



U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
Est. 1884
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND



ACADEMIC CATALOG

U.S. Naval War College

2026 – 2027



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HISTORY

On October 6, 1884, Secretary of the Navy William E. Chandler signed General Order 325, which began by simply stating: “A college is hereby established for an advanced course of professional study for naval officers, to be known as the U.S. Naval War College.” As its first President, Rear Admiral Stephen B. Luce set a course for the Naval War College in an order issued on September 2, 1885, that endures to this day. The curriculum included daily lectures on just two subjects: international law and naval and military science. He mused, “Fancy a university man aspiring to the honors of the legal profession and ignoring the law school and the science of law! . . . It must strike anyone who thinks about it as extraordinary that we, members of the profession of arms, should never have undertaken the study of our real business.” Accompanying this focus was an elaborate wargaming program, pioneered by the Germans as *Kriegspiel* and first introduced in the U.S. Navy at Newport in 1886. Further expanding the college’s impact, distance education was introduced in 1914.

Naval War College officers prepared almost every war plan adopted between 1890 and 1917 in cooperation with the Office of Naval Intelligence and



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the Navy's General Board. After World War II, Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz said of the war in the Pacific: "The war with Japan had been re-enacted in the game rooms here [at the Naval War College] by so many people and in so many different ways that nothing that happened during the war was a surprise—absolutely nothing except the kamikaze tactics towards the end of the war; we had not visualized those."

In 1972, the college entirely revamped its academic curriculum to focus on strategy and policy, defense economics and decision making, and naval operations. In the 1990s, it was accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to award its graduates a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Later, the College of Distance Education was accredited to deliver graduate-level education in all its programs and offer the NWC M.A. degree via the Fleet Seminar and Graduate Degree Programs.

Now in its second century of service to the U.S. Navy and the nation, the Naval War College continues to prepare its students by providing them with a professional military education second to none—one based on the intellectual flexibility that flows from a clear understanding of the fundamental principles that have governed national security affairs in peace and war throughout history.

CONNECTING JPME TO THE COLLEGE STRATEGIC PLAN

The whole Strategic Plan can be found at this link, <https://usnwc.edu/About/Mission-Vision> but we wanted to feature the three main lines of effort so you can see a clear connection to the College Strategic Plan.

Lines of Effort (LOE)

The Naval War College advances its mission through three enduring lines of effort. These priorities are drawn from the Naval War College Strategic Plan 2022-2027, which provides additional detail on the College's strategic objectives and initiatives:

LOE #1 Education

Educate Tomorrow's Leaders

- Provide a world-class professional military education that develops critical thinking, strategic judgment, and warfighting competence through innovative, rigorous, and relevant learning experiences

LOE #2 Research

Inform Today's Decision Makers

- Conduct research, analysis, and wargaming that advance strategic thought, support operational decision-making, and address the Navy's most pressing security challenges.

LOE #3 Outreach

Engage with Allies and Partners

- Strengthen relationships across the naval profession, the joint force, government, academia, and international partners through education, outreach, and collaboration.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The academic departments support the missions of the Naval War College by developing strategic and operational leaders through education.

A Naval War College education provides a framework in which military and civilian leaders gain a profound understanding of strategy and operations, as well as the ability to think critically, deal with uncertainty and surprise, be proficient in joint matters, and comprehend the security environment and all elements of national power. The College achieves this goal through the combined efforts of the Dean of Academics and the College of Leadership and Ethics.

In-resident students take five core courses and two electives. Additionally, select students build on the core curriculum through the Advanced Research Programs, the Advanced Strategist Program, and the Maritime Warfighting School. The College of Distance Education adapts the core curriculum for cohorts who learn in distributed classrooms throughout the United States or online.

To support Navy personnel and rotation realities, we start three



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cohorts per year, with a majority arriving in July and graduating in June. We therefore execute the Intermediate- level Course (ILC), Senior-level Course (SLC), electives, and associated resident and distance education programs simultaneously, all the while updating the curriculum, maintaining professional relevance, engaging in policy and scholarly debates, and providing service to the college.

There is one academic faculty for several programs. The faculty delivers two distinct courses that award a master's degree and Joint Professional Military Education credit; both are desired for promotion to O-5 as delineated in annual promotion board precepts. At the resident program in Newport, the Senior-level degree in National Security and Strategic Studies addresses war and grand strategy, strategic-level leadership and decision-making, theater-strategic military planning, and is accredited by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide Joint Professional Military Education Phase II (JPME II) certification. The Intermediate level degree in Defense and Strategic Studies addresses campaigns and war strategies, theater-level leadership and decision-making, operational planning, and provides JPME I certification.

The non-resident programs have a history dating to 1914 and are delivered by the College of Distance Education using three delivery modalities to ensure wide access to the JPME I credential. The Fleet Seminar Program (FSP) most closely replicates the resident experience in an evening seminar format and is currently taught at locations around the country, primarily in Fleet Concentration Areas (FCA's). Full-time faculty members in Monterey, California teach a shortened JPME I program to students enrolled in graduate studies at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS). Finally, the Naval Command & Staff Online Program leverages virtual environments to deliver the core curriculum to students unable to attend in-class seminars.

Naval War College Degree

The Naval War College is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) to award qualified resident U.S. graduates of the College of Naval Warfare (CNW) with a Master of Arts degree



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in National Security and Strategic Studies and graduates of the College of Naval Command and Staff (CNC&S) with a Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies. The College is also accredited by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff to award JPME Phase I credit for the intermediate program and JPME Phase II credit for the senior course. Graduates from the international programs receive an NWC diploma and have the option to enroll in a program leading to a master's degree. The Naval War College is also accredited to award the same Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies to qualified non-resident students who complete the Graduate Degree Program. They are admitted to the non-resident Graduate Degree Program and complete the electives requirements. Additionally, a select group of qualified international graduates of the Naval Command College will receive a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies, and a select group of qualified international graduates of the Naval Staff College will receive a Master of Arts Degree in Defense and Strategic Studies.

Academic Year

NWC convocations are traditionally held in August, and the majority of students graduate the following June. However, two smaller cohorts of senior and intermediate students begin their academic years in either the winter or spring trimesters. The winter trimester begins in November and the spring trimester is in March. The ten-month curriculum for resident students is divided into trimesters of three to four months.

Core Curriculum

The Naval War College has four core resident teaching departments: Strategy and Policy; National Security Affairs; Joint Military Operations; and the College of Leadership and Ethics, each with separate faculty. The first three departments each teach one ILC and one SLC course per year, while Leadership and Ethics teaches Leadership in the Profession of Arms (LPA) throughout the academic year. The resident courses are the basis for College of Distance education accreditation.



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Strategy and Policy Department

The Strategy and Policy Department teaches courses that enhance the ability of students to think realistically about strategies to employ armed force to win the Nation's wars and provide for the security and wellbeing of the American people. The strategy courses educate students in the application of strategic theory, concepts of sea power, the history of warfare, and the profession of arms in preparation for leadership at the strategic level of joint, interagency, and multinational operations in war. To gain an understanding of the ideals and exceptional character of the American people as well as the importance of allies and partners, students study wars fought by the United States and other great powers from the Founding of the Republic down to the present day. Students learn, practice, and master the skills of critical strategic analysis through a rigorous and relevant program of study that requires extensive reading, seminar discussion, tutorials, presentations, practical exercises, and graded essays. The strategy courses meet the prescribed Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) learning outcomes for developing disciplined habits of strategic analysis set down in the Officer Professional Military Education Policy (OPMEP) established by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Joint Military Operations Department

The Joint Military Operations (JMO) curriculum focuses on joint warfighting at the theater-strategic and operational levels of war. The JMO course prepares future military and civilian leaders for high-level policy, command, and staff positions requiring joint planning expertise and joint warfighting skills. It emphasizes the theory and practice of operational art in terms of maritime and joint forces. JMO students will learn to apply operational art, the joint operational planning process, and critical thinking skills in a seminar environment to employ joint forces to achieve a broad array of objectives. Extensive faculty and student interaction fosters professional attitudes and perspectives essential to successful military operations.



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National Security Affairs Department

The National Security Affairs (NSA) curriculum educates students in the dynamic complexities of today's rapidly evolving national and international security environment. The curriculum covers a diverse array of national, regional and global security issues, giving particular emphasis to understanding U.S. decision making dynamics at the theater and strategic levels. The ultimate goal of the NSA curriculum is to sharpen the student's ability to develop strategy and communicate analyses of current and emerging security issues facing the U.S. and its international partners and allies; to better understand the dynamics of U.S. foreign policy decision-making dynamics; develop the ability to assess political, budgetary, bureaucratic, organizational, and leadership factors influencing strategy development and U.S. foreign policy implementation.

College of Leadership and Ethics

The College of Leadership and Ethics (CLE) delivers cutting edge leader development curricula to students ranging from the ILC course through senior flag officers. CLE's educational focus is on individual and organizational leader development within the current security environment of complexity and ambiguity. Specifically, CLE delivers Leadership in the Profession of Arms (LPA) as a residential core course at the ILC and SLC levels, while offering leadership and ethics electives throughout the academic year.

Perspectives on Modern War

Perspectives on Modern War (PMW) is a year-long residential core course taught by faculty from across NWC and administered as a joint effort of the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Dean of the College of Leadership and Ethics. PMW integrates other core course concepts across trimesters, enhancing the cohesion and relevance of each to students. It also connects the various symposia to core academic content and enhances students' abilities to evaluate and synthesize content provided by senior speakers and relates it to their NWC education.



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PMW is a nimble platform for addressing current events and emerging topics without disrupting other core course content or delivery.

Program Learning Outcomes

Senior-Level Course Program Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate joint-warfighting leadership when integrating the instruments of national power across the continuum of competition.
- Create national security strategies designed for contemporary security environments.
- Apply the organizational and ethical concepts integral to the profession of arms to strategic decision-making.
- Apply theory, history, doctrine, and concepts of sea power through critical strategic thought in professional communication.

Intermediate-Level Course Program Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate joint planning and joint warfighting ability in military operations and campaigns across the continuum of competition.
- Create theater military strategies designed for contemporary security environments.
- Apply the organizational and ethical concepts integral to the profession of arms to operational decision-making.
- Apply theory, history, doctrine, and concepts of sea power through critical, strategic thought in professional communication.

Symposia and Conferences

The academic life at the Naval War College is enhanced by several conferences and symposia. Some are held annually while others are less frequent. These programs afford students and faculty opportunities for stimulating encounters with contemporary military, political, and cultural leaders from both the professional and academic communities.



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Future Warfighting Symposium

The Future Warfighting Symposium responds directly to the Chairman of the Joint Chief of staff special emphasis areas related to Emerging Technologies, Cyber War, and Space Operations. The Future Warfighting Symposium launches the Naval War College academic year, convening subject-matter experts to enrich the existing curriculum for 500 intermediate and senior students. This event supports the Naval War College mission of educating students to think innovatively about capabilities and threats in space, the global information grid, and among emerging technologies.

International Seapower Symposium

The biennial International Seapower Symposium (ISS) brings together Heads of many of the world's Navies as a catalyst to international understanding. Held during the Fall trimester, the Chief of Naval Operations invites the Heads of Navies and distinguished international naval leaders to discuss challenges and opportunities and to enhance common bonds of friendship. ISS provides a forum for maritime and naval leaders to exchange ideas with the leadership of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard and with the NWC faculty. The program features briefings and opportunities for international leaders to speak. Many of them are graduates of the Naval War College's Naval Command College or Naval Staff College.

Alexander C. Cushing International Law Conference

The annual conference gathers international law officials and scholars from across the globe to shape and influence how international law affects military operations. The Cushing Conference synchronizes the understanding of international law among U.S. alliance and partner nations to enhance peacetime deterrence and warfighting effectiveness. The conference has attracted numerous international and institutional cosponsors, including the Command & Staff College of the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force.



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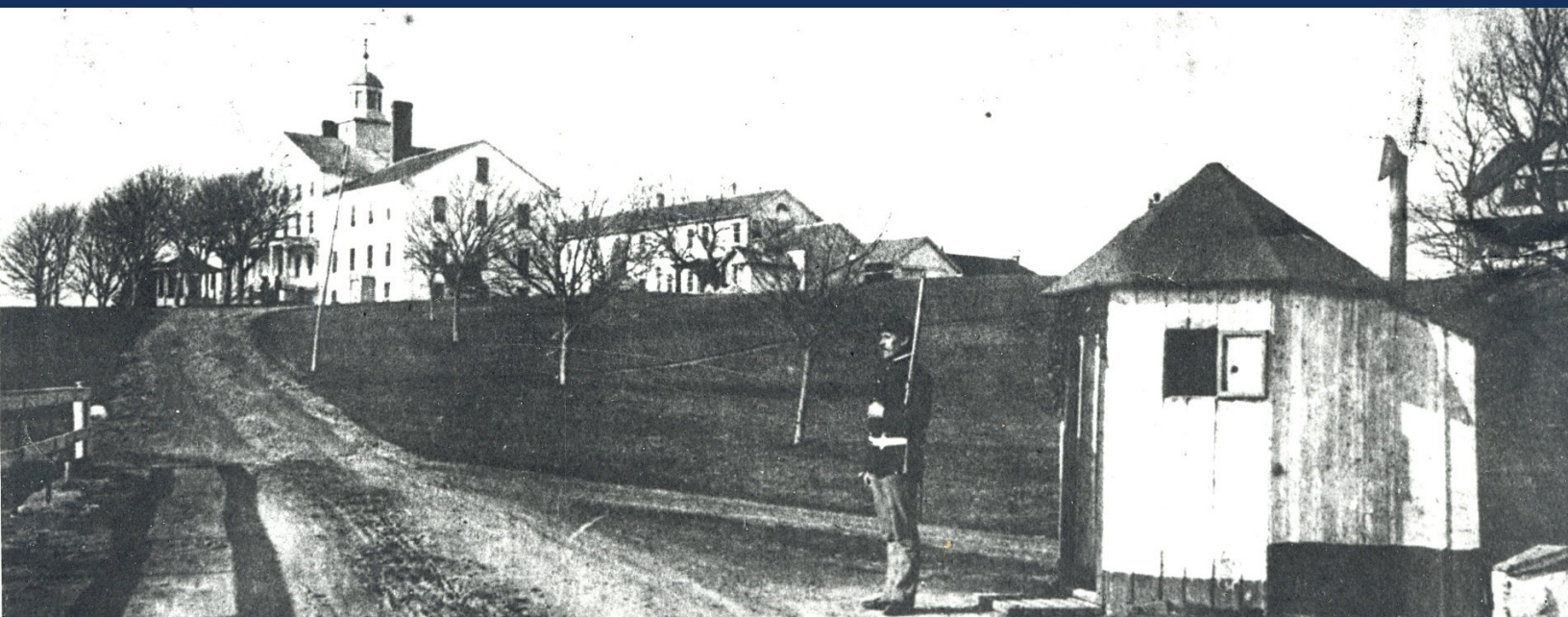
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Current Strategy Forum

The Current Strategy Forum is an academic-year capstone event hosted annually by the Secretary of the Navy to discuss current military policy revolving around a pre-determined theme. The Chief of Naval Operations and the Commandant of the Marine Corps provide snapshots of where their respective Services are in the area of military operations, and where their Services will be going in the near future. Prominent civilians from leading academic institutions also speak on topics ranging from the global economy to historical patterns. This civilian expertise provides students with a new lens through which to view military operations.



ACADEMIC POLICY

The intent of our first and 37th presidents, Admiral Luce and Vice Admiral Stansfield Turner, constitutes the strategic tradition and purpose of the Naval War College and the driving force of the school's approach to education and research, analysis, and gaming. This strategic tradition is more than rhetoric; it has a very practical and abiding influence on everything the college does. The flag-level, senior-level, intermediate-level, and primary-level professional military education programs designed, developed, and delivered by the college are not intended to prepare officers for a specific follow-on assignment, but to provide a systematic way to develop leaders and to improve and discipline the way they think. These educational opportunities foster the required mental flexibility and discipline to cope effectively with the intellectual demands inherent in positions of increasingly significant responsibility within the broader national security community in the United States. This intellectual flexibility cannot be obtained solely from a survey course in current international security issues or from a detailed examination of current weapons acquisition and force



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posture concerns. Instead, intellectual flexibility must flow from a clear understanding of the fundamental principles that have governed our nation's national security concerns during peace and war.

Admission Policy

Resident military students of the College of Naval Warfare and the Naval Command College are captains, colonels, commanders, and lieutenant colonels, from all Services and invited countries, with approximately 16 - 18 years of commissioned service, while resident students of the College of Naval Command and Staff and Naval Staff College are lieutenant commanders or majors, from all services and invited countries, with approximately 10 - 12 years of commissioned service.

The U.S. Naval War College does not directly select its military students. The selection is made by each service, with the criteria within each service being very similar. In the case of the Navy, candidates for attendance are senior lieutenants to lieutenant commanders, commanders, and captains. This selection is based on professional performance and a clear potential for higher responsibilities.

In addition, every academic year, selected U.S. government departments and agencies are invited to nominate civilian applicants in the grades of GS-14/15 or equivalent for admission to the College of Naval Warfare and civilian applicants in the grade of GS-13 or equivalent for admission to the College of Naval Command and Staff. Admission for civilian students nominated to the resident program requires a formal application to the Naval War College. The registrar and the academic department heads screen and recommend applicants based on their academic accomplishments, professional achievements and their potential to complete the program. A minimum of a bachelor's degree and letters of recommendation from the applicant's department or agency are required. The Associate Provost is the approval authority for civilian student admission. Additional requirements for admission may be found on the U.S. Resident Student page of the Naval War College website.



