



THE UNITED STATES NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

GRADUATION
CEREMONY



NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

November 15, 2023



HISTORY OF THE U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

Founded in Newport, Rhode Island on October 6, 1884, the U.S. Naval War College is the oldest war college in the world. Commodore Stephen B. Luce was the first President and organized the War College as a place to study the highest aspects of the military profession, defining it as “a place of original research on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war.” These foundations were built upon by Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan, second President of the College, who had originally been selected by Luce to initiate the course in Naval History. Of all the men who were to influence the institution in its early years, none was to have a more profound impact. Mahan’s views deeply affected such leaders as Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt and through them and others helped shape the United States’ destiny at the turn of the century. Mahan’s Naval War College lectures, published as *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660–1783* (1890), gained him worldwide acclaim and first established the U.S. Naval War College as an internationally respected institution. Other early faculty members made pioneering contributions to hallmark areas of enduring interest for the College. Among them were Charles Stockton, who drafted the first international law code for naval warfare in 1898, and William McCarty Little, who developed the art of naval war gaming between 1886 and 1914.

Functioning continuously since 1884, except for brief periods during the Spanish-American War and World War I, the War College numbers among its graduates such distinguished naval officers as Admirals Sims, Spruance, King, Nimitz, and Halsey, in addition to many others who today are holding prominent positions.

The work begun more than one hundred years ago by Luce and Mahan continues today. As graduates well know, the curriculum is both demanding and rewarding. For the military professional, the unique education provided by the Naval War College is unrivaled. In recognition of the academic rigor and educational excellence of its program, the U.S. Naval War College has been accredited since 1991 by first the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and now the New England Commission of Higher Education to award a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. In 2015 this accreditation was expanded to award two degrees. Graduating students in the senior level course now receive a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies while graduating students in the intermediate course receive a Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies.



GRADUATION PROGRAM

Ceremonial Music.....Navy Band Northeast

Master of Ceremonies.....Captain Duneley A. Rochino, U.S. Navy
Dean of Students, U.S. Naval War College

National Anthem.....Musician Second Class Holden Moyer, U.S. Navy
Vocalist, Navy Band Northeast

Invocation.....Commander Robert D. Fasnacht, CHC, U.S. Navy
Command Chaplain, Naval Station Newport

Commencement Address.....Commander Joshua A. Hammond, U.S. Navy
Professor, Strategy and Policy Department

Recognition of Honor Graduates

Presentation of Graduates

Charge to Graduates.....Dr. Stephen J. Mariano
Provost, U.S. Naval War College

Benediction.....Commander Robert D. Fasnacht, CHC, U.S. Navy
Command Chaplain, Naval Station Newport



**REAR ADMIRAL PETER A. GARVIN
PRESIDENT, U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE**

Rear Adm. Pete Garvin is the President of the U.S. Naval War College and a career patrol and reconnaissance pilot. He graduated, with merit, from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1989, with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering. Garvin attended the National War College, graduating in 2005 with a Master of Science in National Security Strategy. He is also a 2015 alumnus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Seminar XXI. His previous commands include the “Fighting Tigers” of VP-8, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 10, Navy Recruiting Command, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group and, most recently, Naval

Education and Training Command.



**COMMANDER JOSHUA A. HAMMOND, U.S. NAVY
PROFESSOR, STRATEGY AND POLICY
DEPARTMENT**

Commander Josh Hammond graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in classical languages and the U.S. Naval War College with an M.A. in national security and strategic studies. While at NWC, he received the Admiral Richard G. Colbert Memorial Prize for professional writing and research. A career naval flight officer, he has over 2,300 hours and 500 carrier landings in the F-14D and F/A-18F in support of numerous operations in the Arabian Gulf and Western Pacific.

Other assignments include air operations officer on USS *Carl Vinson* and an exchange assignment with the Royal Navy in carrier doctrine development. He has served as a military professor at the U.S. Naval War College for the past four years, where he has taught both the Strategy & War and Strategy & Policy courses as well as electives on Thucydides and film studies.



**DR. STEPHEN J. MARIANO
PROVOST, U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE**

Dr. Stephen J. Mariano most recently served as the deputy commandant and dean of the NATO Defense College, in Rome, Italy. He also served on the faculties of the School of International Service at American University, National Defense University, the Royal Military College of Canada, and the U.S. Military Academy. He holds a B.A. in mathematics and economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, an M.A. in national security affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Ph.D. in war studies from the Royal Military College of Canada.



DR. TIMOTHY P. SCHULTZ
INTERIM DEAN OF ACADEMICS
U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

Tim Schultz is the U.S. Naval War College Dean of Academics (interim). Prior to joining the Newport faculty in 2012 he served as the Dean of the U.S. Air Force's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies. Tim earned his Ph.D. in the History of Technology from Duke University, and his research interests include the interaction between technology and strategy and the transformative role of automation in warfare. He is the author of *The Problem with Pilots: How Physicians, Engineers, and Airpower Enthusiasts Redefined Flight* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018) and co-editor of *Air Power in the Age of Primacy: Air Warfare since the Cold War* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). He is a graduate of the USAF Academy, Colorado State University, Air Command and Staff College, the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, and Duke University. Formerly a USAF colonel, he spent much of his aviation career as a U-2 pilot enjoying a high-altitude view of interesting places.

COLLEGE OF NAVAL WARFARE

Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey W. Arleque, U.S. Army National Guard
Commander Craig H. Connor, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Colonel Brenton D. Groeneveld, U.S. Army National Guard
Commander Paul W. Nickell, U.S. Navy
Commander Paul S. Rogers, U.S. Navy*
Captain Jason J. Sherman, U.S. Navy†‡

COLLEGE OF NAVAL COMMAND AND STAFF

Lieutenant Commander Eric A. Bowen, U.S. Navy
Major Jonathan R. Craig, U.S. Army
Lieutenant Drew W. Denno, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Jonathan T. DiMarco, U.S. Navy†
Lieutenant Commander Jason M. Ely, U.S. Navy
Commander Frederick Kareem Espy, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Michael M. Faulkner, U.S. Navy
Commander Erik Donald Gardner, U.S. Navy*
Major Michael W. Hannon, U.S. Army
Lieutenant Commander Jason L. Herrera, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Lynda P. Irwin, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Monique Kieya Jefferson, U.S. Navy
Major Andrew J. Kang, U.S. Army*
Lieutenant Commander Matthew J. Larsen, U.S. Navy*
Major Antoinette A. Linarelli, U.S. Army
Major Matthew J. Linarelli, U.S. Army*
Lieutenant Commander Michael R. McDevitt, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Thomas O. Mennerich, U.S. Navy*
Lieutenant Commander Dane R. Mutschler, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Jason Scott Nowak, U.S. Navy
Major Ryan R. Pfeiffer, U.S. Army National Guard
Lieutenant Commander Jessica L. Phenning, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Brian A. Pickler, U.S. Navy
Major Seth E. Reed, U.S. Army†‡
Lieutenant Cody M. Roberts, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Richard Rodriguez Jr., U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Trevor G. Schaff, U.S. Navy
Commander Zachary J. Sipes, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander David H. Sturgis, U.S. Navy

HONORS

* Distinction

† Highest Distinction

‡ Honor Graduate

Lieutenant Commander Brandon L. Tomblin, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Theodore C. Wheeler, U.S. Navy

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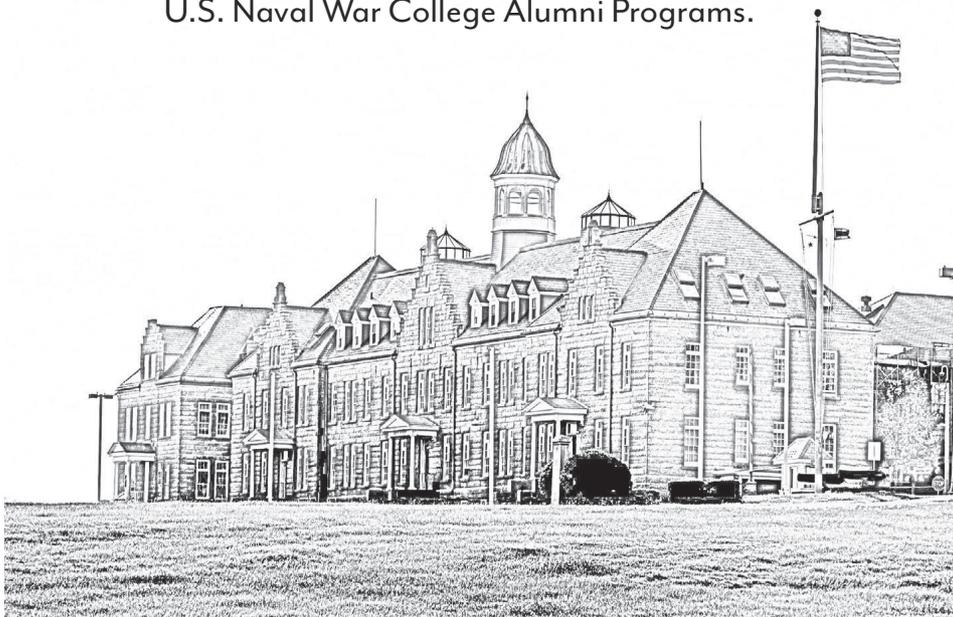
—Admiral Stephen B. Luce



U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

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For more information regarding November graduation, please visit the
U.S. Naval War College website at <https://usnwc.edu/Graduation-November-2023>.



The motto of the Naval War College is

“Victory through Sea Power.”

The trident rising from the water symbolizes mastery of naval activities—its three tines are evocative of naval warfare on sea, air, and land. The pilot wheel atop the shield alludes to the mission of the college—education in naval warfare. The wheel’s eight spokes symbolize honor, duty, leadership, command, strategy, tactics, logistics, and weapons. The laurel wreath represents achievement of the mission.