

ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Active Shooter Educational Training
Instructions for April 2, 2019
CLASSROOM SETTING

As part of the current realities of our society, workplace and school violence has become more prevalent. While we hope and pray such an event would never happen on any of our campuses, it is critical that we recognize the possibility exists, however small. Therefore, the administration desires that we work together as a community in advance to consider ways we might respond that may offer the opportunity for increased safety and/or minimize potential loss of life.

This does not contradict the ultimate hope and trust we place in the Lord Jesus Christ. Rather, we attempt to follow the biblical model to care for one another. Thus, we thoughtfully prepare to consider possible responses in the face of potential violence. The administration has chosen to focus on preparing the community in this manner. While we hope that as many of our community as possible will be on our Florida or Kentucky campuses on April 2, and we desire everyone present to participate at an educational level, we will honor and respect individual decisions by persons who may choose to simply observe or not participate at all.

Since this first exercise is intended to be educational in nature – a type of “table top exercise” in our classrooms, offices, etc. across each campus – the exercise will be verbal and conversational in nature. We will not actively practice the “Run, Hide, Fight” principles (though if in your office area, etc. you desire to actually physically walk through them, you are encouraged to do so). Rather, you will discuss the principles together in your specific context and how you would respond to a “what if” scenario of an announcement of an active shooter on your local campus and/or in your respective vicinity.

What will happen and when?

1. Sometime around 9:05 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2, an alert will go out over the EARS system stating: “TEST ALERT: Active Shooter Exercise – Discuss “Run, Hide, Fight” options in your context. THIS IS ONLY A TEST.”
2. Upon receiving the alert, you and your classmates, office mates, or persons nearby if in a public space (e.g. Library, Student Center lobby, etc.) – or by yourself if alone – should follow the appropriate script below and discuss how the Run, Hide, Fight principles and options might best apply in your immediate physical area.
3. Approximately 7-10 minutes later a second alert will go out over the EARS system stating: “ALL CLEAR. Active Shooter Exercise complete. END OF TEST.”
4. Upon receiving the “all clear” alert, please wrap up your discussion and resume what you were doing prior to the test alert.
5. A day or two after the exercise, we will ask for any “lessons learned” that you would like to share with the administration.

Classroom Script

1. Upon receipt of the alert, be sure the professor is aware the test has begun.
2. The professor should lead the class (or appoint a leader to lead the class) in a brief conversation about the potential action steps below. Remember that these are research-based responses, and they are listed in priority order whenever possible. There may not be a “right answer” for each question. Awareness and conscious planning are the key.
3. **RUN:** The first response after being alerted or determining yourself that an active shooter (or other violent) event is occurring – *if you determine it is safe to do so* – is to move as quickly as possible away from (in the opposite direction of) the perpetrator. Creating distance and finding cover is key. This step should be attempted even before dialing 911 to report the incident.
 - a. What are all of the possible exit routes from this classroom and this building?
 - b. For each exit route, what direction should one go upon leaving the building? Where is the ideal place to head that will provide both distance and safe cover?
 - c. How far is far enough?
4. **HIDE:** If you determine that the danger is too close to your classroom, such that getting away from the violence is not a reasonably safe option, then the next best option is to hide. This means locking/barricading the door(s) or access points, turning off all lights and equipment, silencing all cell phones, and moving out of the line of sight of the doorway (particularly if there is a window) and as far away from the door as possible. You are trying to create the perception that your room is empty, locked or otherwise not easily accessible. Research shows that perpetrators tend toward “easy” targets and move rather quickly away from or past spaces that do not offer such access.
 - a. Can the doors to this room be locked from the inside? If so, how?
 - b. Are there ways to “block” the entrance points without it being obvious (relevant for rooms with large windows for easy visibility from the hallway)?
 - c. For rooms with no window in the door(s), what are the largest items we can move in front of the door to further block access?
 - d. Besides the lights, what else in the room should be turned off?
 - e. Where are all of the switches to turn off the lights and all other equipment?
 - f. Do I know how to quickly silence all rings, tones, etc. on any phone or device?
 - g. What parts of the room are least visible from any door that has a window?
5. **FIGHT:** It is possible that neither running nor hiding ultimately proves successful. In such a case, one must decide if responding with force to protect one’s life or the lives of others is desired. If it is, then consider the following:
 - a. What items in this room might one or more of us be able to use to subdue a perpetrator, and what would be the best way to do so (location, teamwork, etc.)?