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Navy officers in the rank of Lieutenant through Captain (O-3 through O-6), or other service officers in the grade of O-4 through O-6, may be selected for participation in the College of Distance Education programs. These programs include the Fleet Seminar Program (FSP), the Naval Command & Staff Online (NC&S) Program, and the Naval War College at the Naval Post Graduate School Program. Admission to the Fleet Seminar Program or NC&S Program requires formal application through the College of Distance Education. Officers are screened and selected based on their academic accomplishments and potential to complete the program. A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required. NC&S Program students must possess, or have ready access to, the appropriate computer equipment and the Internet. The curriculum for these programs closely parallels the accredited resident curricula and includes Joint Maritime Operations (JMO), Theater Security Decision Making (TSDM), Strategy and War (S&W), and Leadership in the Profession of Arms (LPA), as applicable to the program. Additionally, elective courses may be available through the College of Distance Education.

Students enrolled in the Fleet Seminar Program are eligible to apply for a master's degree in Defense and Strategic Studies. Prior to submission of an application to the Graduate Degree Program (GDP), a student must have their bachelor's degree transcripts submitted by the granting institution and must submit two reference letters as part of the GDP application package. One of the two reference letters must be from a Naval War College faculty member. The Graduate Degree Program Admissions Board reviews all student GDP applications and recommends worthy candidates for selection to the CDE Dean, who makes the final selection.

Students pursuing a master's degree at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) can complete their JPME I requirements by completing the core requirements of the Fleet Seminar Program in place of several electives for their NPS degree on our Naval War College at NPS program.



EXAMINATION AND GRADING

U.S. Resident Students

All U.S. resident students in the College of Naval Warfare and the College of Naval Command and Staff will be examined and graded in the three trimester studies prescribed by the departments of Strategy and Policy, National Security Affairs, and Joint Military Operations. The final academic grade will be derived by equally weighting and averaging numerical results obtained in the three trimesters. In the electives program, students will be graded on a High Pass/Pass/Fail basis. Each student must take two electives and the core Leadership and the Profession of Arms course during one trimester. All prescribed, elective, and special program requirements must be satisfactorily completed prior to graduation. Exceptions to this policy will be approved only by the Dean of Academics after administrative review of the particular circumstances involved. Department chairs and the Associate Dean of Academics are responsible for notifying the Dean of Academics and the Registrar, in writing, immediately upon learning of an incompleteness on the part of a student. This notification will include a statement of circumstances and a departmental recommendation.



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International Students

There are two academic paths for international students enrolled in the core ten-month curriculum: one allows a limited number of students to compete for a master's degree, while the other, more common path leads to a Naval War College diploma. Prerequisites, examination requirements, and grading are different depending on the path taken. For those students enrolled in the International M.A. Program (IMAP), examination and coursework requirements are identical to those of the U.S. students described above. For those other international students enrolled in the diploma program, examinations are voluntary in JMO and S&P, but not NSDM. Non-IMAP NSDM/TSDM students have to take one mid-term exam and either a final exam or write a research paper. The faculty evaluates the academic work of the students and provides substantive, written feedback, but does not assign grades to JMO and S&P examinations. International students enrolled in the diploma program are encouraged to participate in the electives program, the American Studies Program, and when appropriate, English Language instruction.

Non-resident Students

Non-resident students of the College of Distance Education must complete the required core curriculum, including Joint Maritime Operations, Theater Security Decision Making, Strategy and Warfare, and Leadership in the Profession of Arms, as applicable to their program. Nonresident students in the Graduate Degree Program must also successfully complete sufficient approved elective coursework, for a total of thirty semester credit hours, to be eligible for the Master of Arts degree.

Grades

All Naval War College academic programs have a required core curriculum that meets the Navy and Joint PME requirements for their respective level. The prescribed curriculum for resident students in the intermediate and senior-level programs also includes elective courses. Students in the non-resident Graduate Degree Program must also complete the elective requirements.



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Senior-level PME with JPME Phase II

The academic program consists of a core curriculum consisting of Joint Military Operations, National Security Decision Making, Strategy and Policy, LPA, prescribed academic conferences, the speaker program, and an elective course of study consisting of two elective courses.

Intermediate-level PME with JPME Phase I

The academic program consists of a core curriculum consisting of Joint Military Operations, National Security Decision Making, Strategy and Policy, LPA, prescribed academic conferences, the speaker program, and an elective course of study consisting of two elective courses.

Grading

Except for the electives program, all work in the prescribed curricula for the intermediate and senior-level programs will be graded using the following standards:

LETTER GRADE	NUMERIC RANGE	NUMERIC EQUIVALENT	DESCRIPTION
A+	97-100	98	Very high quality, clearly above average graduate level
A	94-97	95	
A-	90-94	92	
B+	87-90	88	Expected performance of average graduate student
B	84-87	85	
B-	80-84	82	
C+	77-80	78	Below average performance expected for graduate work
C	74-77	75	
C-	70-74	72	
D+	67-70	68	Well below average performance expected for graduate work
D	64-67	65	
D-	60-64	62	
F	0-59	As assigned	Unsatisfactory work



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Grades assigned by instructors for papers, examinations, exercises, and seminar preparation/contribution will be expressed in whole numbers or in letter grades and their numeric equivalent from the scale above. Since the grade of F covers a large numeric range, a specific numeric grade between 0 and 59 must be assigned. Student work that is not completed will receive a numeric grade of zero (0).

Unexcused tardy student work, which is work turned in past the deadline without previous permission by the instructor, will receive a grade not greater than C+ (78). Student work determined to be in violation of the academic honor code will receive a grade of F. The College's Academic Integrity Review Committee will assign an accompanying numeric grade to the F. Though it may not be applicable to all cases, a grade of zero (0) will be assigned as a matter of practice. Final course grades will be expressed as the unrounded numerical average, to two decimal places, along with corresponding letter grades with pluses or minuses, as appropriate.

Expected Grade Distribution

Historical evidence indicates that a grade distribution of 35%-45% "A's" and 55%-65% "B's" and below can be expected from the overall NWC student population.

Weighting of Course Components

As a rule, at least 60 percent of a final course grade must be derived from written work. Within this guideline, Department Chairs and Advanced Research Program (ARP) coordinators will announce the weights attached to each course component (e.g., exams, essays, papers, seminar preparation/ participation, etc.) at the beginning of each trimester. It is the responsibility of department chairs, ARP coordinators, and individual instructors to ensure that students understand the weighting of course components and the grading system at the outset of each course.



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Resident Course Electives Program

All work in the Residence Course Electives Program will be graded on a High Pass/Pass/Fail scale using the following standards:

Grade	Description
High Pass	Work of very high quality that is clearly indicative of performance above the average expected of graduate-level student.
Pass	Expected performance of a graduate-level student in meeting all course requirements.
Fail	Unsatisfactory performance to include failure to meet all course requirements

Elective grades will not be a component of a student's final academic standing, but satisfactory performance in the electives program is required for graduation. Grades from approved elective courses will not be used to compute the final grade point average for Graduate Degree Program students.

Degree & Diploma Requirements

Resident Students

Resident U.S. students in the College of Naval Warfare who earn a final grade of B- or above in each core course (or an approved Advanced Research Program in lieu of one of the core courses), and who pass two elective courses, are awarded the Naval War College Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. U.S resident students in the College of Naval Command and Staff, who earn a final grade of B- or above in each core course (or an approved Advanced Research Program in lieu of one of the core courses), and who pass two elective courses, are awarded the Naval War College Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies. Graduates are also eligible for Joint Professional Military Education certification (College of Naval Warfare ~ Phase II and College of Naval Command and Staff ~ Phase I).



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In the College of Naval Warfare, the Joint Military Operations, Strategy and Policy, and National Security Decision Making courses are all seven or eight credit hours, and the Leadership in the Profession of Arms course and Perspectives on Modern War are two credit hours. Each of the two electives is worth two credit hours. In the College of Naval Command and Staff, the Joint Maritime Operations, Strategy and War, and Theater Security Decision Making courses are all seven or eight credit hours, and the Leadership in the Profession of Arms course and Perspectives on Modern War are two credit hours. Each of the two electives is worth two credit hours. Students who have already earned a NWC Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies through prior attendance in the CNC&S course or CDE Graduate Degree Program will receive a second transcript highlighting the differences between the two degrees.

College of Distance Education

Successful completion of the non-resident, intermediate-level Fleet Seminar Program is recognized by the award of the NWC CNC&S diploma and JPME Phase I certification. Fleet Seminar students who have been accepted in the Graduate Degree Program and earn a final grade of B- or above in each core course and complete sufficient approved elective coursework so that credits earned from completed Fleet Seminar Program courses and approved electives total at least thirty semester credit hours are also awarded the Naval War College Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies. Successful completion of other nonresident, intermediate-level programs is recognized by the award of the College of Distance Education diploma and JPME Phase I certification. To earn either the Naval War College CNC&S diploma or the College of Distance Education diploma, a student must complete all three core courses with an overall grade average of “B-” or better and not more than one course grade in the “C” category. For the JPME Phase I certification and diploma, all the CDE program courses are interchangeable, and indeed the FSP courses are accepted for credit for students who may subsequently attend the college in residence.



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Transcripts and Transfer Credit

For all students, upon written request to the registrar, an official transcript showing numerical and letter grades will be provided to other educational institutions. The policy of the Naval War College is not to accept transfer credit for courses completed at another institution in fulfillment of any portion of the resident college curriculum. When approved, elective credits are transferable to the Graduate Degree Program to meet the requirements for the NWC MA degree.

Academic Recognition

Honors are bestowed as recognition of outstanding academic achievement and to further encourage sound scholarship. This honor, which is based on final grade point-average, becomes part of the official record and is awarded upon graduation and appears on the transcript, diploma, military fitness and evaluation reports, and other documents that convey a student's academic accomplishment. Two categories are awarded for superior scholarship in work leading to the master's degree. Students whose final grade point average (GPA) stands numerically within the top 20 percent of their graduating cohort—November, March, and June—will be designated as having earned distinction. In determining degrees of distinction within the cohort, students in the top five percent of their class will be designated on their diploma and transcripts as having graduated with highest distinction and students comprising the next 15 percent will be designated as having graduated with distinction. In no case will a GPA of less than 90 percent (A-) earn distinction status.

Those students participating in tailored curriculum programs composed of a combination of prescribed courses and special research programs, as approved by the Dean of Academics, may also be eligible for a distinguished graduate designation.

When a mathematical distinction between students cannot be made, the proportions stipulated above may be exceeded. Successful completion of the Electives Program is a prerequisite to eligibility for either of these



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honors. Fleet Seminar and Naval Command and Staff students compete for honors in similar fashion as resident students but are compared only within their fellow graduates in making this determination. Faculty members participating in college's academic programs will be eligible for academic honors. However, such faculty designation will not be calculated in the student percentages cited above so as not to deprive any full-time student of this opportunity. In the case in which a student completes graduation requirements through a combination of resident and Fleet Seminar Program coursework, distinction determinations will be based on the degree-granting program through which the student completes graduation requirements.

Academic Awards

Many varied and prestigious awards are available for professional writing and research by students, allowing an excellent opportunity for professional recognition. Faculty members provide an important link to ensure that students are made aware of these opportunities and to encourage participation. Department chairs, the Dean of CDE, and faculty are encouraged to screen papers prepared as an academic requirement and, when warranted, provide critique and motivation to facilitate student submissions for award competitions.

Faculty members should note that papers entered into competition which are the product of a Naval War College academic requirement may fall into the category of "government works" that are not subject to copyright and may be used by U.S. government agencies as desired. Honorable mention awards or certificates are presented in nearly every category if, in the opinion of the respective award committee, additional essays deserve special recognition. All essays must have been written while the student was enrolled in a Naval War College course, either as a resident or as a nonresident student;

- The Navy League of the United States annually sponsors awards to the two resident students graduating in June who demonstrate a high degree of academic, extracurricular, and community service. The award, presented to a student of the College of Naval Warfare, is known as the



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Stephen Bleecker Luce Award; the award presented to the student of the College of Naval Command and Staff is known as the William Sowden Sims Award.

- The President's Award for College of Naval Warfare and College of Naval Command and Staff Honor Graduates in the March and November classes is presented at the respective graduation ceremony to those students who demonstrate a high degree of academic, extracurricular, and community service.
- The Admiral Richard G. Colbert Memorial Prize is a \$1,000 cash prize and certificate awarded annually by the Naval War College Foundation to the author of the best professional essay that focuses on an economic, military, political, strategic, or tactical aspect of an appropriate professional topic.
- The J. William Middendorf II Award for Student Research is awarded annually to a student or group of students whose research project is considered to have made the most significant contribution in a field related to strategic or tactical concepts, logistics, or readiness. Recipients receive a certificate and a \$1,000 prize.
- The Naval War College Foundation Award recognizes the student whose essay is considered to have made the most significant contribution to some aspect of maritime strategy or the operational level of warfare. A certificate and a \$1,000 cash prize are presented.
- The B. Franklin Reinauer II Defense Economics Prize is given for the essay considered to have made the most significant contribution to understanding of the relationship between national security and economics. The recipient receives a certificate and a \$1,000 cash prize.
- The Jerome E. Levy Economic Geography and World Order Prize recognizes the best research product that fundamentally addresses and proposes potential solutions in the disciplines of economic geography and national/international security.



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- The Michael Handel Strategy Prize Essay Award is awarded to a student who writes an original essay for the final examination in the resident intermediate- and senior-level Strategy and Policy course. This essay must exhibit qualities that Professor Handel especially prized in strategic analysis: it will be well-written; it will systematically examine a difficult, recurring strategic question that derives insights from both history and strategic theory; and it will reflect a true dispassionate analysis of the issue. The Strategy and Policy faculty will nominate exceptional essays for consideration by the prize committee.
- The Vice Admiral James H. Doyle, Jr., Military Operations Prize recognizes the essay considered to have made the most significant contribution on the role of international law in military operations during peacetime or armed conflict. Sponsored by the Naval War College Foundation, the award consists of a \$500 cash prize and an inscribed certificate for one U.S. and one international officer.
- The annual Marine Corps Association Award is presented for the best professional essay on topics relating to the Marine Corps or Marine Corps operations. The \$500 cash award, provided by the Marine Corps Association, and a certificate are presented.
- The Director of Naval Intelligence (DNI) and the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), respectively, sponsor Intelligence Directors' Essay Awards for the best professionally worthy essays on some aspect of naval or maritime intelligence and joint or national intelligence. The awards consist of Office of Naval Intelligence and Defense Intelligence Agency plaques.
- The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Award (AFCEA) recognizes the best professional essay in the areas of avionics, command and control, computers, communications, electronic warfare, electronics, radar, satellites, and intelligence systems. Operations research papers or other student submissions developing these subjects are considered for the competition. Recipients of the award receive a certificate describing the accomplishment and a table clock.



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- International students attending the Naval Command College are eligible to compete for the Robert E. Batemans International Prize Essay Award sponsored by the Naval War College Foundation. The essay must represent original thinking on some aspect of force planning, or current operational or strategic issues of maritime interest with an international dimension. The award consists of a \$1,000 cash prize and an inscribed certificate.
- The annual Zimmerman/Gray International Essay Award is given for the best of the professionally worthy papers submitted by a student in the Naval Staff College full year course of study. The award consists of a perpetual plaque displayed at the Naval War College bearing the winner's name. Recipients of the award are also given an inscribed certificate describing their accomplishment and a cash prize provided through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Gilson Gray and the Naval War College Foundation. The award is named in honor of their fathers, Cmdr. Donald Zimmerman, and Cmdr. Gilson B. Gray, Jr., both career naval aviators who saw combat duty during World War II.
- The Captain Walter B. Woodson, Jr., USN, Academic Memorial Prize was established in memory of the individual who served as the Executive Director of the Naval War College Foundation from 1973 to 1993. It is awarded to a Naval Staff College student for the best paper on a topic relating to force planning or strategic issues of maritime interest. Sponsored by the Naval War College Foundation through the generosity of Capt. Woodson's many friends, the prize is presented at the graduation ceremonies in June and December.
- The Naval Submarine League Prize recognizes the best essay or research paper submitted related to submarine warfare by a resident student at the Naval War College. The Naval War College Review Prizes are sponsored by the Naval War College Foundation for works published in the Naval War College Review. The three best feature articles appearing in the Review during a calendar year are awarded cash prizes. Historically oriented feature articles of maritime interest may also be



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considered for the Edward S. Miller History Prize. Authors may, but need not, have an affiliation with the Naval War College.

- The McGinnis Family Award for Outstanding Performance in Fleet Seminar Education is awarded each year by the Naval War College Foundation that sponsors a monetary award to an outstanding College of Distance Education Fleet Seminar program military graduate demonstrating the highest overall standard of academic performance.
- The Captain George E. Thibault Award for Outstanding Performance in Fleet Seminar Education is awarded each year by the Naval War College Foundation that sponsors a monetary award to an outstanding College of Distance Education Fleet Seminar program civilian graduate demonstrating the highest overall standard of academic performance.
- The Foundation also presents the Vice Admiral John T. Hayward Award for Outstanding Performance in Correspondence Education to a graduate of the College of Distance Education Naval Command & Staff Online Program, who displays the highest overall standard of academic performance during his/her enrollment. The final course must have been completed prior to 1 June of the year the award is presented. Each award consists of a \$1,000 cash prize and a plaque or certificate.
- Annually the Naval War College presents the Vice Adm. Charles “Soc” McMorris Award to the top graduate of the Maritime Advanced Warfighting School, based on grade point average, faculty evaluation, and peer recommendations. The award is presented at MAWS graduation in September.

