

# NACTATR Foundations Certificate



**NORTH AMERICAN CENTER  
FOR THREAT ASSESSMENT  
AND TRAUMA RESPONSE**

While violence can cause profound trauma, we understand that profound trauma can also contribute to serious violence. At the core of many acts of serious violence, or threats of violence, is the undiagnosed or untreated trauma of the “person of concern.” Therefore, the fields of threat assessment and trauma response are inseparably connected. In many cases, the trauma-generated behaviour has its’ origin in the Person of Concerns’ (POC) family experience. Understanding the interconnection between the dynamics of violence; the dynamics of trauma and the dynamics of families is key to disrupting the “Trauma-Violence Continuum™.”

Through the NACTATR™ Learning Platform (NLP) – we can reach a broader audience with our easy to use system and dynamic learning approach. The “Certificate in NACTATR Foundations” is a series of three online trainings that when completed will be the equivalent of 12 credit hours of foundational learning. They are as follows:



Foundation in  
Threat Assessment  
(4 Credit Hours)

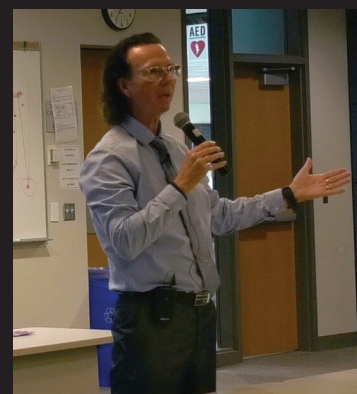


Foundation in  
Trauma Response  
(4 Credit Hours)



Foundation in  
Family Dynamics  
(4 Credit Hours)

While all three courses can be taken individually as part of non-certified training, when all three are combined they become part of a unique and interconnected systems model of human functioning. In other words, violence, trauma and family dynamics are often interacting with each other. Completion of a stand-alone course will result in a NACTATR™ Badge displayed in your learning portfolio. Successful completion of all three courses will result in the designation of “Certified NACTATR Foundations in Threat Assessment, Crisis Response and Family Dynamics”.



## **YOUR INSTRUCTOR: J. KEVIN CAMERON**

*Executive Director, North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response Inc.*

*M.Sc., R.S.W., B.C.E.T.S., B.C.S.C.R.*

*Board Certified Expert in Traumatic Stress; Diplomat, American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress*

Eight days after the Columbine school shooting, Mr. Cameron led the crisis response during the 1999 school shooting incident in Taber, Alberta. Shortly thereafter he was seconded by the Alberta Government to a 13-month initiative where he studied traumatic aftermath from a “human systems approach.” In concert with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Behavioural Sciences Unit, he developed Canada’s first comprehensive, multidisciplinary Violence Threat Risk Assessment training program.

During the past two decades, Mr. Cameron and the NACTATR™ team has provided leadership in many of North America’s highest profile traumas and is the pioneer of the comprehensive “Violence Threat Risk Assessment” (VTRA™) Model and the “Traumatic Event Systems (TES™) Model of Crisis and Trauma Response.” At the foundation of all of Mr Cameron’s work is a human systems perspective informed by his early training as a family therapist.

## **North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response**

3049-34th St. N,  
Lethbridge, AB, T1H-7C4  
(403) 394-9468



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Chicago, IL 60630  
[www.nactatr.com](http://www.nactatr.com) / [hello@nactatr.com](mailto:hello@nactatr.com)



## **NACTATR™ Foundation in Threat Assessment**

Whether individuals are victims of violence or perpetrators, nothing occurs in a vacuum. There is a story and a reason for “why” behind the complex human causes and reactions where violence, trauma or family dynamics are manifest. We know far more now than ever before, about the “evolutionary pathway to serious violence”.

This course will present our own evolutionary process for understanding violence and introduce you to the early research, concepts and variables that led to the development of the comprehensive NACTATR™ Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA™) Model. Unlike other threat assessment models, VTRA™ is the only community-based multidisciplinary model developed to address all forms of violence simultaneously. Therefore, this course will consider multiple forms of violence including, family, community, school and workplace.

**Module 1:** Threat Assessment Foundation: Early Thinking

**Module 2:** The Evolution of the VTRA™ Model: Early Research

**Module 3:** The Missing Link: Connecting the Dots

**Module 4:** VTRA™ Applies to All Forms of Violence

**Module 5:** Worrisome Behaviors: Early Intervention

**Module 6:** The Empty Vessel: The Power of Connection



## **Who should take the courses?**

The Foundation Courses are customized for the person who has an interest in the fields threat assessment, trauma response or family dynamics, including para-professionals, professionals and those with a general interest in advancing their learning. It is designed to provide learning for those who want general exposure to the NACTATR™ models as well as those who are planning, as part of their professional development, to complete any of the two-day in-person training course. It is also meant to provide those who have already completed two-day trainings an opportunity to refresh their learning and dive more deeply into areas that informed our current training program

## **Experience:**

For over 20 years, NACTATR™ has provided training to more than 50,000 participants, delivered over 3,000 trainings, and has supported hundreds of school jurisdictions, police units, mental health, community organizations and governments. NACTATR™ is solely focused on preventing violence and trauma in North America using training, tools, and technology.

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## NACTATR Foundation in Trauma Response

Whether individuals are victims of trauma or supporting others who are, nothing occurs in a vacuum. There is a story and a reason for “why” behind the complex human reactions to traumatic situations, including the fact that ten people can be exposed to the same traumatic stimuli and yet have ten completely different responses.

With that, this course will present our own evolutionary process for understanding trauma and introduce you to the early research, concepts, and variables that led to the development of the NACTATR Traumatic Event Systems (TES™) Model of Crisis and Trauma Response. Unlike other Crisis Response models, the TES™ Model considers the unique characteristics of the individuals, families, schools, workplaces, or communities we are supporting. We do not assume that every human being or human system functions the same, therefore trauma response should be “measured” to the actual circumstance of those we are supporting. Born out of our experience working in the aftermath of some of North America’s highest-profile traumas, this course is a timely edition for understanding the human response to trauma in individuals, families, and beyond.

**Module 1:** Trauma Response Foundation: Early Thinking

**Module 2:** Understanding Trauma: Early Research

**Module 3:** Media-Generated Trauma

**Module 4:** Impact of Trauma on Adults

**Module 5:** Impact of Trauma on Children and Youth

**Module 6:** Impact of Trauma on Families



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## **NACTATR Foundation in Family Dynamics**

Often people either come into counselling or are brought into counselling because it is assumed by others “there is something wrong with them.” Although there are presenting issues unique to each individual entering counselling, there are usually other factors that can elevate risk for symptom development that are “outside” the individual. In other words, it’s not all about the identified person: often family dynamics are a risk enhancing variable that can contribute to what’s wrong with an individual as well. But understanding family dynamics can also be the solution to many problems. This course will introduce you to the early work of the pioneers in the field of family therapy and expand on key insights that have influenced clinical practice throughout the world. It will also tie together elements from the fields of threat assessment and trauma response that are sometimes family-generated. No two families are the same and no two family members have the same experience even if they were raised by the same parents or caregivers.

**Module 1:** Family Dynamic Foundation: Early Thinking

**Module 2:** The Whole is Greater Than the Sum of its Parts: Early Research

**Module 3:** Genograms - The Family Map

**Module 4:** Family Structure

**Module 5:** Family Function

**Module 6:** Family Emotional Process



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