

CW Academy Class Syllabus  
Level II  
“Mastering the Unique Art of Morse code”

April/May 2015  
Class Begins Monday April 6th @ 7PM EST  
Classes are held every Monday and Wednesday @ 7PM EST (2300Z)

Instructor: Joe Galicic (N3HEE) galicic@comcast.net  
Availability: By appointment via email or Skype  
Grading: Weekly Progress Assessments. Graduation Certificate.

I. Course Aims and Goals:

CW Academy is a program put on by the CW Operators' Club aimed at increasing the number of competent CW operators. It addresses all levels of enthusiasts from those aspiring to become licensed operators who want to learn and use Morse code to veteran operators who are intent on increasing their CW skills, speed and activity.

The goal for Level II training is to increase one's speed above 15 wpm through practice with head copying and sending and to hone one's skills in conversational QSO's, contesting and DXing.

II. Format and Procedures:

This is an on-line course using a free video chat service called Skype. Instructions for signing up for an Skype account were sent in your CW Academy welcome email. Class sizes are kept small, typically five or less students, and structured to help students progress in a logical and orderly fashion. The learning environment is very friendly and laid back. Students will be joined, by the advisor, to the classroom via Skype on the days and times listed above. Students are expected to be on time so as to not delay the class.

III. Prerequisites:

Students should be intermediate operators who already know Morse code and can operate comfortably at speeds between 10 and 15 wpm.

IV. Course Requirements:

1. Class attendance and participation policy:

Students are expected to attend each class, be on time and notify instructor in advance if they will not be able to attend a class. Students will invest approximately 45 hours in class and study time.

2. Course reading & reference material:

Learning Morse code as a Language by Jack Ritter, W0UCE

Zen and Art of Radiotelegraphy by Carlo Consoli, IK0YGG

The Art and Skill of Radiotelegraphy by William G. Pierpont N0HFFIV.

3. Assignments:

Homework will be assigned at the end of each class. Homework will be reviewed at the beginning of each class. Students are required to commit to practice and do homework assignments for 30 minutes a day seven days a week. Students are expected to demonstrate that they have completed each assignment. Additionally, students are challenged to have one daily on air QSO at higher speeds.

## Course Requirements (cont.):

### 4. Equipment:

Computer with web cam and high speed Internet connection.

Key or paddles capable of being heard over Skype connection.

Use of headphones is highly encouraged to reduce feedback on Skype.

**Ability to get on the air using CW.**

### V. Tentative Course Schedule

WK-CL 1.1 : Introductions, discuss objectives & set goals. HA (QBF)

WK-CL 1.2: HR (QBF) Identifying & breaking bad habits. HA (QBF & Word Files)

WK-CL 2.3: HR (QBF+) Learning Morse as a language. HA (QBF & Word Files)

WK-CL 2.4: HR (QBF+) Put the pencil down. Note Taking. Head copy. HA(QBF & Top 100)

WK-CL 3.5: HR (QBF+) Double & Triple letters. Common words. HA (QBF & W1AW Files)

WK-CL 3.6: HR (QBF+) Copying QSO's in your head. HA (QBF & QSO Files)

WK-CL 4.7: HR (QBF+) More QSO work. HA (QBF & QSO Files)

WK-CL 4.8: HR (QBF+) Putting it all together. Prep for Mid Term Test. HA (QBF & W1AW Files)

WK-CL 5.9: HR (QBF+) Mid Term Test. HA (QBF & QSO Files)

WK-CL 5.10: HR (QBF+) Increasing speed. Get on the air ! HA (QBF & W1AW Files)

WK-CL 6.11: HR (QBF+) Copying phrases. Class exercise. HA (QBF & W1AW Files)

WK-CL 6.12: HR (QBF+) Contesting. CWT. Class contest exercise. HA (QBF & W1AW Files)

WK-CL 7.13: HR (QBF+) Working DX. Pile ups. Pile up exercise. HA (QBF & W1AW Files)

WK-CL 7.14: HR (QBF+) Wrap Up & Prep for Final Exam. HA (QBF & Word\W1AW\QSO Files)

WK-CL 8.15: HR (QBF+) Final Exam. Speed Certification Testing. 15, 17 & 20 WPM

WK-CL 8.16: HR (QBF+) GRADUATION !! Course feedback & hand out certificates.

WK-CL 9.17: NA

WK-CL 9.18: NA

QBF = Sending "The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dogs back"

QBF+ = QBF plus additional sending exercises.

HA = Homework Assignment.

HR = Homework Review.

Assignments may change as required.