

Maritime Advanced Warfighting School

Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS) is a resident program completed in conjunction with the College of Naval Command and Staff curriculum. This course will develop strategic and operational leaders with the skills required to plan, execute, and assess combined, joint, and naval operations.

Eligibility

- U.S. Navy intermediate officers (O3-O4) are selected to attend MAWS. Coast Guard, Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force officers are selected via consultation with their respective senior service advisors at the U.S. Naval War College (NWC).

Location & Duration

- The 13-month curriculum for resident students is divided into three trimesters including a summer practicum, and is taught at NWC in Newport, Rhode Island.

Learning Format

- Core Courses are primarily seminar format but include planning exercises, wargame participation, and visits by experts.

Outcome

- Students in this program are awarded additional credit on top of the master's degree in Defense and Strategic Studies and JPME I credit. Navy students receive Additional Qualification Designation (JP-1). Coast Guard, Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force officers receive Additional Qualification Designation similar to other advanced warfighting schools (SAMS, SAW, SAASS, and JAWS).

General Program Overview

- Perspectives on Modern War | All Trimesters, Required
Students take lessons from their core curriculum and apply them to emerging challenges in the international security environment. Major themes vary by trimester and are connected to the annual symposium within the trimester.
- Theater Security Decision Making | Fall Trimester, Required
Educates students on effective decision-making and leadership, focusing primarily at the theater strategic level.
- Fundamentals on Operational Art and Doctrine | Fall Trimester, Required
Introduction to MAWS and the Navy Planning Process, students will also review Joint and Navy Planning documents.
- Strategy and War | Winter Trimester, Required
Examines how the overall strategic environment shapes operational choices and outcomes.
- Navy Planning Process and Joint Force Maritime Component Commander Environment | Winter Trimester, Required
Introduction to the Joint Force Maritime Component Commander Environment concept, command and control, and force employment considerations for planners.
- Operational Planning Considerations for the Joint Force Commander | Spring Trimester, Required
Introduced to the Joint Task Force construct and joint force commander planning processes and organization.
- Leadership in the Profession of Arms | Summer Capstone, Required
This course allows students to recognize their impact on those they lead and enhance their thinking and ethical decision-making for their future leadership roles.
- Capstone Planning Project | Summer Capstone, Required
Assigned as adjunct planning teams to a numbered fleet N5 (plans) or a standing Joint Force J5 planning staff to develop Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan and combatant commander-directed plans.