

On Mission Martial Arts

LEVEL ONE – Instructor Requirements

(Required for Junior Leaders and Trainee Instructors)

- ☐ Read “*The Professional Martial Arts Instructor.*” Have 2 of your peers, self and one OMMA leader rate you on each item on a 1-10 scale.

The Professional Martial Arts Instructor

By Marco Fiorentino

Every Full Instructor who leads a martial arts dojo should be a Black Belt, but not every Black Belt should be an Instructor. There is a BIG difference between a great martial artist and a great, professional martial arts instructor. So, what are the qualities that make excellent martial arts professionals?

ONE: An enthusiasm for the Martial arts.

TWO: A desire to constantly be learning, growing and improving their skills in the arts, as a teacher and as a businessperson. The best instructors are the best students.

THREE: A passion to see their students excel and have a superior martial arts experience. Pays attention to students and both encourages and challenges them.

FOUR: A positive attitude that finds the opportunities in every challenge and demonstrates gratefulness for their blessings.

FIVE: Fit, energetic and well-groomed.

SIX: Arrives to the dojo early, prepares for each class ahead of time, starts and finishes classes on time.

SEVEN: The ability to communicate concepts and theories in a clear, concise and patient way. Is able to balance a desire for students to perfect technique with an understanding that each person is unique and will progress in a different way at a different pace.

EIGHT: Is comfortable marketing and promoting the dojo, the martial arts taught there and themselves as the competent, professional instructor.

NINE: Treats each student equally according to the dojo rules. No one should know who your favorite or least favorite students are. Be gentle with corrections and lavish with praise.

TEN: Be humble, approachable and have fun.

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