violence victims. The officer, upon completion of this course, will respond to domestic violence cases with a well-developed set of skills.

### Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, the student will be able to:

1. Define the terms associated with domestic violence investigations.
2. Understand the applicable laws related to domestic violence.
  1. Recognize and understand the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986.
  2. Recognize and understand the common domestic violence crimes and definitions of the Criminal Code of 1961.
3. Recognize the prevalence of domestic violence.
  1. Recognize domestic violence myths & facts, and frequently asked questions.
4. Understand the psychology of domestic violence.
  1. Recognize the varying types and stages of intimate partner violence.
  2. Recognize the evolution of the domestic violence theory.
  3. Develop an awareness of additional victim populations.
  4. Understand the psychological considerations when dealing with domestic violence victims, immediate and long-term.
  5. Knowledge of victim characteristics and behavior.
  6. Knowledge of perpetrator characteristics and behavior.
5. Understand the neurobiology of trauma.
  1. Recognize the impact of trauma on domestic violence victims.
6. Identify the necessary skills to process a domestic violence case in a way that will protect officers and the victims.
  1. Develop a general protocol for the initial call taker.
  2. Recognize the critical information needed when responding to domestic violence calls.
  3. Identify trauma-informed interview techniques.

7. Explain the procedures involved in conducting a domestic violence investigation.
  1. Discuss the officer's responsibilities under the Illinois Domestic Violence Act.
  2. Understand domestic violence arrest dynamics.
  3. Discuss the requirements for completing a criminal report.
  4. Understand the protective factors of the conditions of bail.
  5. Understand orders of protection and their remedies.

### Course Topic Outline

Lesson Name
Introduction
Lesson One: Introduction
Lesson Two: Illinois Domestic Violence Act Overview
Lesson Three: Prevalence of Domestic Violence
Lesson Four: Psychology of Domestic Violence
Lesson Five: Neurobiology of Trauma
Lesson Six: Processing a Domestic Violence Case
Lesson Seven: Responsibilities and Arrest Decision
Lesson Eight: Report writing, Statutory Bail Provisions, and Orders of Protection
Lesson Nine: Conclusion