Academic Honor Code

The Naval War College diligently enforces a strict academic code requiring students to properly credit the source of materials used in any written work submitted in fulfillment of diploma/degree requirements. Simply put, plagiarism is prohibited. Likewise, this academic code prohibits cheating and the misrepresentation of a paper as a student’s original thought. Plagiarism, cheating, and misrepresentation are inconsistent with the professional



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standards required of all military personnel and government employees.

Furthermore, in the case of U.S. military officers, such conduct clearly violates the “Exemplary Conduct Standards” delineated in Title 10, U.S. Code, Sections 3583 (U.S. Army), 5947 (U.S. Naval Service), and 8583 (U.S. Air Force).

If written work is submitted that appears to violate the Academic Honor Code, the faculty or staff member will notify the deputy chair of the department concerned or the deputy dean of the College of Distance Education as appropriate. The department will investigate the matter to determine whether there is substantial evidence of a violation. If there is substantial evidence, the chair of the department or the College of Distance Education Dean will refer the matter to the Dean of Academics. A complete explanation of the Academic Honor code and its related procedures can be found in the Faculty Handbook (2018).



ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS AND COURSES

The Naval War College maintains four core resident teaching departments and the Navy's advanced warfighting school: Strategy and Policy, National Security Affairs, Joint Military Operations, the College of Leadership and Ethics, and the Maritime Advanced Warfighting School. The Strategy and Policy Department is designed to teach students strategic thinking; National Security Affairs is designed to teach students about national decision making and the international security environment; Joint Military Operations is designed to teach joint warfighting at the theater-strategic and operational levels; the College of Leadership and Ethics is designed to develop individual and organizational leadership and ethics within the profession of arms; and the Maritime Advanced Warfighting School is designed to teach advanced war planning. Students enrolled in MAWS take the Strategy and War and Theater Security Decision Making courses and learn operational planning in a classified setting.



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Joint Military Operations (JMO) Department

The Joint Military Operations (JMO) Department teaches the Joint Maritime Operations Course to students in the College of Naval Command and Staff and the Naval Staff College and teaches the Joint Military Operations Course to students in the College of Naval Warfare and the Naval Command College. The curriculum for each course is based on the enduring principles that historically govern military operations, updated to consider the current global operating environment shaped by the extant National Security and National Military Strategies.

The College of Naval Warfare JMO course emphasizes the military environment that must be addressed by a regional, warfighting Combatant Commander, other supporting Combatant Commanders, subordinate Component Commanders, and their staffs. The College of Naval Command and Staff JMO course addresses operations of the Joint Task Force commander, subordinate Commanders, and supporting staffs. Both courses seek to instill an entirely new student perspective.

The entering student's primary background experience generally is centered in a single, discrete discipline within the narrow dimension of a segment of a single-Service environment. The graduating student, on the other hand, has a firm grasp of military and naval strategy and campaigning, including integrated operations with other Services and U.S. agencies, and multinational operations with allies. Graduates also understand the linkages among strategy, operations, and tactics, and possess a thorough grounding in the essential elements of military planning and decision making. The JMO courses employ a multidisciplinary approach, which synthesizes selected concepts from strategy, military decision making to include international law and rules of engagement, operational planning, and warfare tasks.

Joint Military Operations (JMO): Senior Level Course

- The Joint Military Operations (JMO) Senior-level Course (SLC) is an in-depth study of the theater-strategic and operational levels of war across the spectrum of conflict. It builds on Joint Professional Military



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Education (JPME) Phase I as defined in the Officer Professional Military Education Policy (OPMEP) and complements the Naval War College's National Security Affairs (NSA) and Strategy and Policy (S&P) curriculum. The JMO SLC prepares students for the operational arena by emphasizing problem solving operational planning and joint force application to achieve military objectives. It examines Joint Operations from the standpoint of the Combatant Commander, and Joint Task Force Commander, with a maritime emphasis. It further develops Joint perspectives, increasing officer's understanding of service cultures while concentrating on Joint Staff operations.

The JMO trimester is designed to:

- Enhance students' ability to develop operational concepts, to adeptly apply joint planning processes, and to creatively leverage the military instrument of national power across the spectrum of conflict in achieving assigned objectives and desired political end states.
- Strengthen senior leadership skills necessary to excel in major staff responsibilities and in theater-strategic positions of leadership, and to serve as trusted advisors to policy makers.
- Develop skilled senior warfighters who can synthesize valid courses of action and function in volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous operating environments.
- Hone critical and creative thinking skills, especially the ability to develop and evaluate a range of potential military solutions to ill-structured problems.

Joint Maritime Operations (JMO): Intermediate Level Course

The Joint Maritime Operations Intermediate Level Course (ILC), Navy Professional Military Education (PME) with Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) Phase I curriculum, is designed to prepare mid-career U.S. and international military officers and civilians to:



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- Expand critical and creative thinking and develop problem solving skills as they pertain to decision making and leadership in the maritime domain.
- Develop students grounded in Operational Art and Naval Warfare Theory and their practical application across the spectrum of conflict.
- Apply the Joint Planning Process to volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous problems. Students will apply the Joint Planning Process and design a Concept of Operations which they will further wargame against another peer seminar.
- Understand how to employ maritime power in the attainment of assigned joint and service objectives.

Once grounded in operational art, JMO students learn to balance the ends, ways, means, ends, and risks to achieve theater-strategic and operational objectives, as well as develop operational designs using Joint doctrine with emphasis on the employment of naval power.

Strategy and Policy (S&P) Department

The Strategy and Policy Department teaches students to think strategically and conduct critical analysis to thereby become leaders skilled at making sound judgments in the joint, interagency, and multinational decision-making environments. The intermediate- and senior-level courses on strategy are considered the best in professional military education and serve as a model for programs on strategic studies offered at world-class universities. This well-deserved reputation for excellence rests on the professionalism and passion of a gifted faculty. The intermediate and senior-level strategy courses are rigorous and challenging. Students learn to think about the relationship between power and statecraft in a disciplined, analytical, and original manner. In their preparation for positions of strategic leadership, students master the meaning of a wide range of classical and contemporary strategic concepts. Landmark works on strategy and war—such as Clausewitz’s *On War*, Sun Tzu’s *Art of War*, Thucydides’ *Peloponnesian War*, and Mao’s *On Protracted War*—provide a foundation for strategic analysis. Students



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also study classic works of sea power and maritime strategy including Mahan's *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History* and Corbett's *Some Principles of Maritime Strategy* to better understand the conduct of war at sea and its strategic effects. By in-depth critical analysis of a wide range of case studies, students examine the decision making of strategic leaders. Vice Admiral Stansfield Turner, the College's 37th president, emphasized the importance of in-depth examinations of historical case studies for a course on strategy: "Studying historical examples should enable us to view current issues and trends through a broader perspective of the basic elements of strategy. Approaching today's problems through a study of the past is one way to ensure that we do not become trapped within the limits of our own experience." The strategy courses combine the key strengths of a graduate-level education in the liberal arts and a professional school program of study. The Strategy and Policy Department has developed an innovative interdisciplinary approach, drawing on the disciplines of history, political science, international relations, ethics, culture and regional studies, and economics. The Department's courses integrate academic perspectives with critical military factors from the profession of arms, such as leadership, doctrine, technology, and logistics. The resulting synthesis prepares students for positions of strategic leadership by providing them with a coherent frame of analysis to assess complex strategic problems and formulate strategies to address them. The Strategy and Policy Department provides an education that is meant to be of enduring value for someone serving in the profession of arms and as a national security professional.

Strategy & Policy (S&P): Senior Level Course on Grand Strategy

The senior-level course emphasizes grand strategy and employs case studies that are distinctive in three respects. First, the course examines the dynamics and effects of long-term strategic competition. Such conflicts often entail protracted periods of intense fighting that produce truces and peace settlements, interwar and pre-war eras, as well as cold war conflicts and crises leading to war. This dynamic provides an opportunity to



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consider the long-term effectiveness of all instruments of national power. Second, this course analyzes the strategic success and failure of great and regional powers as well as non-state actors. It contrasts maritime powers with land powers, exploring the different strategies open to them, and examines the resiliency of different kinds of political systems. Third, the case studies and strategic thinkers featured in the reading list examine diverse types of wars, encompassing a variety of operations and different keys to success. Success in one kind of conflict may be followed by failure in another; thus, an important aspect of strategic leadership is the ability to adapt. Three basic types of war stand out in our syllabus: big (and generally protracted) wars fought for high stakes by the most powerful states of the international system, often as part of coalitions and in multiple theaters; regional wars fought within a single theater (or two contiguous theaters), typically of shorter duration than big wars; and insurgencies fought within a country against a failing, emerging, or well-established state by a non-state or sub-state movement that seeks to impose a new political system. Every case study in this course incorporates at least two of these basic types of war, and some case studies include all three types.

Strategy & War (S&W): Intermediate Level Course on Strategy

The task for strategists and planners in translating operational outcomes into enduring strategic results is never easy or straightforward. The Strategy and War Course examines how the overall strategic environment shapes operational choices and outcomes. In turn, the course also examines the strategic effects of operations, exploring how battlefield outcomes can change the strategic environment. Operational success in war, for example, might open up new strategic opportunities. Operational failures might close off promising strategic courses of action. The interaction between the operational use of military force and strategic outcomes can lead to unanticipated results. The history of warfare provides many examples of disproportionate military victories that were largely unforeseen by planners. Alternatively, the commitment of large numbers of forces



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and huge resources does not ensure strategic success. Students examine how unanticipated second- and third-order effects frustrate planners who seek to dominate the battlefield and the course of operations.

Of course, in war the enemy always seeks to frustrate the best-laid plans and impose high risks and costs on operations. The Strategy and War Course emphasizes that a war's outcome is contingent upon the actions taken by those engaged in the fighting. A skillful adversary seeks to exploit strategic vulnerabilities and operational missteps. Further, an enemy's capabilities might prove difficult to overcome. Asymmetric strategies and capabilities can create an operational environment that frustrates decisive outcomes. Skilled strategists thus understand that the enemy has a vote in determining the war's outcome. The Strategy and War Course gives critical attention to how an enemy's actions form part of the dynamic, violent interaction that is the test of war.

National Security Affairs (NSA) Department

Each of the two main core courses offered by the NSA Department offers a broad interdisciplinary foundation by studying international relations, regional studies, foreign policy analysis, and decision making to enable students to navigate the national security system more effectively. The faculty of civilians and active duty draw from the students' expertise and experience to create a relevant learning environment. These world-class courses have been developed by a dynamic and committed faculty comprised of practitioners and scholars from the fields of political science, international relations, history, diplomacy, and military operations. As a result, numerous members of the NSA faculty are routinely solicited to weigh in on national security debates through congressional testimony and/or various media outlets.

The National Security Affairs (NSA) curriculum develops national security professionals who can discern the strategic dimensions of contemporary challenges and make sound judgments under conditions of uncertainty. Examining domestic, regional, and global security issues, the curriculum



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emphasizes how U.S. leaders make decisions and develop strategy at the theater and strategic levels. Students learn to assess what is relevant in complex environments and diagnose national security challenges. Through the study of international security and foreign policy analysis, students evaluate the political, economic, budgetary, bureaucratic, organizational, and leadership factors that shape U.S. actions and outcomes. The ultimate goal is to strengthen students' ability to develop strategy, develop the joint force, and strengthen deterrence. They learn to communicate persuasive analysis and provide informed judgment on current and emerging security challenges facing the United States, its allies, and its partners.

The NSA curriculum challenges students to make sense of an increasingly complex security environment by applying multiple perspectives, theories, and analytical frameworks to contemporary policy and strategy problems. Through case studies, simulations, strategic assessments, and collaborative problem-solving, students examine the interaction of military, political, economic, technological, and societal factors shaping national security outcomes. The curriculum emphasizes strategic thinking, professional judgment, and effective communication, preparing graduates to evaluate competing priorities, manage uncertainty, identify emerging risks and opportunities, and provide relevant advice to senior leaders in support of U.S. interests and those of its allies and partners.

National Security Decision Making (NSDM): Senior Level Course

The National Security Decision Making (NSDM) course educates senior military officers and U.S. government civilians in the College of Naval Warfare and Naval Command College on the dynamic complexities of today's rapidly evolving national and international security environment. The NSDM curriculum covers a diverse array of national, regional and global security issues, giving particular emphasis to the understanding U.S. decision making at the national-strategic level. Focus areas include strategic planning and selection of future military forces and their potential use as one tool of national power; the nature of economic, political, organizational,



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and behavioral factors affecting national security decisions within complex national security organizations, with particular emphasis on the Department of Defense and its role in the interagency process; enhancing strategic thinking skills and understanding of the role, formulation, and implementation of U.S. national security strategies. The course culminates in a capstone Final Exercise (FX) that challenges students to integrate course concepts. The FX requires students to analyze strategy development at the national and theater levels, produce operating concepts, define capabilities, develop force structure in the context of constrained national resources, and consider their potential use as an instrument of national power.

National Security Decision Making (NSDM) prepares senior military officers and government civilians to operate effectively in positions of strategic responsibility within an increasingly complex and uncertain security environment. The course examines national, regional, and global security challenges through the lens of senior leader decision-making, emphasizing the ability to discern what matters and provide informed judgment under conditions of ambiguity, risk, and competing priorities. Students explore how political, economic, military, bureaucratic, organizational, and behavioral factors shape U.S. national security policy and strategy, with particular attention to decision-making at the national-strategic level, the role of the Department of War within the interagency process, and the formulation and implementation of U.S. national security objectives. Through the study of strategic planning, force development, resource allocation, and the use of military power alongside other instruments of national power, students strengthen their capacity to diagnose complex problems before prescribing solutions. The course culminates in a capstone Final Exercise (FX) in which students integrate course concepts to develop strategic assessments, evaluate future security challenges, design operating concepts, identify required capabilities and force structures, and make recommendations that balance strategic objectives with constrained national resources.



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Theater Security Decision Making (TSDM): Intermediate Level Course

The Theater Security Decision Making (TSDM) course educates intermediate military officers and U.S. government civilians in the College of Naval Command and Staff and Naval Staff College on the complexities of today's national and international security environment with a strong emphasis on regional security issues. The course offers a broad interdisciplinary curriculum in contemporary security studies that encompasses a diverse spectrum of regional and global issues and perspectives, but with particular emphasis on U.S. decision making challenges and processes at the theater-strategic level. Because of the theater-strategic focus of the course, each TSDM seminar will intensively study one specific region of the world. Focus areas include: enhancing cultural awareness and regional expertise; development of theater strategies; preparation of officers and civilians for intermediate level command and staff assignments; the nature of economic, political, organizational, and behavioral factors affecting foreign policy decisions within complex national security organizations; enhancing critical thinking skills and understanding of the role, formulation, and implementation of theater strategies within the context of broader U.S. national security strategies; and, the characteristics and skills needed to be an effective participant in a senior staff environment. The course culminates in a capstone Final Exercise (FX) that challenges students to integrate course concepts. The FX requires students to analyze national security strategies to develop theater strategy.

Theater Security Decision Making (TSDM) prepares intermediate military officers and government civilians to understand and address the challenges of an increasingly complex and dynamic security environment at the theater-strategic level. The course examines regional and global security issues through an interdisciplinary lens, emphasizing the ability to discern what is relevant, diagnose complex security problems, and develop informed recommendations that align theater objectives with broader U.S. national security priorities. Strategy is shaped by regional context, therefore each



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seminar focuses on a specific combatant command. Students explore the political, economic, military, organizational, and behavioral factors that influence security decision-making and theater strategy development, while strengthening their ability to think critically, operate effectively within joint and interagency environments, and contribute as members of senior staffs. The course emphasizes the formulation, implementation, and assessment of theater strategies, connecting national objectives to regional realities and operational requirements. The capstone Final Exercise (FX) challenges students to integrate course concepts by analyzing the strategic environment, assessing opportunities and risks, and developing a theater strategy that advances U.S. interests in support of national objectives.

Perspectives on Modern War (PMW)

The course emphasizes the importance of leaders who fully appreciate cultural, ethical, practical, and material challenges to develop and implement successful joint strategies. Additionally, the course encourages students to apply their knowledge and training to the most contemporary strategic challenges. Course sessions give students progressive opportunities to apply what they know and have learned to today's security challenges. The course provides frequent interaction, through the symposia and guest lectures, with strategic leaders and prominent scholars enmeshed in these current strategic dilemmas. Each symposium and lecture allows students to engage in critical analysis informed by their course material and practical experience.

Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS)

The Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS) is a Chief of Naval Operations directed course that imparts significant naval and joint operational planning knowledge to specially selected Navy and Joint officers for subsequent assignments to numbered Fleet, Navy Component/Fleet Commander, Joint Component, and Combatant Commander Staffs. It integrates the Naval War College's resident Intermediate-level College



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(ILC)/JPME Phase I curriculum with a tailored operational planning and leadership curriculum in a single 13-month package. The MAWS educates officers to be operational-level leaders: to understand and apply maritime power effectively; to stand up and lead Operational Planning Teams (OPTs); and to think creatively and critically by evaluating complex, chaotic security problems, identifying key causes and effects, developing exhaustive alternatives, and effectively implementing the best courses of action. The MAWS educates officers to conduct operational planning in multinational, interagency, joint, and maritime planning environments.

MAWS students represent all U.S. Services and are chosen from the slate of officers who comprise each August's college-wide intermediate level class (ILC). Navy officers selected to attend the August ILC may apply for MAWS by notifying their detailers of desire to participate. Non-Navy officers selected to attend the August ILC may apply for MAWS by notifying their Senior Service Officers at the college. The MAWS integrates the College of Naval Command and Staff core courses (National Security Affairs, Strategy and War) with a MAWS curriculum that achieves the learning outcomes of the core Joint Maritime Operations core course in addition to an enhanced Joint Planner area of study, and accomplishment of real-world planning missions assigned by Joint and Navy operational commanders in the final three months of the course. This educational process produces skilled practitioners of operational art and operational planning in the joint and maritime domains.

Advanced Strategist Programs, (ASP)

The Advanced Strategist Program at the U.S. Naval War College is a CNO directed initiative designed to produce officers with a deeper literacy of the theory and application of strategy. ASP is an intensive in-resident graduate program that provides a specialized track for further developing officers skilled in the practice of formulating, developing, and executing both military and national strategy at senior leadership levels – to fill key billets in Navy, Joint, and high-level political staffs. ASP is conducted annually in conjunction with the rigorous in-resident



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M.A. graduate PME program that includes the core educational modules of the Naval War College's degree programs, and their focus on joint military operations, national security affairs, and strategy and policy. ASP deepens this core educational curriculum to include strategic topics such as sea power, coercion, deterrence, political economy, sanctions and inducements, emerging technologies, nuclear strategy and proliferation, globalization, and current strategic challenges in the modern international security environment. This advanced program is taught by faculty drawn from experts across the college and includes interaction with nationally known distinguished civilian and military strategy experts for focused discussion on vital contemporary strategy topics.

Participants must complete a guided, 10,000-word M.A. graduate-level Thesis on a current U.S. national strategic topic, or participate in a Deputy SecWar classified group project, as well as pass comprehensive oral exams, and complete a focused 10-week capstone strategic planning project over the summer. When practical and as funding allows, students will conduct engagement trips to New York City (in finance and economic sectors), and to Washington D.C. (in military and strategic sectors), and/or conduct other travel.

ASP particularly values post-command O-5 and O-6 officers for their broad-based experience, leadership acumen, and potential to immediately fulfill designated strategy billets. Detailers should only consider those officers with potential for further advancement/ promotion, demonstrated strong academic performance in related graduate education degree programs, and senior staff experience at Fleet, COCOM, or Pentagon assignments, along with clearly superior career performance.

Successful graduates of the program can be expected to be assigned to specially designated strategist billets identified by the U.S. Navy and/or sister services. Placement goals for graduates of ASP are key designated strategy billets at the O-5 & O-6 level in N7, Navy Staff, Joint Staff, other national agencies such as White House, National Security Council, Department of State,



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Congressional Liaison Office, and other COCOM level billets.

Navy Unrestricted Line officers who successfully complete the program will receive the 2300P Sub-specialty code of Naval Strategist, while Restricted Line officers will receive the 2100P Sub-specialty. Sister service credentials are awarded per service policy.

ASP is a joint educational program and runs annually for 13 months. Attendance is limited annually to 12 students and requires both an August start and end date.

College of Leadership and Ethics (CLE)

CLE administers the core course, Leadership in the Profession of Arms (LPA), using different curricula for SLC and ILC. LPA is a two-hour credit course that focuses on building leadership and ethics fundamentals through a combination of source readings, case studies, individual psychometric assessments, and self-reflection. All students will develop and submit a Personal Leader Development Plan (PLDP) as part of the course. Students will be assigned to an LPA seminar during one trimester of the year. CLE also maintains an outward focus well in the delivery of leader development to 2- and 3-star Flag Officers and civilians in the Flag Leader Executive (FLEX) short courses.

CLE delivers most leader development electives from across the Naval War College. CLE also teaches ethics electives, such as the Foundations of Moral Obligation commissioned by VADM (Ret) Stockdale when he was President of the War College and continuously taught since 1978. They use much of the learning from electives to provide academic support to the Fleet's leader development work.

Resident Electives Program

The purpose of the Resident Electives Program is to expand treatment of subjects offered in the core curriculum, offer subjects not available in the core curriculum, and provide specialized Areas of Study (AoS) for those students desiring to focus on a certain subject. Students may take courses



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from various AoS throughout the year, or they may choose to remain with a specific AoS. The NWC offers approximately 70 elective courses annually, and most are conducted in a small-seminar environment. The menu of courses evolves from year-to-year, and faculty members are encouraged to offer electives in their specialties. Most electives are taught by resident faculty, and a small number may be taught by adjunct professors from various regional institutions. Each elective counts for two credits and meets for ten three-hour sessions each trimester. Courses in a particular region or topic may be offered each trimester. The number of courses in each AOS varies annually.

Special Research Programs

The Naval War College offers several special programs that provide resident students opportunities to conduct advanced research at the College. These programs provide enhanced educational experiences for select students; encourage innovative and critical thinking; contribute to the professional military and national security literature; support high-level military decision making; and have practical value in the area of building trust and confidence and leadership. The Special Research Programs fall into two general categories: Advanced Research Groups and Individual Research Projects.

Advanced Research Programs (ARP)

The Center for Naval Warfare Studies offers five Advanced Research Programs (ARPs) that provide opportunities for small groups of specially selected SLC and ILC students to pursue collaborative research projects as part of a student-faculty team focused on near-term, real-world warfighting and deterrence issues relevant to operational commanders and senior Defense Department and Service leaders. The five ARP groups are Halsey Alfa, Halsey Bravo, Halsey Charlie, CIPI Gravely, and the DSI Group. Four groups operate at the classified level and are open only to U.S. students who are in residence at the Naval War College. The DSI Group also operates at the classified level with U.S. students and may include selected international



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officers participating only in unclassified electives.

The Halsey ARPs are regionally focused and employ a combination of free-play war gaming and operations research to examine in detail joint warfighting challenges at the tactical-operational level of warfare in their respective areas.

- Halsey Alfa focuses on East Asia with a particular emphasis on China.
- Halsey Bravo focuses on the Middle East with a particular emphasis on Iran.
- Halsey Charlie focuses on Europe with a particular emphasis on Russia.

CIPi Gravely Group: Students in the Cyber Innovation Policy Institute Gravely Group pursue thematically linked research projects related to cyber, intelligence, information warfare, and their associated technologies. Students entering the program will take part in a tailored research seminar designed to provide them with a background in a specific topic area of high interest to the defense community.

DSI Group: Students in the Deterrence Studies Institute Group enhance their knowledge and literacy in the language and logic of deterrence by participating in deterrence and nuclear electives in the fall and winter terms. U.S. students and faculty also participate in a classified field studies trip, and U.S. students participate in the STRATCOM POWER Wargame at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Students in the Halsey Alfa and Halsey Bravo groups participate in their respective ARPs full-time for one academic trimester and as an elective for the other two. SLC students participate in Halsey Alfa or Bravo instead of Strategy and Policy (S&P) during their Winter trimester. ILC students take the Halsey Alfa or Bravo ARP in lieu of Joint Maritime Operations (JMO) during their Spring trimester. Halsey Alfa and Bravo students receive a numerical grade for their full-time term in their respective ARP, which is credited toward their master's degree and JPME requirements.

Students in the Halsey Charlie Group participate in that program as their



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elective for all three trimesters. During their first trimester, members of the CIPI Gravely group hone their research skills and select a specific problem to focus on in the follow-on trimester. During the second trimester, students conduct an independent research project under the guidance of a CIPI faculty member. Students should expect to work closely with their Gravely cohort throughout their time at NWC. During their fall trimester, members of the DSI group take the Deterrence Theory elective and participate in the field studies trip (previous trips include visits to an SSBN at Kings Bay, GA, and ICBM and B-52 wings at Minot, North Dakota; this year's trip is planned for Los Alamos and Sandia laboratories in New Mexico). During the winter term, members take the Nuclear Deterrence and Coercion elective. The capstone event, which usually takes place in the early spring term, has U.S. students and faculty travel to Maxwell AFB, AL, to participate in the week-long, Top Secret, STRATCOM POWER Wargame.

Individual Advanced Research Projects

The Individual Advanced Research Projects allow qualified students to undertake individual research projects that substitute for single core courses. These projects, comparable to a master's research project, are subject to review and approval by the Advanced Research Council (ARC) and the President of the U.S. Naval War College. They are supervised by faculty advisors with expertise in the areas studied. Faculty members, including the faculty advisor, chosen to guide the student's research and the director of the program, evaluate each Advanced Research Project proposal and final product. Nominally, individual research projects are proposed in the student's first trimester at the college with preliminary research done in the second trimester. The student's final trimester is then used to complete the research and produce the written product. The most successful students in this program have some level of experience in research methodology and in writing thesis-length papers.



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Regional & Specialized Study Groups

The Naval War College hires faculty members with regional security expertise and analysis in all areas of the globe. Academic, research, and gaming faculty members possessing regional and cultural knowledge participate in the school's regional studies groups, through which the college promotes major research and exchange/educational relationships with counterpart institutions around the world. The college's seven regional studies groups have become strategic assets in the Global War on Terrorism and in future military operations; they have also helped to support the Chief of Naval Operation's maritime security cooperation initiatives. Students are invited to participate as their schedule permits during their academic year. Faculty from these regional studies groups teach regionally oriented electives and research issues of crucial importance to the numbered fleets, combatant commanders and other government agencies.

Africa Studies Group

The Africa Studies Group (ASG) includes faculty and students with an interest in African affairs. The group strives to increase awareness and enhance teaching on regional issues by supporting faculty professional development, sponsoring guest speakers, disseminating information about local events relating to Africa, and circulating electronic articles of interest to members. The ASG also provides subject matter expertise and research support to the Navy, Combatant and Component Commanders and other DoD agencies. It also actively supports the college's and USAFRICOM regional engagement and security cooperation activities in theater. The primary day to day mission of the ASG is the development and execution of an elective program focusing on African culture and history, military history and contemporary security and politics. The College of Distance Education offers online versions of these courses accessible to officers of all service.

Arctic Studies Group

The Arctic Studies Group (ASG) is an interdisciplinary team of faculty, staff and students with interest, expertise, or experience in the dynamic and



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emerging Arctic region. In August 2013, the ASG was created to educate leaders, strengthen maritime partnerships, and generate rigorous, forward thinking, and timely research to support the needs of the joint and naval community. The ASG provides a platform for students and faculty to engage in collaborative thinking, analysis, problem-solving, and multidisciplinary research on Arctic governance and security issues. ASG students explore the linkage between Arctic culture, history, economics, and security through independent research, gaming, field trips, and frequent engagement with regional and functional experts from government, academia, and industry.

Asia-Pacific Studies Group

The Asia-Pacific Studies Group (APSG) consists of faculty and students at the NWC with particular interest, expertise, or experience in Australia, China, Japan, Oceania, North Korea, South Korea, Russia, Southeast Asia, Taiwan, regional maritime affairs or U.S. military strategy in the Asia-Pacific region. The group serves as the focal point for information sharing related to major policy developments within the region and to U.S. policy. The APSG supports discussion round tables for visiting dignitaries and hosts several guest speakers throughout the academic year. The group performs an important outreach function for the college by facilitating faculty and student participation in major conferences and research activities in the Asia-Pacific region and in the United States. APSG works with the China Maritime Studies Institute and the John A. van Beuren Chair of Asia-Pacific Studies at the Naval War College to promote greater regional awareness. In addition, the APSG undertakes periodic interactions with other military colleges across the region and with major research organizations devoted to Asia and the Pacific. Finally, APSG performs a coordinating function with the Electives Program on the growing array of course offerings on the region and on U.S. Asia-Pacific strategy, enabling students to fulfill the requirements for the College's Asia-Pacific Studies Concentration. The Asia-Pacific area of studies offers a broad array of courses from basic surveys on specific countries to more specialized topics of importance to the Navy such as Chinese Maritime Development.



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Europe-Russia Studies Group

The Europe-Russia Studies Group (ERSG) comprises faculty and students with an interest in Europe, Russia, and the Caucasus. While addressing issues internal to those geopolitical areas, the ERSG focuses on issues of transatlantic interest in the political, economic, and security spheres. The purpose of the ERSG is to stimulate the exchange of applied learning and knowledge, bringing educational value to the Naval War College, its faculty and its students, and supplying strategic and operational thought to topics of relevance to the Navy and the joint force through academic research and engagement.

To accomplish this, the ERSG program uses subject matter experts, guest speakers, and colloquia capable of addressing economic, political and security issues related to European and Russian institutions, governments, trends and processes. A primary focus of the group has been on establishing and developing a curriculum of elective courses focusing on the region.

Currently, there are several regional courses addressing the history, economics, and politics of the region, including coverage of NATO and the European Union. The ERSG sponsors lectures from nationally renowned experts on Russia, NATO, and the European Union. It has taken a leading role in NATO's Partnership for Peace Program to improve the Professional Military Education of Azerbaijan. The ERSG is the principal vehicle through which the Naval War College's special partnership with the U.S. European Command is implemented, providing academic and analytical support for the theater combatant commander. In addition to the RMSI's focused research on naval and maritime questions, the Europe-Russia Studies Group supports students and faculty interested in the region by providing a venue for general discussion of Russia-related issues. It also sponsors some research and conference travel and outside speakers.

Greater Middle East Group

The Greater Middle East Research Study Group (GMERSG) is comprised of civilian and military regional experts, whose collective academic research, operational experience, and careers focus on the most important strategic



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challenges within this region. The group advances the college's educational mission through its dedication to three key areas: teaching, research, and international engagement. The GME RSG works closely with the College's Greater Middle East Area of Study in the resident Electives Program which seeks to ensure that resident midgrade and senior military officers are offered a robust and cutting-edge elective curriculum through classroom instruction, independent research, and opportunities for engagement with the region. In cooperation with the other regional study groups, the GME RSG facilitates conferences, lectures, and workshops throughout the year that link our faculty and students with other communities of scholars and professionals outside the college in both government agencies and academic institutions such as the Watson Center for International Studies at Brown University, the Belfer Center at Harvard University and the Crown Center for Middle East Studies at Brandeis University. Since 2006, the GMERSG has been instrumental in providing lectures of opportunity, faculty funding, professional development opportunities, workshops, and conferences on strategic challenges within the region. The GMERSG seeks to integrate the professional and intellectual capital of its affiliated faculty and student body with the college's larger mission through curricular excellence, programmatic relevance, and community and international outreach. on the critical region and nations of the Greater Middle East.

Indian Ocean Studies Group

The Indian Ocean Studies Group (IOSG), comprised of faculty, staff, and students with an interest in the region, has a maritime focus that crosses U.S. government organizational and traditional land centric geographic seams. The goal of the study group is to examine issues and areas to bring a uniquely maritime point of view to the region's challenges to provide valuable insights to policy makers and analysts. The IOSG serves as the school's principal forum for addressing a full range of Indian Ocean strategy and policy issues. The study group's activities include group meetings; sponsorship of a visiting speaker's program;



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dissemination of research in progress, publication of final research results, workshops, and conferences. The group has also been engaged in directly supporting senior DoD decision makers on strategic issues in the region.

Latin America Studies Group

The Latin American Studies Group, comprised of faculty, staff and students with an interest in the region, coordinates the planning, programming, budgeting, and execution of an extensive engagement program throughout the Latin American region. The group also shares perspectives on key political, economic, and security issues in the region with a focus on understanding context and providing perspective on this dynamic and growing region of the world. This engagement program supports theater security cooperation activities of the U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Northern Command, their naval components, and the U.S. Navy. The study group supports a variety of regionally focused activities: conferences; war games; research projects; faculty travel to conduct lectures, workshops, and curricular reviews; and war college and faculty visits from the region to Newport. Additionally, the group supports the Inter-American War Game and the Multilateral War Game involving more than 14 countries from the region. Latin America Studies Group faculty also prepare and deliver lectures and short courses for naval war colleges, defense staffs, think tanks, and civilian universities throughout the region. The knowledge and regional understanding gained is brought back and incorporated into the college's core curriculum, electives, and research programs. Faculty members may teach an elective in the Western Hemisphere - Latin American Concentration. The electives provide a general overview of the government, geography and culture of the region, a more focused examination of security challenges in the region, and a study of regional economic trends to include case studies of significant economic events in modern Latin American history.



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John B. Hattendorf Center for Maritime Historical Research

Since the founding of the Naval War College in 1884, the study of naval history has been an integral part of the College's mission to educate and to develop future leaders by building their analytical abilities and strategic perspectives and enhancing their capacity to advise senior leaders and policymakers. Complementing the work of other research centers within the Naval War College, the Hattendorf Historical Center (HHC) within the College of Leadership and Ethics is a place of original research in maritime and naval history that develops new historical insights in support of the College's mission and its national and international outreach.

The HHC educates future leaders by overseeing the graduate certificate in Maritime History, teaching in the electives program, and organizing lectures and conferences on naval and maritime historical topics relevant to today's Navy. HHC faculty members publish advanced research on maritime and naval history from the Age of Sail to the present.

