

# Joint Targeting Staff Course Syllabus

February 2026



Joint Targeting School

Joint Staff, J-7

**Joint Training Course  
Joint Targeting Staff Course**

**INTRODUCTION**

Joint Staff J-7 is the lead agent for this joint training course syllabus, which is authorized for issue by the Joint Targeting School. This syllabus is directive in nature and prescribes the overall training strategy and amount of instruction required for a student with the entry prerequisites to attain course goals and graduate. The Joint Targeting School will ensure each student who graduated possesses the knowledge, skills and proficiencies set forth in the course training standards. Within the syllabus and other directive constraints, the amount and level of training devoted to mission elements, events, subjects or phases should be adjusted as required to meet individual student needs. Instructions governing publication and revision of this syllabus are contained in *CJCSM 3500.03E, Joint Training Manual for the Armed Forces of the United States*. This syllabus does not take precedence over applicable governing directives.



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## Chapter 1 Course Description

1. **Title:** Joint Targeting Staff Course
2. **Joint Qualified Officer Certification Date:** 20 November 2025  
Course earns 2.0 Joint Qualified Officer points.
3. **Joint Qualified Officer Certification Expiration Date:** 20 November 2029
4. **Course Identifiers**
  - a. **Joint "S" Code:** S359
  - b. **USA CIN:** 303JTS001
  - c. **USAF CIN:** X5OZN14N3 0B4A
  - d. **USMC CIN:** N46HFS3
  - e. **USN CIN:** S-3A-0005
  - f. **FMS MASL:** P122025
5. **Objective:** To provide doctrinally based joint targeting education and training to prepare service, interagency, and allied personnel for operational-level targeting duties.
6. **Location:** Walker Hall, Building 199 Regulus Ave, Virginia Beach, VA 23461-2099.
7. **Duration:** 10 Training Days.
8. **Entry Prerequisites:** Minimum of a SECRET security clearance. The Joint Targeting School (JTS) manages registration and student quotas for all JTS courses based on JCS J-7 established priorities, as outlined in JCS J-7 Memorandum for Prospective Joint Targeting School Students (dtd 01 September 2025). As a joint functional school, JTS prioritizes development of joint targeteers and fires personnel, building joint targeting and fires capacity across Combatant Commands and the joint force. JTS supports service, reserves and other agency target and fires training requirements, but at a lower priority.
9. **Status upon Graduation:** Graduates are awarded 2.0 Joint Qualified Officer points and receive a certificate of completion.
10. **Academic Training**

	<b>Hours</b>
a. Course Prerequisite Training	5.0
b. JTS Instruction (lecture)	25.0
c. JTS Facilitated Practical Exercises	19.0
d. Homework (professional reading)	3.0
e. Facilitated Homework Discussion	3.0
f. Guest Lectures/Facility Tours	5.0
g. Exam Preparation	1.0
h. Academic Evaluation	3.0
<b>Total Approximate Course Hours</b>	<b>64.0</b>

## Chapter 2

### