CERT Course Outline

The CERT Basic Training course consists of the following classes:

**UNIT 1: Disaster Preparedness**
- Introduction to types of disasters and their impact on infrastructures
- Identification of hazards
- Description of various risks and how to reduce or eliminate them
- How to plan and prepare to be ready
- Role of CERTs in disaster response

**UNIT 2: Fire Safety and Utility Controls**
- Fire chemistry and basic fire suppression
- Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards
- Firefighting resources and techniques
- Introduction to Hazardous Materials Incidents

**UNIT 3: Disaster Medical Operations I**
- Treatment strategies for life-threatening conditions
- Principles of triage

**UNIT 4: Disaster Medical Operations II**
- Head-to-toe patient assessments
- Establishing treatment areas
- Treatments for burns, lacerations, fractures, sprains, and other injuries

**UNIT 5: Light Search and Rescue Operations**
- Search and rescue priories and resources
- Size-up techniques and rescuer safety
- Lifting, cribbing, and victim removal

**UNIT 6: CERT Organization**
- CERT structure and the Incident Command System
- CERT mobilization
- Decision-making and documentation

**UNIT 7: Disaster Psychology**
- Psychological impact of a disaster on rescuers and victims
- Providing “psychological first aid” to yourself, team members, and survivors

**UNIT 8: Terrorism and CERT**
- Risk and threat analysis
- Types of terrorism weapons
- Travel and terrorism

**UNIT 9: Course Review and Simulation**
- Course review
- Disaster simulation exercise