Maritime history is about more than just the past; for the HHC it is also a lens through which to view the present and the future. Our product is the processing of the experience of the past. As such, what we deliver and facilitate is of value to the U.S. Navy as a source of reflection and comparison to help as policy is made and operations are planned. Knowing what happened explains the present and raises critical questions and insights about what remains the same and what is different for the future.

Center on Irregular Warfare and Armed Groups (CIWAG)

CIWAG was created in 2008 and has been supported by a combination of DoD funds and private grants from the Smith Richardson and Bradley Foundations to ensure that education and research on armed groups remains timely and easily accessible.

The center's mission is threefold:



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- Promote and support research and teaching on irregular warfare and armed groups.
- Disseminate cutting-edge analysis via symposia and workshops to provide a forum for dialogue at the Naval War College between U.S. and international practitioners and scholars.
- Expand outreach and networking activities to establish and sustain a “community of interest” devoted to the study and teaching of irregular warfare and armed groups.

CIWAG has developed numerous case studies and is working on additional cases by noted scholars from around the world to provide students from professional military education institutions and civilian universities with operational and strategic insights into contemporary and historical issues pertaining to irregular warfare and armed groups. CIWAG hosts an annual symposium at the College.



GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

The NWC offers three Graduate Certificate Programs in academic year 2026-2027: Ethics and Emerging Military Technology (EEMT), Maritime History (MH), the Stockdale Leader Development Concentration (SLDC). Unique to the NWC among all other JPME institutions, these programs include a limited number of highly motivated, academically oriented, and competitively selected students. Successful students are awarded a graduate certificate in addition to the NWC M.A. diploma. International students who have been selected for the International Master of Arts Program (IMAP) are welcome to apply.

Students in a graduate certificate program complete four additional credits, including a two-credit, faculty-mentored, research-based professional paper of approximately 9,000+ words. Thus, instead of 30 credits Graduate Certificate students earn 34 credits (2 extra electives and 2 professional papers). Graduate Certificate students have enrollment priority in relevant electives of their choice. In one trimester they must “double up,” taking two electives or one elective plus LPA. Applicants will be interviewed by program faculty for consideration for acceptance into these programs.



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Stockdale Leader Development Concentration

The Stockdale Leader Development Concentration is a 10-month cohort-based immersive and deliberate leader development experience from which students earn a Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Ethics. SLDC focuses on preparing students for the challenges of senior leadership by providing an enhanced education and development opportunity. Upon completion, SLDC members return to the Joint Force ready to lead change amidst complexity by applying advanced ethical leadership and organizational concepts and practices. Students receive preferred placement into high-demand electives, integrated and synthesized across the academic year through weekly seminars that maximize scholarly rigor and leader development. Students also complete significant research that addresses contemporary DOD leadership and organizational development challenges. SLDC fosters self-awareness, character development, cultural adeptness, as well as critical and innovative thinking on leadership issues of importance to the joint, coalition, and interagency force. Participation is limited to highly motivated students, selected via a competitive interview process.

Ethics and Emerging Military Technology

The Naval War College's Graduate Certificate in Ethics and Emerging Military Technology (EEMT) deepens expertise in the ethical complexities imposed by emerging disruptive technology. Students examine the ethical and military relevance of technologies such as artificial intelligence, genetic manipulation, neuro-enhancements, cognitive warfare, quantum computing, autonomous systems, hypersonic weapons, space weaponization, etc. They also develop the ability to apply ethics-based reasoning to the challenges and consequences of rapid technological change in the modern security environment. EEMT Students collaborate with Office of Digital and Artificial Intelligence, Under Secretary of Defense Research and Engineering, DARPA, MIT Media Lab, Special Competitive Studies Project, Office of Naval Research, NATO, Five Eyes, etc. on research.



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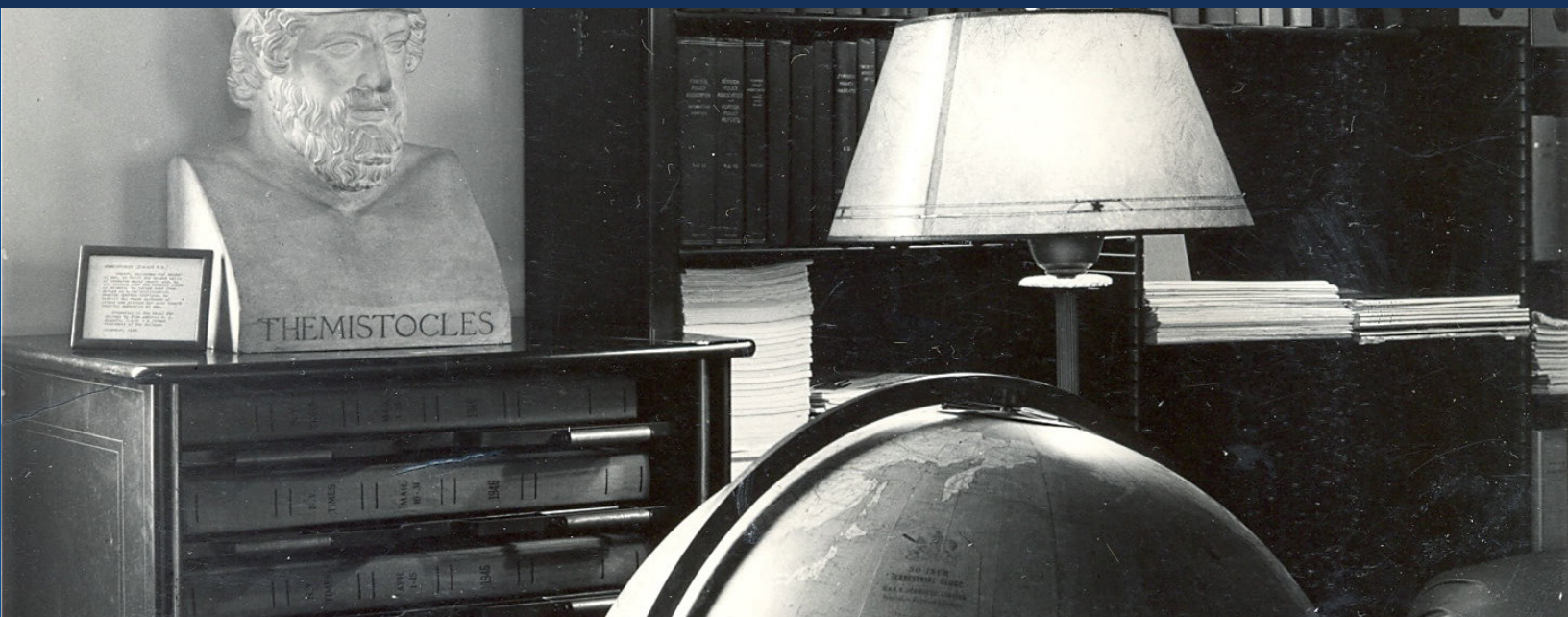
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Integral to the program is the formulation of a professional paper on a student-chosen topic concerning current or potential technologies and their ethical implications for the profession of arms. EEMT students are required to take the flagship course “Ethics of Technology” elective in the fall, and they are given priority enrollment in choosing their remaining two electives in the EEMT concentration. Selection is limited to a small number of highly motivated and academically oriented students, which includes two International Program students.

Maritime History

The Graduate Certificate in Maritime History is a specialized track for students seeking to deepen their expertise in maritime history and naval warfare. Students will develop and produce a professional, publishable quality paper on maritime history. Paper topics and research will draw from unique resources of the Naval Historical Collections under scholarly supervision of the Hattendorf Historical Center (HHC) and affiliated historians at the U.S. Naval War College (NWC). Students are also encouraged to submit shorter papers to the Chief of Naval Operations Naval History Essay Contest. This work may also serve as the basis for applications to complete additional graduate studies with other academic institutions affiliated with the HHC. Students are required to take the “War at Sea in the Age of Sail” elective in the fall trimester, and they are given priority enrollment for their remaining two electives approved in the Maritime History concentration. Selection is limited to a small number of highly motivated and academically oriented students.



COLLEGE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

The College of Distance Education (CDE) was established in 1914 by General Order 89 to “conduct extension courses for the benefit of officers who are not available for attendance at the college.” At that time, CDE was a true pioneer in the field of distance education as it created a Navy-wide correspondence course program using the U.S. postal system as the conduit. More than a century later, the CDE offers a range of programs for officers and enlisted personnel of all U.S. military services and federal civilian employees of the grade GS-11 and higher. These programs include an academically challenging and fully accredited Joint Professional Military Education Phase I (JPME-1) curriculum.

JPME I Programs

Fleet Seminar Program

The Fleet Seminar Program (FSP) delivers a seminar-based, faculty taught, face-to-face education in evening sessions designed to support after-duty-hours study for students which replicates, to a substantial degree, the



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experience enjoyed by full-time resident students on the home campus in Newport. Applications for admission are open in April and May for the classes that meet one evening per week for 34 consecutive weeks from September to the following May. Seminar classes are offered at locations around the country in multiple separate seminars. Most students complete one of the three core courses each year, and about 1,000 students are enrolled in the FSP every September, resulting in over 200 JPME Phase-I graduates each June. Maritime Staff Operators Course (MSOC) and Maritime Operational Planners Course (MOPC) graduates, upon student request, are awarded credit for JMO Block 5, the Joint Planning Process (JPP) for JPME-I credit only. Students who desire to be eligible for the NWC MA degree must complete JMO Block 5 in the FSP.

Seminars are offered in San Diego, CA, Washington, DC, Jacksonville, FL, Mayport, FL, Pensacola, FL, Pearl Harbor, HI, Great Lakes, IL, New Orleans, LA, Annapolis, MD, Patuxent River, MD, Millington, TN, Fort Worth, TX, Norfolk, VA, Newport, RI, Bangor, WA, Everett, WA, and Whidbey Island, WA.

Graduate Degree Program

The Graduate Degree Program (GDP) provides an opportunity for FSP students and graduates to earn the Naval War College Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies degree. The degree requirements include completion of the entire Fleet Seminar Program curriculum and a sufficient number of approved elective courses so that the credits awarded for those electives, when added to credits earned from completed Fleet Seminar Program courses, total at least thirty semester credit hours.

FSP students may apply for admission to the GDP after completing at least seven semester credit hours of FSP coursework with no course grade lower than a B-. All coursework used toward the degree must be completed within a seven-year time period and no course work can be older than eight years old at the time of graduation. Approximately 175 such degrees will be awarded each academic year.



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Naval War College at the Naval Postgraduate School

The Naval War College at the Naval Postgraduate School (NWC-at-NPS) Program provides the NWC JPME-I education to students who are concurrently pursuing graduate education at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. A full-time faculty of 18 NWC professors teaches the College's three core courses in-residence, which are taken in addition to the students' NPS degree program course work. The courses are taught in seminar format on the NPS quarterly schedule. S&W and TSDM are one quarter each, while JMO requires two quarters to complete. The courses may be taken in any sequence over the time the student is at NPS, except that JMO I must be completed before JMO II. Eligible officers from other U.S. services and International Officers at NPS also complete these courses to meet requirements for the NWC Diploma and JPME I certification, thus adding important joint and multinational acculturation to the program. An average of 325 students graduate from the program each year.

Naval Command & Staff Online Program

The Naval Command & Staff (NC&S) Online program delivers a tailored outcome-based curriculum taught by CDE faculty to cohorts of about twenty students via the internet. The NC&S Online Program teaches the fundamentals of U.S. national security affairs and policy, military strategy and operations, and the relationship between them. The program is 46 consecutive weeks long, organized into six courses, with scheduled interaction between the students and the professor, and between the students themselves.

Conducted asynchronously, there is never a set time for students to be online simultaneously, so students and professors may be geographically located worldwide. While this is an asynchronous course, it is not self-paced and there are specific deadlines that must be met. Classes begin each quarter, and students should expect to dedicate eight to ten hours per week to their course requirements. Graduates earn



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their JPME-I certification. About 1,000 students will graduate this year. Maritime Staff Operators Course (MSOC) and Maritime Operational Planners Course (MOPC) graduates, upon student request, are awarded credit for course 6, the Joint Planning Process (JPP).



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The U.S. Naval War College plays a critical role in building and strengthening global maritime partnerships. The Dean of International Programs oversees myriad formal and informal international education and outreach activities. Each year, nearly two hundred elite naval officers from around the globe come to Newport to attend professional military education courses, conduct extended research projects, participate in challenging war-gaming scenarios, and contribute to academic symposia. The range of professional military education managed by International Programs includes the Naval Command College (NCC), Naval Staff College (NSC), Maritime Security and Governance Staff Course, and the International Maritime Staff Operators Course (IMSOC).

Naval Command College

The Naval Command College, established in 1956, was the first of its kind bringing senior naval officers from around the world to study at the U.S. Naval War College. It is an eleven-month program designed to prepare senior officers for the highest levels of command. It is open to



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international naval officers in the grades O-5 and O-6 (Commanders and Captains) upon invitation of the U.S. Chief of Naval Operations. Students are fully integrated in the classroom alongside their U.S. counterparts in the College of Naval Warfare. Core academic courses include Strategy & Policy, National Security Decision Making, Joint Military Operations, and Leadership in the Profession of Arms, and specialized electives in areas of their personal interest. Students also participate in a robust Field Studies Program that exposes them to American culture, U.S. institutions and government, and value of democracy and human rights through a series of scheduled trips throughout the country. All graduates receive a Naval War College diploma. Additionally, a limited number of NCC students will compete for a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. The requirements for entry into the master's program are described below.

Naval Staff College

Established in 1972, the Naval Staff College is an eleven-month program designed to prepare mid-career officers for the challenges of command and major staff duty. It is open to international naval officers in the grades of O-3 through O-5 (Lieutenants, Lieutenant Commanders, and Commanders). Students are fully integrated in the classroom alongside their U.S. counterparts in the College of Naval Command and Staff. Core academic courses include Strategy and War, Theater Security Decision Making, Joint Military Operations, Leadership in the Profession of Arms, and specialized electives in areas of their personal interest. Students also participate in a robust Field Studies Program that allows them to travel around the U.S. to gain an increased understanding of American culture, U.S. institutions and government, and value of democracy and human rights. All graduates receive a Naval War College diploma. Additionally, the opportunity to pursue a Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies is offered to a limited number of NSC students who meet all academic prerequisites and volunteer to undertake the additional study requirements, as described below.



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International M.A. Program

The International Programs Dean allows a small number of international students from the Naval Command College and Naval Staff College, generally around 20%, to enroll and compete for a position in the International Master of Arts Program (IMAP). International students interested in this program must apply for admission. The application process includes submitting verification of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, demonstrating proficiency in English language comprehension and fluency through the Taking of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam, undergoing a writing assessment, and completing a brief oral interview with members of the faculty. An admissions committee evaluates the candidate's qualifications and grants conditional acceptance prior to the start of the academic year. Upon completion of the IMAP, international students receive a Master of Arts degree from the Naval War College at the graduation ceremony. More information on the IMAP is available from the International Military Student Officer.

Maritime Security and Governance Staff Course

MSGSC prepares students from international navies, coast guards, and civilian maritime agencies to holistically assess maritime hazards and threats short of armed conflict, plan and direct effective peacetime maritime security operations, support maritime law enforcement in interagency constructs, and iteratively strategize for improved maritime security and governance. This five-month staff course teaches maritime operational planning through extensive practical exercises that cover wide-ranging maritime issues including oil spills, piracy, IUU fishing, and trafficking in persons and narcotics. Students learn models for interagency and multinational coordination through classroom exercises and visits to ports, coast guard stations, and other relevant off-campus sites. Students travel



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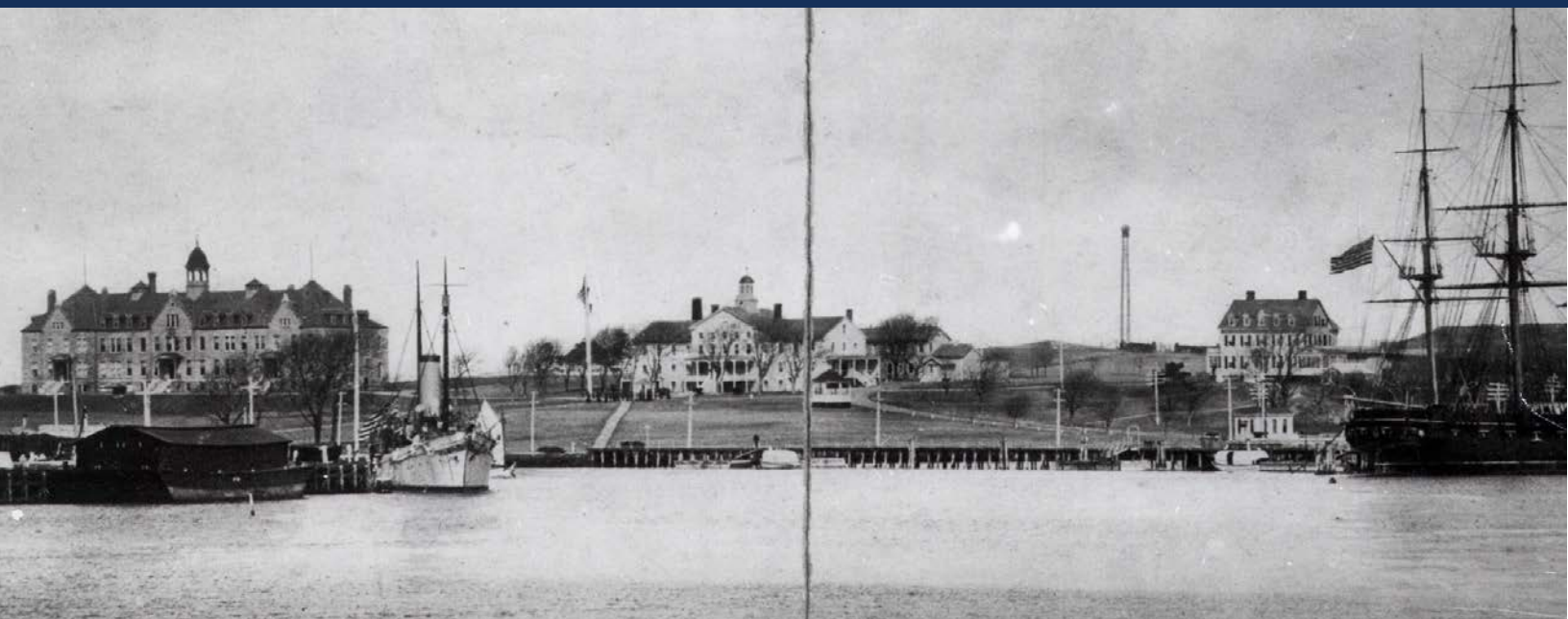
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around the country in a Field Studies Program that is intended to increase student understanding of the culture and government of the United States. The course is open to mid-career international officers, typically at the rank of O-3 to O-5 (or equivalent civilian grades). Graduates receive the Naval War College pin and diploma. The course is open to mid-career international officers, typically at the rank of O-3 to O-5 (or equivalent civilian grades). Graduates receive the Naval War College pin and diploma.

International Maritime Staff Operators Course

The International Maritime Staff Operators course (IMSOC) is a twelve-week course designed to prepare mid-grade international naval officers to support the planning and execution of complex maritime operations in a coalition environment. The unclassified course utilizes the U.S. Navy Planning Process (NPP) and Maritime Operations Center (MOC) construct. IMSOC was established in response to maritime partners' demands for a course similar to the U.S.-only Maritime Staff Operators Course (MSOC). The course enables students to comprehend, analyze, and apply maritime operational level processes and procedures necessary to plan, prepare, execute, and assess combined maritime operations. Students also participate in a Field Studies Program that includes travel around the United States to gain an understanding of American institutions, values, and way of life.



COLLEGE OF MARITIME OPERATIONAL WARFARE

The College of Maritime Operational Warfare (CMOW) provides maritime operational level of war education and assistance, in residence and remotely, in order to improve the ability of Fleet Commanders and their staffs to plan, prepare, and employ naval, joint, and combined forces across the range of military operations. In order to fulfill its mission, CMOW conducts courses, and engages in education activities that directly support Fleet maritime operational level of war staffs and other naval and joint commands.

CMOW is responsible for the following courses: the Joint Force Maritime Component Commander (JFMCC) course, the Combined Force Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC) course, the Maritime Staff Operators Course (MSOC), the Maritime Operational Planners Course (MOPC), the Executive Level Operational Level of War Course (ELOC), and the Maritime Headquarters Staff Course (MHSC).

CMOW also coordinates Naval War College support to the Navy Flag Officer Development program designed to provide Carrier and



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Expeditionary Strike Group (CSG and ESG) commanders, as well as other Navy 1- and 2-star admirals, tailored flag officer education programs with the resources and capabilities available at the Naval War College.

CMOW has an Assist and Assess Team (AAT) that provides direct support to fleet staffs on Maritime Operations Center (MOC) processes and warfighting.

Joint Force Maritime Component Commander Course (JFMCC)

JFMCC, a five-to-six-day course is offered once a year as a component of the Flag Officer Navy's Professional Military Education (PME) Continuum. It is conducted at the TS/ SCI level, co-hosted with one of the Navy Fleet Commanders. The course is maritime focused but in the context of joint campaigns employing experienced senior mentor subject matter experts who are current in their field of expertise. The course objectives are:

- Prepare future 3-star admirals to serve effectively as Maritime Component Commanders.
- Develop perspectives necessary at the component commander level for Flag and General Officers to gain a high degree of confidence with the concepts, systems, language, and processes to effectively employ naval forces in a joint/coalition/interagency environment.
- Address the practical challenges confronting the Commander at the operational level of warfare in the maritime domain.

Combined Force Maritime Component Commander Course (CFMCC)

To prepare one-and-two-star officers from all services and partner nations for operational level of war leadership in a multinational environment with an emphasis on the role of the CFMCC.



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CFMCC Course Goals

The CFMCC course is designed to:

- Develop and deepen relationships based on trust and confidence within the framework of regional security challenges.
- Serve as a forum to discuss multinational maritime command and control concepts and eliminate barriers to effective coordination between partner nations and component commanders.
- Advance student understanding regarding the issues and challenges faced by Combined Force Maritime Component Commanders.

Executive Level Operational Level of War Course (ELOC)

ELOC Mission:

- Educate staff principals onto maritime operational level warfighting concepts to ensure they understand MOC organization, processes, relationships, coordination, and products with an emphasis on the role of senior staff.
- Course Learning Outcomes include:
 - Understand the MOC's role in Fleet Warfare.
 - Understand the MOC construct and apply the key tenets of operational art in support of the MOC's role in linking the tactical employment of forces to Joint Force.
 - Understand how to lead the execution of MOC processes to align staff activities with the commander's vision and intent to include: prioritizing and managing staff resources, synchronizing and aligning staff activities, and leveraging the Operations Process and Battle Rhythm events to drive a high performing commander's decision-making cycle.
- Officer graduates of ELOC acquire the Additional Qualification Designation (AQD) of Joint Executive Level Operational Level of Warfare (JEA).



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Maritime Staff Operator's Course (MSOC)

MSOC is designed to produce personnel who are capable of planning, preparing, executing, and assessing complex maritime operations in a dynamic environment through the application of MOC processes and procedures. The focus of MSOC is on maritime operations at the operational level of warfare, and the art and science associated with military activities across the range of military operations. The five-week long MSOC course provides an experiential learning environment for E-7s through O-5s, and civilian personnel assigned to MOCs or other operational level units. MSOC incorporates seminars, lectures, and practical exercises using a realistic maritime scenario. The MSOC educational experience culminates with a Battle Lab exercise designed to replicate the organization, processes, procedures, and command and control tools of a nominal MOC. Specifically, course graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate Naval Planning and Maritime Component Warfighting as part of a Joint or coalition force.

- Apply MOC processes, procedures and terminology and support commander's decision cycle.

- Apply Operational Level of Warfare concepts to effectively blend the art and science of commanding joint/combined forces.

Officer graduates of MSOC acquire the Additional Qualification Designation (AQD) of Joint Operations Maritime (JOM) and Senior Enlisted graduates acquire the Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) of Joint Maritime Staff Operator (831A).

Maritime Operational Planners Course (MOPC)

MOPC is a 60-day residential program of instruction that develops planners capable of performing in maritime environments at the operational level of war. The course is available to officers, usually O-3 to O-5, and DoD



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civilians enroute to or already assigned to a maritime headquarters. MOPC produces officers capable of organizing and leading operational planning teams and proficient in the detailed application of concepts and methods involved with Navy planning. Graduates of the MOPC are designated Maritime Operational Planners, acquiring the AQD of JPM. They are prepared to immediately and effectively serve on a maritime component staff as planning team leaders. MOPC Program Learning Outcomes are to:

Analyze, understand, and apply Naval Planning to create plans, orders, and staff estimates at the operational level of war throughout the continuum of conflict.

Understand the strategic context and fundamentals of naval and joint operations, operational art, operational design, and the relationship of operational art to strategy and tactics.

Comprehend the organization and functions of a maritime component staff.

Demonstrate the ability to lead planning teams, fostering effective collaborative relationships and trust among diverse organizations and individuals.

MOPC's approach is experiential education in which the faculty purposefully engage with learners in direct practice that reflects concepts, methods, and experiences the graduate will be expected to demonstrate during follow-on assignments. The MOPC highlights staff functional planning concerns, primarily for those staff officers whose duties include participation on planning teams at the numbered fleet (or equivalent) level. The MOPC provides comprehensive methods to teach planners how to proactively translate strategic objectives into operational actions. Course Learning Outcomes are the ability to:

Excel as a planning team leader addressing operational level planning problems.

Conduct contingency or crisis planning across the conflict continuum.



Write maritime component directives (supporting plans and orders with select annexes).

Interact across all echelons of a joint force and effectively represent maritime planning perspective as a liaison to higher, adjacent, and participating interagency and multinational forces.

Maritime Headquarters Staff Course (MHSC)

MHSC is a three-week, 54-hour, self-paced online course which includes one live virtual two-hour seminar each week. MHSC provides a general understanding of the maritime operational level of war (OLW), Maritime Headquarters / Maritime Operations Center (MHQ/MOC), organizational structure, and MOC processes. It is designed for all MHQ/MOC personnel that participate in MOC processes. MHSC is not a substitute for in-residence planner or staff operator courses offered at the U.S. Naval War College. Learning objectives and outcomes are focused more on understanding MOC concepts, organization, and processes and how course attendees, in their assigned positions, may interact with each other. Officer graduates of MHSC acquire Additional Qualification Designation (AQD) of Staff Maritime (JSM).

Disaster Response Operations support

Serves as a resource for fleet-focused education and liaison emphasizing Disaster. CMOW accomplishes this by Maritime Headquarters through tailored education to staffs on the doctrinal processes, US law and policy, international organizations, lessons learned through case studies and after-action reports, and providing advice or assistance in the event of actual humanitarian response missions.

CMOW also supports the NWC's in-residence Foreign Humanitarian Assistance electives track, offering students from each of the Armed Services, U.S. Government agencies, and international partners the opportunity to better understand U.S. Doctrine and process to support multinational responses to natural disasters and complex emergencies.



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Rochefort Group

Technological advances in warfare and changes in threat profiles from peer competitors highlighted the growing need for integrated, maritime Information Warfare (IW) capability, capacity, and processes. In 2018, CMOW established the Rochefort Group to focus on enhancing fleet education by including IW sessions in CMOW courses, providing IW support to the fleet through tailored education and workshops, and raising awareness of IW including co-moderating a cyber-elective and providing guest lecturers to various events.

In addition to supporting our resident courses and Fleet requests, the Rochefort Group sponsors a series of workshops to advance the integration of information warfare at the operational level of war. Workshops are held in Newport at the TS/SCI level and encourage frank discussions that will enable better integration of information warfare capabilities into maritime operations.

Assist and Assess Team (AAT)

AAT partners with fleet commanders, their Maritime Operations Center (MOC) staffs and the NWDC MOC Training Team in addition to coordinating with other naval, joint, interagency and multinational commands and organizations in order to enhance the Navy's maritime command, control and readiness at the operational level of war. This is accomplished through tailored operational-level assistance and education to fleet staffs at MOC sites and the identification and sharing of challenges and relevant effective practices. Additionally, the AAT supports the Navy's MOC training and certification continuum, by educating all nine MOCs and direct support to fleet commanders upon request.

Flag Tailored Education

CMOW supports Navy Flag Officer development through the coordination of tailored education programs. Upon request, a typical 2-day agenda is tailored to meet the needs of Navy operational commanders and focuses on



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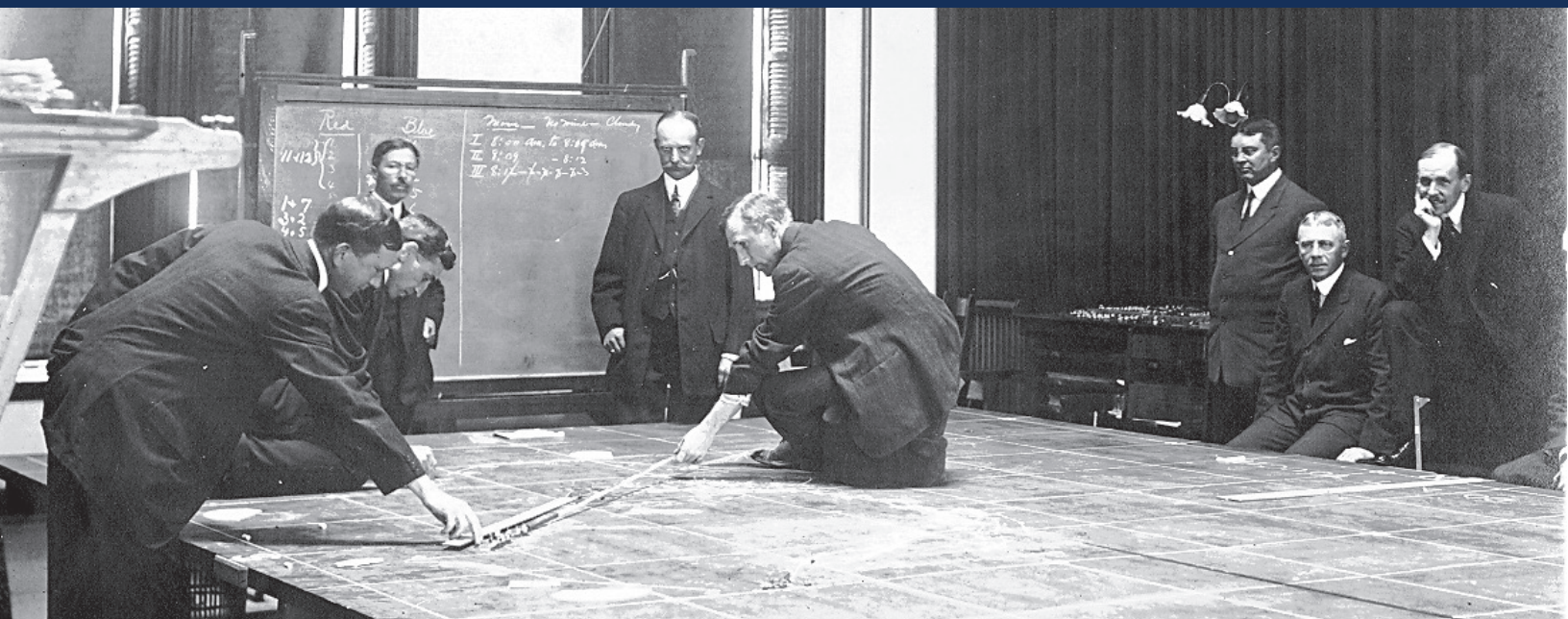
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four areas: warfighting at the maritime operational level of war, regional issues at the classified and unclassified levels, Maritime Operations Center (MOC) processes and procedures, and leadership issues relevant to Navy 1-through 3-star admirals.



COLLEGE OF LEADERSHIP AND ETHICS

The College of Leadership & Ethics (CLE) was established in April 2018 and supports the NWC mission to educate and develop future leaders. CLE is composed of a team of professionals – scholars and practitioners – whose function is individual leader and organizational development within the Navy profession. CLE's effort encompasses three lines of effort.

Leadership in the Profession of Arms

The first line of effort involves the development and delivery of a variety of courses in the NWC curriculum. Leadership in the Profession of Arms (LPA) is part of the NWC core curriculum and had its initial offering during the 2018-2019 academic year. The course provides a continuous thread of leadership and ethics education across the academic year in the intermediate, senior and distance education courses. The course is designed to imbue NWC students with a desire for continuous learning and development as leaders of character. Students focus on their personal development as leaders, the moral and ethical components of their character, and leading organizations through the lens of the Profession of Arms. The Leadership and Ethics Area of Study offers numerous



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elective courses that supplement the core curriculum. At the forefront of the elective courses is Foundations of Moral Obligation. This course was developed and taught by VADM James Stockdale while he was President of the Naval War College and has run continuously since its first offering in 1979.

Flag Officer and Senior Executive Leadership Development

The second line of effort involves leader development for Flag Officers and Senior Executive Services members. The Navy Leader Development Framework (NLDF) tasked the NWC with maintaining a strategy for leader development beyond Major Command. CLE provides Flag Officer leader development through integrated and synchronized resident courses and on-going support activities. Two courses support the strategy. The Intermediate Flag Officer and Senior Executive (IFLEX) course is one week of intensive leader development and senior leader engagement that strengthens self-awareness, complex decision making, peer relationships, and institutional accountability. The Advanced Flag Officer and Senior Executive (AFEX) course is a four-day holistic and immersive leader development experience that challenges leaders to think differently and consider how to adapt to the complex and unprecedented global security environment.

Outreach

The third line of effort is support to each Navy community. The NLDF (3.0) also tasked the NWC to “supplement and support each community in its leader development.” This is accomplished, in part, by providing tailored curriculum and/or leader development sessions upon request from community leads.



CENTER FOR NAVAL WARFARE STUDIES

The Center for Naval Warfare Studies (CNWS) perpetuates Admiral Stephen Luce's vision of the college as a place of original research on all matters pertaining to war, statesmanship connected with war, and the prevention of war. Focused on the maritime aspect of national security and defense, the center possesses a range of scholarly and analytic capabilities. It fosters critical and innovative thinking on current and evolving operational challenges of importance for the Navy. The center directly complements the curriculum at NWC by providing a place for researching important professional issues which, in turn, inform and stimulate the faculty and students in the classroom. Moreover, from its very beginning, the center has linked the college to the fleet and policymakers in Washington, D.C., by serving as a focal point, stimulus, and major source of strategic and campaign thought.

