



THE UNITED STATES NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

GRADUATION  
CEREMONY



NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

March 6, 2024



## 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.



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## GRADUATION PROGRAM

**Ceremonial Music**.....Navy Band Northeast

**Master of Ceremonies**.....Captain Brian D. Doherty, U.S. Navy  
Dean of Students, U.S. Naval War College

**National Anthem**.....Musician First 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**.....Professor William S. Murray  
Strategic and Operational Research Department

**Recognition of Honor Graduates**

**Presentation of Graduates**

**Charge to Graduates**.....Rear Admiral Peter A. Garvin, U.S. Navy  
President, U.S. Naval War College

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

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

Rear Adm. Pete Garvin is the 58th President of the U.S. Naval War College and a career naval aviator. He graduated, with merit, from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1989, with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering (Astronautics Track). Garvin graduated from the National War College in 2005 with a Master of Science in National Security Strategy. He is also a 2015 alumnus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Center for International Studies Seminar XXI. Garvin has also completed courses in national and international security, leadership, and strategic thinking at Harvard, Syracuse University, and the University of North Carolina, and served as a military fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.



**PROFESSOR WILLIAM S. MURRAY  
STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL  
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**

William S. Murray is the Director of the Halsey Bravo research effort and a professor in the Strategic and Operational Research Department at the United States Naval War College. He joined the navy in 1983 immediately after graduating from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. Professor Murray served on, and qualified to command, nuclear-powered submarines. In 1994 he received a Master of Arts degree from the United States Naval War College. Prof. Murray has served on the Operations staff at the United States Strategic Command, and as a member of the faculty of the Naval War College's Strategic Research and War Gaming Departments. He retired from the Navy in 2003, was a co-founder of the China Maritime Studies Institute, and has directed the Halsey Bravo Research Group since 2009.

He is the co-editor of the United States Naval Institute books *China's Future Nuclear Submarine Force* and *China's Energy Strategy: The Impact on Beijing's Maritime Policies*. He has published articles in *International Security*, the U.S. Army War College's *Parameters*, the journal *Comparative Strategy*, the United States Naval Institute's *Proceedings*, *Jane's Intelligence Review*, *Undersea Warfare*, and the *Naval War College Review*.



**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. DOYLE HODGES  
DEAN OF ACADEMICS  
U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE**

Dr. Doyle Hodges is a national security scholar with expertise in civil-military relations, the Indo-Pacific, and defense and maritime strategy. From May 2019 to April 2023, he was the inaugural executive editor of the *Texas National Security Review*, an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed academic journal, and a senior editor at *War on the Rocks*. A retired naval officer, he served for 21 years, retiring at the rank of Commander. He served in a variety of assignments at sea and ashore, including command of USS *Safeguard* (ARS 50) and USS *Ross* (DDG 71). He is a 1992 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, where he majored in Political Science. He holds Master's degrees from the University of Maryland (Government and Politics), the U.S. Naval War College (National Security Affairs), and Princeton University (Public and International Affairs). He earned a PhD from Princeton's School of Public and International Affairs. He has taught at the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Naval War College, George Mason University, and Princeton University. His work has been published in the *Texas National Security Review*, *War on the Rocks*, *Lawfare*, and the U.S. Naval Institute *Proceedings*.

## COLLEGE OF NAVAL WARFARE

Commander Timothy K. Battles, U.S. Navy†‡  
Captain Philip P. Castellano, U.S. Navy  
Commander John J. Chester, Jr., U.S. Navy  
Colonel Harold J. Everhart, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commander Matthew R. Garcia-Bragiel, U.S. Navy  
Commander Michael J. Gillette, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Ryan P. Griffith, U.S. Navy  
Commander Anders C. Holmstrom, U.S. Navy\*  
Colonel Robert M. Jones, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps  
Commander Thomas A. Krasnicki, U.S. Navy\*  
Commander Matthew R. Lewis, U.S. Navy  
Commander Andrew S. McGovern, U.S. Navy  
Commander Tyler J. Pietrick, U.S. Navy\*  
Commander Jonathan C. Ryan, U.S. Navy  
Commander Kari J. TerEick, U.S. Navy  
Commander Steven J. Walker, U.S. Navy