Strategic and Operational Research

The Strategic and Operational Research Department (SORD) produces innovative strategic research and analysis for the U.S. Navy, the Department



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of Defense, and the broader national security community. SORD activities fall under the wider mission of CNWS, which is to produce focused, forward thinking and timely research, analysis, and gaming that anticipates future operational and strategic challenges, develops, and assesses strategic and operational concepts to overcome those challenges, assesses the risk associated with these concepts, and provides analytical products that inform the Navy's leadership and help shape key decisions. SORD is a center for regional and functional security expertise and analysis at the Naval War College. Regional areas of focus include Eurasia, the Indo-Asia Pacific, and the Greater Middle East. SORD faculty members possess in-country experience, historical knowledge, and fluency in critical languages including Russian, German, French, Chinese, and Japanese. Consistent with the U.S. Navy's Language Skills, Regional Expertise and Cultural Awareness (LREC) Strategy, SORD faculty teach regionally oriented electives and conduct research on issues of importance to the numbered Fleets, Combatant Commanders, and other government agencies. SORD faculty members conduct research and analysis in key functional areas of relevance to naval strategy, policy, and operations. These include naval strategy and doctrine, future force design, naval warfare, maritime security operations, nonproliferation, counter proliferation, counter piracy, deterrence, nuclear strategy and planning, ballistic missile defense, civil-military relations, military innovation and transformation, and cyber security. SORD supports the full range of Navy leadership and organizations as well as other elements of the Joint Force and the U.S. interagency including the Joint Staff, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the intelligence community, the National Security Council staff, the Department of State, and the U.S. Congress.

The department houses a number of specialized institutes, groups, and centers that foster deeper levels of research, analysis, and teaching on subjects of critical interest for the Navy. The Cyber Innovation and Policy Institute (CIPI) serves as a resource for advancing research, education, and analysis on the strategic and operational challenges of cyberspace for the Navy and the defense of the Nation. The China Maritime Studies Institute (CMSI) utilizes primary-source, Chinese-language material and scholarly



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literature to produce research and analysis focused on PRC military maritime developments. CMSI publishes scholarship on these issues and educates and advises Navy, joint, and civilian national security leaders.

Additionally, the department also houses five faculty-led advanced research groups available to students. The CIPI Gravely group uses a variety of research and gaming techniques and focuses on military cyber and emerging technology. Halsey Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie use operations research, operations analysis and iterative wargames in faculty-student collaborative research programs to examine potential conflict scenarios in the Seventh, Fifth, and Sixth Fleets, respectively. These groups include students directly in research, analysis, and gaming. In addition to these four advanced research programs, SORD faculty teach a variety of electives, provide lectures of opportunity, and support curriculum development.

War Gaming Department

The War Gaming Department conducts research, analysis, gaming, and education to support the college mission, prepare future leaders, and inform decisions on the future of the Navy. As the world's premier gaming organization, the War Gaming Department conducts CNO-Directed War Games in support of the Navy's Analytic Master Plan and warfighting development. Additionally, the War Gaming Department supports internal college needs and requests from Combatant Commands and civilian agencies. To support the objectives of each game's sponsor, the War Gaming Department employs a wide variety of gaming techniques ranging from complex, multi-sided, computer-assisted games to simpler, single-sided seminar games. Games can range from broad national strategies to operational plans to the specifics of tactics at all classification levels. Most games take place at the college, but some are conducted off-site.

War gaming is a valuable research tool for investigating strategic and operational concepts and it is an effective technique for creating a decision-making environment, providing insights into complex problems, assessing risk in operational plans, and identifying issues associated with future force designs.



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Stockton Center for International Law

Since its founding in 1884, the U.S. Naval War College (NWC) has played a globally influential role in the study and formulation of international law.

Among NWC's first Presidents was Rear Admiral Charles H. Stockton.

In 1898, RADM Stockton developed a series of lectures on naval warfare that led to the 1895 publication of the precursor to today's ILS. He

also authored the first U.S. Naval Code of Law. Today The Stockton

Center for International Law (SCIL) is the focal point for education

and scholarship of international law at the Naval War College and is the

world's premier think tank for shaping and influencing international law

that affects military operations. The SCIL educates future leaders and

conducts and publishes advanced research on international public law,

including the law of the sea, law of naval warfare, law of armed conflict

(LOAC), and the law of outer space and cyberspace, to facilitate Navy,

Joint, and Combined operations. The Center disseminates research

through publication of books, blogs, and influential law journals and

policy outlets worldwide, as well as through the Stockton Center's "Blue

Book," or "International Law Studies," the oldest publication of the Naval

War College (since 1895) and the oldest journal of international law in

the United States. Over the past five years International Law Studies has

had over 1.2 million article downloads from 234 countries and regions.

SCIL research fulfills two priorities affecting military operations: to

get out ahead of emerging issues and to address faulty interpretations

of international law. The Stockton Center produces The Commander's

Handbook on the Law of Naval Operations NWP 1-14M/MCWP 5-2.1/

COMDTPUB P5800.7), the official doctrine of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine

Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard. Over the past five years, SCIL produced

globally influential research through conferences, workshops, and Track

1.5 dialogue with dozens of partners worldwide and disseminated its

research through Journal numerous lectures and publications. In 2023,

SCIL published The Newport Manual on the Law of Naval Warfare,

an authoritative restatement of the law for commanders and their



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staffs, authored by an international group of scholars from the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Japan, India, and the United States.

Since its founding in 1884, the U.S. Naval War College (NWC) has played a globally influential role in shaping international law. Rear Admiral Charles H. Stockton was among NWC's first presidents, and in 1898 he developed a series of lectures on the law of naval warfare that led to the 1900 U.S. Naval Code of Law.

Today The Stockton Center for International Law (SCIL) is the focal point for education and scholarship of international law at NWC and is the world's premier center for international law in military operations. The SCIL educates future leaders and produces research to inform commanders and their staffs on international law, including the law of naval warfare, law of armed conflict (LOAC), and the law of outer space and cyberspace, to facilitate Naval, Joint, and Combined operations. The Center disseminates research through publication of NWC's "Blue Book," or "International Law Studies," the oldest publication of the Naval War College (since 1895) and the oldest journal of international law in the United States. Over the past five years, International Law Studies has had over 1.85 million article downloads from 237 countries and regions.

SCIL also produces The Commander's Handbook on the Law of Naval Operations NWP 1-14M/MCWP 5-2.1/COMDTPUB P5800.7), the official doctrine of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard for naval operations in peacetime and during armed conflict. In 2025, SCIL published the Second Edition of the Newport Manual on the Law of Naval Warfare, an authoritative restatement of international law to guide commanders and their staffs in combined and coalition operations. The Newport Manual reflects the state practice of the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Japan, India, and other major maritime powers.



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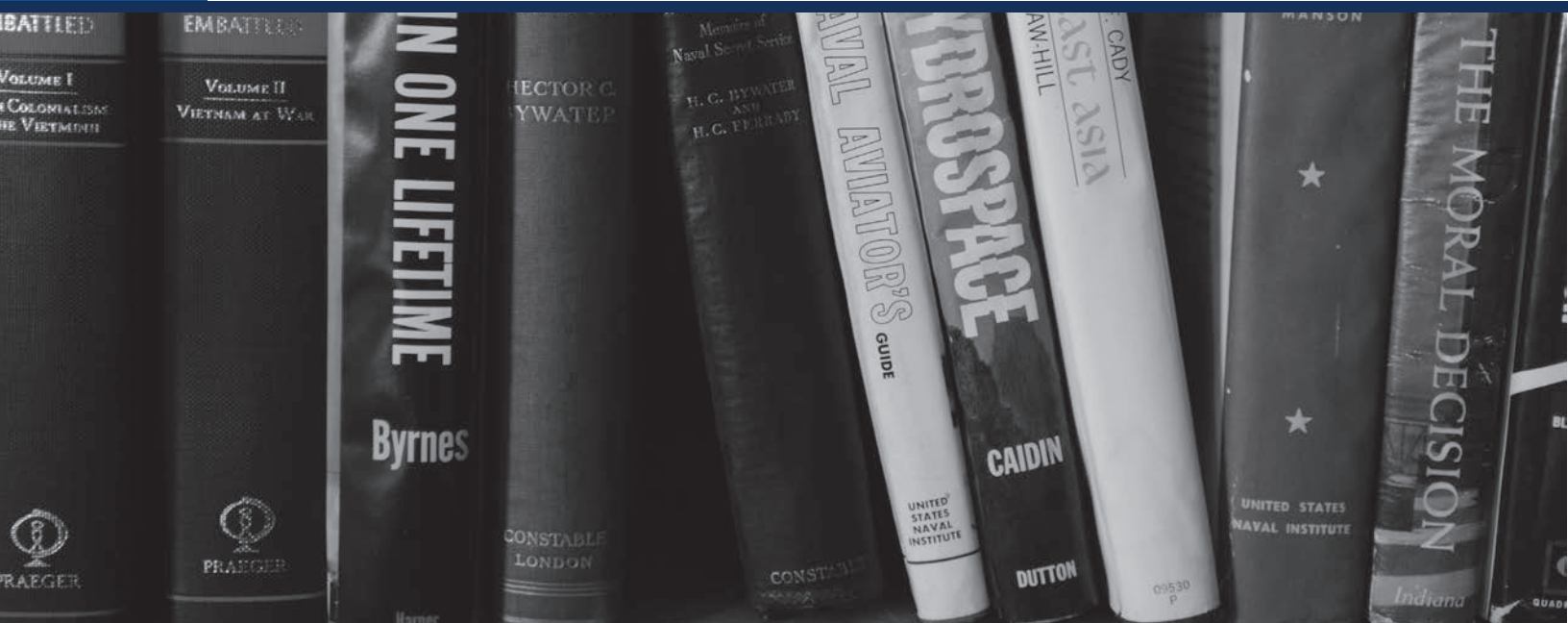
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Naval War College Press

The Naval War College Press publishes the quarterly Naval War College Review, which focuses on politico-military, strategic, and operational matters. The Naval War College Press also publishes both the Newport Papers monograph series (in print and online) and full-length books, distributed by the Government Publishing Office.

Office of Naval Intelligence Detachment, Newport

The Office of Naval Intelligence Detachment Newport (ONI Det) is part of the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), headquartered in Suitland, Maryland. The detachment was established in 1977 at the Naval War College, originally tasked with providing expertise on the Soviet Navy and supporting Naval War College war gaming and advanced research. Today, ONI Det serves as co-lead and intellectual center of gravity for the Navy Red Enterprise (NRE), Naval Intelligence's effort to advance and institutionalize Red Teaming, which integrates strategic and theater IC partners from across the Navy, the Joint Force, and the Interagency. In this capacity, ONI Det spearheads integrated IC Red Team/intelligence support to CNO-directed war games, advanced research, and planning projects conducted by NWC to support development and refinement of Navy and Joint strategies, concepts, plans, and capabilities. ONI Det partners with NWC via CNWS as well as other key NWC components such as the Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS). In addition, the detachment is the point of presence for dedicated JWICS network support in the region.



HENRY E. ECCLES LIBRARY

The Naval War College Library dates back to August 1885 when books were requisitioned for the first officers assigned to the college. Nineteen years later, in 1904, a building was erected to house the library, which was then named Alfred Thayer Mahan Library, and the first librarian was appointed in 1905.

Since 1976, the library has been housed in Hewitt Hall and named in honor of the late Rear Admiral Henry Effingham Eccles, a noted logistician, strategist, and author whose association with the college spanned 38 years. For two years in 2014, the library took up temporary quarters in Sims Hall while Hewitt Hall underwent major renovation. In August 2016, the Library returned to Hewitt Hall and began its operations under a Learning Commons model in partnership with the Bookstore, Writing and Teaching Excellence Center, Student Affairs, and the IRD Help Desk.

At its core, the Naval War College Library has always been about advancing knowledge, sharing information with the NWC community, information literacy, and supporting the research and education



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mission of the college with electronic reserves, interlibrary loans, and copyright support. The library not only serves the resident college community, but also distance education students, visiting scholars and dignitaries, and the broader academic and military communities. empowering the NWC community of scholars in their pursuit of knowledge and in their creation of new knowledge.

The Library is composed of two divisions:

- The Henry E. Eccles Library is the main library. It houses reference, microform, periodicals, and general circulating collections, along with the Federal (Superintendent of Documents) Depository collection. The library collections include approximately 100 online databases.
- The Classified Library, located on the mid-level of the Learning Commons, offers students and faculty access to SIPRNet terminals and a wide range of classified and restricted print and electronic resources. The Classified Library's collection of more than 4,055,000 items including Strategy and Policy lectures and lecture outlines, NWC student research papers, Naval Warfare Publications, Army Field Manuals, NATOPS Manuals, JCS publications, Rand studies, and CNA studies. Access requires a secret security clearance.

The Henry E. Eccles Library and Classified Library are staffed 0800-1600 Monday through Friday throughout the year. The library is also open after hours. Computer workstations are accessible, and materials may be checked out using self-check machines located on the main and lower levels of the Learning Commons. Public access to the library is generally available through Gate 1 of the U.S. Naval Station, Newport, R.I. For base access please email library.administration@usnwc.edu or call (401) 856-5600 for instructions and directions. Notification is required at least 10 days in advance of the date(s) you plan to visit. For the latest information about the library, and access to the library's Primo catalog. Visit the library's homepage at

<https://usnwc.edu/Learning-commons>



NAVAL HISTORICAL COLLECTION

The NWC Archives represents the College's enduring legacy of creating future leaders through a vital documentary collection available for connection, education, and research. This unique resource of primary sources and special collections informs educators, scholars, and policymakers with critical issues of past and future naval warfare, joint planning at the strategic, operational, and tactical level, and the role of the U.S. Navy in the local, national, and global community.

U.S. Naval War College Records

The Naval War College Archives documents the administrative and curricular history of the College from its founding in 1884 to the present. These records demonstrate the role that NWC has played in naval leadership and warfare through curriculum design, the impacts of technological development, wargaming, and student and faculty research and publications. The collection is wide-reaching and covers the gamut of NWC activities including but not limited to faculty and staff lectures, student term papers, PNWC correspondence and addresses, wargaming reports and



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charts, military and technical intelligence, syllabi, and scholarship from conferences, symposia, and other events held at the College.

Manuscript Collections

The NWC Archives holds over 350 manuscript collections. These include personal papers of NWC presidents, provosts, faculty, and alumni including Raymond A. Spruance, Joseph Prueher, James B. Stockdale, Ronald Kurth, and Gary Ohls. In addition, the Archives holds unofficial records from other naval installations and commands in the Narragansett Bay region to include Surface Officer Warfare School, Newport Naval Torpedo Station, Quonset Point Naval Air Station, and the Naval Educational and Training Command.

Rare Books and Special Collections

Rare Books and Special Collections include publications from the 16th through the 21st century on topics as wide-ranging as the Napoleonic wars to the U.S. in the Antarctic in a variety of formats: books, pamphlets, newspapers, film, photographs, and maps. Of particular interest is a nearly complete run of the U.S. Navy's oldest newspaper, the Newport Naval Base newspaper, Navallog. NHC also holds over 380 oral histories of flag rank naval officers, WAVES, navy wives, and civilians illustrating their contributions to the U.S. Navy. To search these distinctive collections, visit <https://www.usnwcarchives.org/>. To contact an archivist, email archives@usnwc.edu for more information.



NAVAL WAR COLLEGE MUSEUM

History

In late October 1884, Commodore Stephen B. Luce was rowed ashore from the Flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron anchored off Newport. He went directly to Coasters Harbor Island, located two miles north of the center of Newport and a place that would be formally designated several weeks later by the Secretary of the Navy as the home for a new kind of college. Once on the island, Commodore Luce proceeded to a large stone building, the former Newport Asylum for the Poor built in 1820, climbed its rickety stairs, and as he opened the front door reputedly announced to his few companions and the empty grounds, “Poor little poorhouse, I christen thee the United States Naval War College.”

Today the “little poorhouse” is a well preserved and stately structure, a National Historic Landmark and home to the Naval War College Museum. Named Founders Hall in honor of the founding fathers of the college, it is uniquely suited for its current purpose. In addition to being the original site of the College, it is where Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan, USN, second



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President (1886-1889) and subsequently a renowned naval historian, first delivered his lectures on sea power—lectures which were later published in 1890 as an epochal book that influenced naval strategic thinking around the world: *The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660-1783*.

Collection

As one of nine naval museums within the Naval History and Heritage Command, the Museum's themes are the history of naval warfare, particularly as studied at the Naval War College, and the naval heritage of Narragansett Bay - a tale that begins with the nation's colonial roots. The Museum collection, consisting of items relating to these subjects that are of value to scholarship, forms the core for exhibits throughout the college and for educational projects, and directly complements materials available for research in the Naval Historical Collection. Besides permanent exhibits on the college, the genesis of the Navy, and the evolution of permanent naval installations from the late nineteenth century to the present, the museum features short-term special exhibits relating to college curriculum and to current naval-related topics. In general, museum exhibits identify milestones in the evolutionary development of war at sea; explain the significance of the sea as a factor in the formulation and the attainment of national policy objectives; describe the character, educational philosophy, and mission of the college; and chronicle the eventful relationship of the U.S. Navy with Narragansett Bay and its people.

While the museum was established primarily for the education and the edification of the Naval War College community and the numerous schools and commands on board Naval Station, Newport, it is in a larger sense the corporate memory of the Navy in the region and serves the wider general public. The Museum plays an important role as a clearinghouse for naval history information in New England. The museum staff are subject-area specialists, and the staff answer inquiries, provide guidance and orientation talks to visitors on regional naval history and current exhibits, and assist scholarly researchers in the use of the museum holdings.



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The NWC Museum is open to the public year-round Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment, it is closed on federal holidays. Further information on exhibits and special events is available by calling (401) 841-4052/2101 (DSN 841-4052/2101), e-mail: museum@usnwc.edu or website:

<https://usnwc.edu/NWC-Museum>.



INCOMING STUDENTS

Student Orientation

The Dean of Students Office is responsible for the orientation of resident U.S. students. After a student is informed by their Service / Agency of their assignment to the NWC, they should be directed to contact the Dean of Students Office by email at: studentpoc@usnwc.edu. After contact has been established, the student will receive a welcome aboard letter via email containing directions for online enrollment, housing information, and preliminary reading requirements. Resident U.S. Naval War College students matriculate in August, November, or February. New student orientation is a multi-day event. Briefs include welcoming remarks from the President or Provost and the Dean of Academics, Introduction to the Naval War College, Core Curriculum, Policies, Advanced Research Programs, Security, Resources, Medical, International Programs, Information Resources, Reading and Writing Expectations, and Library assets, resources and services. Other events will include urinalysis testing (military students only), email account setup, and book issue. Other military Services conduct additional orientation, focusing on Service specific



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requirements and preparations for a year of study at a Navy installation.

The international orientation is separate from U.S. student orientation and is conducted soon after the international students arrive in the United States before their academic programs begin. This two-week long event, designed for both the officers and, if appropriate, their spouses, gives an in-depth introduction to the United States, Newport, the Naval War College, and the international colleges. The international officers and spouses are given overviews of American history, government, political system, foreign policy, NWC academics, and the organization of the U.S. Armed Forces. Staff and others introduce the mission, objectives, and procedures of the college, the Naval Station Newport and its supporting services, and the surrounding civilian community, local government, school enrollment, banking, day care, medical, dental, legal, housing, shopping, vehicle purchase/registration, transportation, culture, customs, local area familiarization, and other services. As with U.S. students, the President and the Provost personally participate in this orientation program.

Students in all four programs, as well as the College of Distance Education (CDE), are provided an orientation to their particular program. Each orientation is designed to ensure that the student has the necessary tools to understand the methodology and in some cases the technology used in each program.

In the Fleet Seminar Program, students are provided contact information for the Program Office in Newport, their professor, and the liaison office for their specific location. Students enrolled in the Naval War College at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) program are provided an orientation through the program manager located at the NPS. Book issue, classroom assignments, and all administrative requirements are handled by the Monterey office. Web-enabled Program students are given a full week of orientation to the Learning Management System of Blackboard. Here they test their computer systems to ensure compatibility.

This week also introduces them to their course instructor, the administrative



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personnel, the Blackboard technical expert, and the program manager. Students applying to the CDROM-based Program are provided an offer of enrollment from the program manager. Once enrolled, a DVD is provided that instructs first time students to verify computer hardware and software requirements needed to begin the program. If shortfalls exist, a link is provided so the student can install the needed software. This DVD also gives the student information on administrative contact personnel as well as full-time CDE faculty that may be contacted.

Student Support

Each student in the resident course is issued books, readings, and course materials at no cost and is expected to bring their own tablet or laptop device. U.S. students must return nearly all of their textbooks. International students are authorized to retain some issued course materials. Computers with intranet and internet connections are available in several locations throughout the college. Students can request Common Access Card (CAC) readers so they may access the college's portal from home to complete administrative tasks and academic assignments. Staff and technical support are provided during working hours. Access to printers, copiers, and paper supplies is provided at convenient locations throughout the campus. Wireless connectivity to include wireless printers is available at most locations which students may access using electronic devices. Also available within the academic complex are the Eccles Library, medical offices, bookstore, barber shop, coffee and two self-serve micromarts. A Naval War College identification badge and CAC give students twenty-four-hour access to the complex and computer resources. Library facilities are also available twenty-four hours a day; library staff are available between the hours of 0800 and 1600. Additional on campus student services are provided by the Naval War College Mission Support, including security clearances, photo identification, name tags, audio-visual aids, and full RAPIDS center for CAC-related issues. Students in the College of Distance Education are provided all materials needed for each of the core courses in their respective program. In addition, through the Blackboard Learning System and Leganto, students have off-campus access to the library's electronic



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resources; eBooks, eJournals and databases via the library's Primo catalog. Additionally, students in the Naval War College at NPS Program have access to the NPS library facilities. Students in the Fleet Seminar Program have access to the many civilian and other government library facilities in their local areas. These include such facilities as the U.S. Naval Academy, Joint Intelligence College, Marine Corps University, and the Library of Congress.

The Naval War College is located aboard Naval Station Newport. Military students and their families benefit from the multifaceted services a naval station offers to the military community. An on-station Officers' Club provides food and entertainment and is available to civilian students as well. For eligible military and civilian students, the Navy Exchange, Commissary, and the Navy-Marine Corps Thrift Shop offer excellent value on merchandise, groceries, and beverages.

Since instruction is presented in English, international students must demonstrate language proficiency on standardized tests before they may attend the college. Weekly training in English as a Second Language (ESL) is available for international officer students. Separate ESL classes are offered to other international students and spouses who desire to hone their English skills. Additionally, language tapes and CDs are available in Arabic, Croatian, and Spanish for anyone who would like to learn these languages on their own time.

Student Counseling

The Dean of Students is responsible for the general welfare of all U.S. students in residence. Resident students may seek personal and professional counseling from the dean, their respective military service advisors, or the faculty. While the Dean of Students, service advisors, and directors of the international colleges provide professional and personal counseling on an open-door, "drop in any time" basis, faculty seminar moderators meet students regularly during classroom sessions and scheduled tutorials. Thus, they are often best able to identify students with academic or personal problems and refer them to the appropriate channel for assistance.



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Because such a role is an inherent part of military leadership, military faculty members take the lead in this regard. When resident students experience difficulty with the stress of the academic environment or other problems, short-term counseling is also available through the Naval Station's Fleet and Family Support Center, mental health department at the Navy Medical Clinic, as well as the Social Work Department at the Newport Hospital. NWC CDE students in all programs are afforded the opportunity to contact their respective program managers, course division heads, or individual full-time and adjunct faculty for any academic or administrative questions or comments they may have.

The CDE Washington, D.C. office has a full-time faculty member and administrative assistant who are responsible for conducting counseling and oversight of the seminars in that region. The NWC at NPS Program Office has a full-time program manager and administrative support personnel who are available to all students enrolled at Monterey, CA. Also, at our FSP Additional Instructional Locations there are liaison personnel who assist Fleet Seminar students with administrative requirements and book issue. All CDE FSP and GDP students, upon graduation, are afforded the opportunity to attend the June graduation ceremony in Newport. CDE sponsors a graduation dinner for the students and their family members the evening prior to graduation and provides those attending with a listing of all the activities that occur in conjunction with graduation.

Religious Activities

Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish services are conducted throughout the week at the Naval Station's Chapel of Hope, as well as support and outreach to the Islamic community and virtually all other organized religions. Navy chaplains maintain contact with local leaders of other religious communities to meet the needs of military and civilian personnel, including international students.

Student Health Services

Health facilities are available for all military students within the college at



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the Naval Health Clinic New England (NHCNE) and Newport Hospital. On campus, the college also has an Independent Duty Corpsman (IDC) who conducts weekday “sick call,” taking care of minor ailments and referring more severe issues to the nearby clinic for immediate attention or the Newport Hospital after hours. Specialized dental care is provided at the Naval Station dental clinic. Civilian students use the medical and dental coverage provided through their federal employment agency.

Recreation and Extracurricular Activities

Although the year in Newport is academically challenging, students are encouraged to participate in social, recreational, athletic, and other extracurricular activities that balance their academic pursuits.

Social Activities

Throughout the year, students can participate in a wide variety of formal and informal social activities. As new seminars are formed each trimester, faculty members generally arrange social events (e.g., icebreakers) often at their homes, to get acquainted in an informal atmosphere. Seminars tend to be the organizational unit for student activities. Military socials begin in the fall with the Navy Ball (October), followed by the Marine Corps Ball (November), the Holiday Ball (December), and the Army Ball (May). Class, Service, and seminar gatherings provide the opportunity for interaction between students of other military services and nationalities. Students are also involved in a wide variety of local community activities, combining recreation with social responsibility. Many take an active part in holiday food and gift drives; some participate as volunteers for Scout troops, youth sports teams, women’s shelters, and soup kitchens. Others tutor local elementary, middle, and high school students. Student activities are financed in part by the students themselves, while additional funding comes from Morale, Welfare, and Recreation funds and from the Naval War College Foundation.

The essential component of the International Program at the college, as well as the vision of the late Admiral Arleigh Burke who founded the program, is the fostering of camaraderie and lifelong friendship among international



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officers and their U.S. counterparts. The program aims to create professional and personal ties that will allow close collaboration among professional colleagues to prevent war and, if conflict comes, to work together to gain a decisive victory. Both international colleges have wardrooms to facilitate informal personal exchanges and hold class meetings throughout the year. Many events are organized by the international colleges' staffs to familiarize the students and their families with aspects of customs and culture in the United States. In addition, international students are encouraged to sponsor cultural events that highlight their nation's culture, traditions, food, and dress. The President, Provost, Dean of Students, and Dean of International Programs participate in many of these cultural and social events. The international colleges encourage an informal, voluntary program of "in home entertaining," wherein intermediate international officers may invite their classmates and families to their homes to share a bit of their country's food, culture, history, and hospitality in a relaxed setting.

International students are also introduced to the concept of community service through interaction with local organizations and clubs. Luncheons, dinners, or presentations are hosted by the Navy League of the United States chapters in Newport, New York, San Francisco, St. Louis, and Phoenix. Local clubs, including the Lions Club, the Dunes Club, and the Quindecim Club, host functions for international officers and their spouses to familiarize them with Americans and American life. During these events, students meet community, political, and business leaders and discuss a wide range of issues and topics. These events help to demonstrate civilian support of the military and ways in which many former military members serve their communities in civilian life.

Athletic Activities and Facilities

Coordinated by the Dean of Students Office and run by students, group athletics include intramural sports run through the base gym, the President's Cup Competition (an interclass athletic competition held three times a year), an Army-Navy flag football game, an Army-Navy baseball game, and a Jim Thorpe sports day (an inter-war college sports competition at the Army War College in Carlisle, PA). In addition to these organized events,



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each military professional is required to maintain a high level of personal physical fitness and conditioning. The Naval Station gym, located close to the college, is a full-service facility providing cardio and weightlifting equipment, basketball and racquetball courts, a pool, locker rooms, and saunas. It also has professional athletic trainers on staff available to assist in developing a conditioning program. Also located near the college are tennis courts, fields for baseball, soccer, and football. The gym rents equipment for a wide variety of sports, and sailboats, kayaks, and powerboats are available for rent at the Naval Station Marina once students have qualified.

International students compete in athletics with their U.S. seminar counterparts. Sports provide an outstanding opportunity for team and relationship building outside of the classroom. The games are directed, coached and supported by students, staff, and faculty.

Student Organizations

The Student Government Organization for degree-granting resident programs supports academic, athletic, and social activities. Each class functions according to its constitution and bylaws. Each seminar has an appointed leader, who organizes student physical fitness, business, academic, activity, and athletic functions. The student seminar organization is revised each trimester. NCC's class officers include a sports representative, a social committee chairperson, and a travel committee chairperson. NSC has a social representative and sports representative.

Registrar

The Dean of Students serves as the Registrar and operates the military equivalent of an admissions office and student records office. The Registrar is responsible for the development and maintenance of the college-wide student database, academic records, statistical data, and biographical records. The Registrar also coordinates transcript preparation and works closely with the academic departments in grade preparation and computation; assists in the determination of eligibility to graduate with distinction and highest distinction; and coordinates graduate



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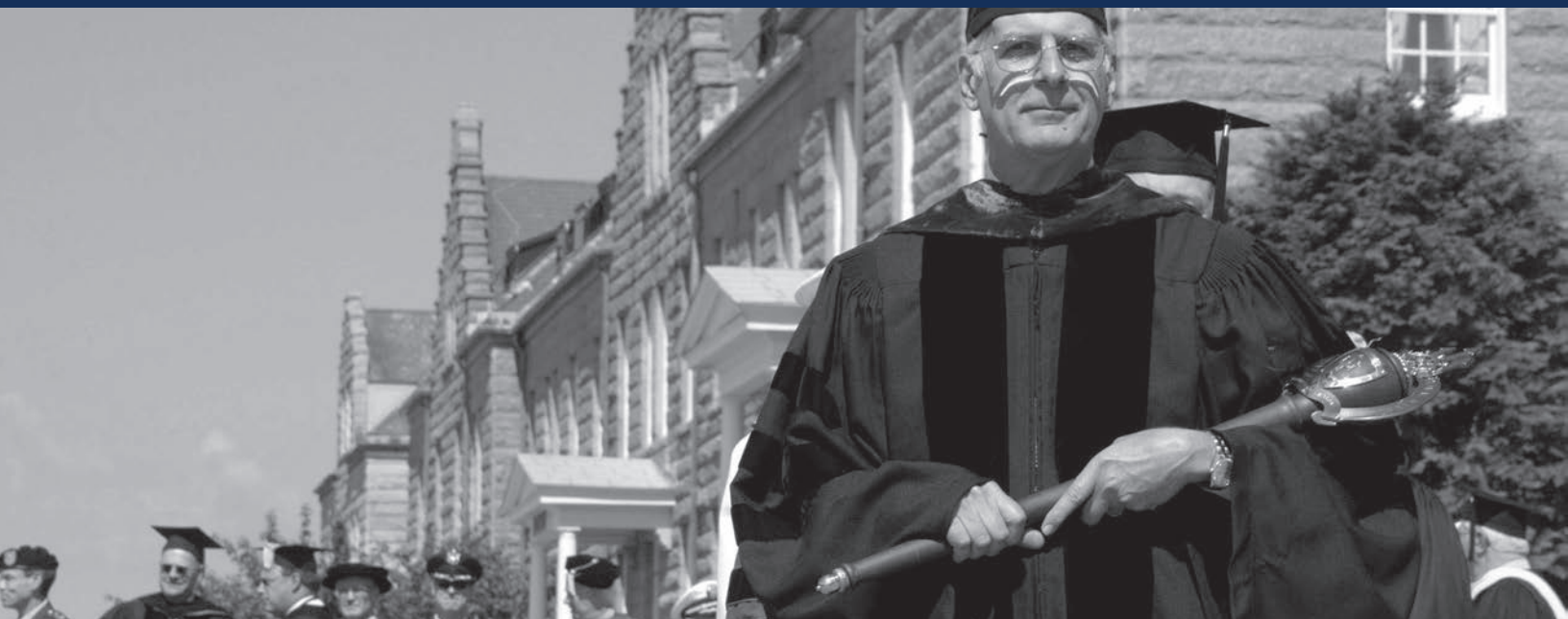
degree and diploma preparation for both resident and nonresident students. The Registrar is also responsible for alumni transcripts. Release of personal information regarding students and alumni is in accordance with the Federal Privacy Act. Transcripts are sent out only upon written request and with authorization from the graduate.



OFFICE OF ALUMNI PROGRAMS

The USNWC Office of Alumni Programs was established in 2009 to further the mission of USNWC beyond graduation through building and sustaining networks of trust and confidence along with being a facilitator of lifelong learning for continued education and professional development. In addition to these important endeavors, Alumni Programs serve as a feedback loop to improve the College's curricula and programs.

The Office of Alumni Programs supports its mission through hosting in person symposia and online resources such as myUSNWC.com. In person, Regional Alumni Symposia (RAS) are held approximately three times a year and are co-hosted by a partner nation in the region of focus. Beginning in 2019, the Newport Alumni Symposia (NAS) serves as an additional annual networking and development opportunity for alumni. The web address, myUSNWC.com, is the officially designated place for alumni, faculty, and staff to connect, network, and share their expertise. Alumni can also connect and stay up to date on our social media pages LinkedIn ([linkedin.com/school/usnwc](https://www.linkedin.com/school/usnwc)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/USNWCAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/USNWCAlumni)).



FACULTY

The Naval War College maintains a well-qualified, highly experienced faculty to educate students. The civilian faculty include accomplished professors whose past careers include ambassadorships and senior executive level government service, and many come from prominent academic institutions. In addition to a highly professional civilian faculty, NWC has a military faculty with decades of experience, particularly current service in the joint force.

To see a Directory of our Faculty please visit:

<https://usnwc.edu/Faculty-and-Departments/Directory>



ACCREDITATION

The Naval War College is accredited by the Chairperson of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) to deliver Joint Professional Military Education (JPME). The College is in the process of transitioning to the J7-directed Outcomes Based Military Education program assessment process. Additionally, the U.S. Naval War College is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).



INQUIRIES ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Direct New Student inquiries about the U.S. Naval War College to the Dean of Students Office.

Phone: (401) 856-5506
E-mail: deanofstudents@usnwc.edu
Address: U.S. Naval War College
Dean of Students Office
686 Cushing Road
Newport, RI 02841-1207

Direct all other inquiries to the Public Affairs Office.

Phone: (401) 856-5061
E-mail: pao@usnwc.edu
Address: U.S. Naval War College
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686 Cushing Road
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U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
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