## COLLEGE OF NAVAL COMMAND AND STAFF

Major Xander J. Alix, U.S. Army  
Major Briar C. Bohach, U.S. Army  
Lieutenant Commander John H. Broten, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Ian M. DaSilva, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Michael S. Ellwood, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Paul M. Harvey, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Aaron D. Howell, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Jesus G. Lamberti, U.S. Navy  
Commander Anthony R. LaVopa, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Caleb R. Levee, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Thomas E. Mangold III, U.S. Navy\*  
Lieutenant Commander Dominic E. Perron, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Francis W. Pruter, Jr., U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Commander Donald F. Roberts, Jr., U.S. Navy  
Major Christopher M. Salerno, U.S. Army†‡  
Lieutenant Commander Bradley J. Shillito, U.S. Navy  
Major Charles W. Stimpson, U.S. Army  
Lieutenant Commander Joseph R. Strahan, NC, U.S. Navy  
Major Anthony D. Suh, U.S. Marine Corps

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### HONORS

\* Distinction

† Highest Distinction

‡ Honor Graduate

Lieutenant Commander Bradley S. Talbert, U.S. Navy†  
Lieutenant Commander William B. Thornley V, U.S. Navy\*  
Lieutenant Commander Andrew M. Uhl, U.S. Navy  
Major Jennifer L. West, U.S. Army\*  
Lieutenant Commander Cameron J. Woods, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant Sally L. Wortham, U.S. Navy

**“[The War College] is a place of original research on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war.”**

**—Admiral Stephen B. Luce**

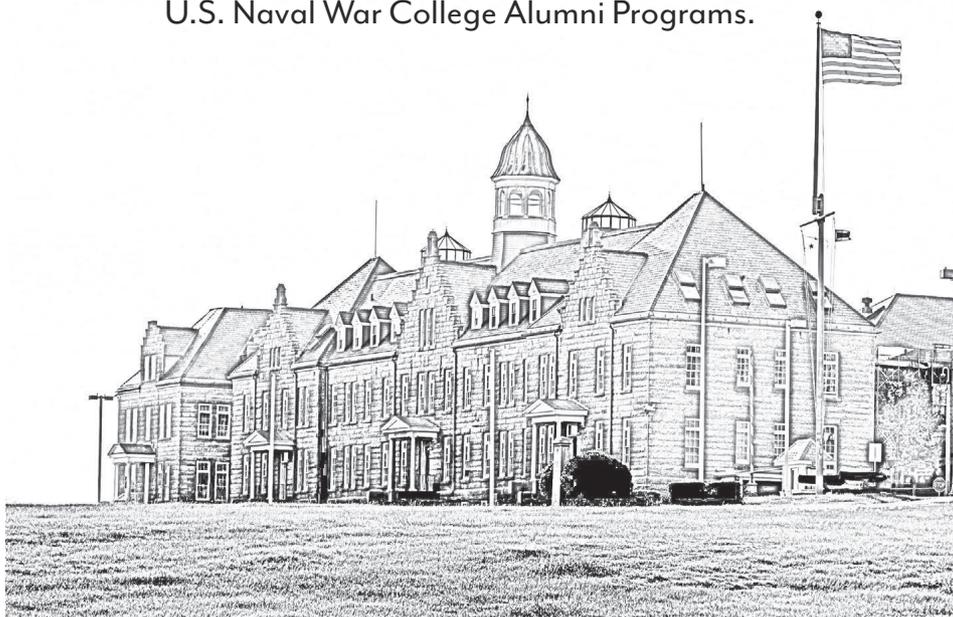


## U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

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[alumni@usnwc.edu](mailto:alumni@usnwc.edu) | (401) 856-5250

For more information regarding March graduation, please visit the  
U.S. Naval War College website at <https://usnwc.edu/Graduation-March-2024>.



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.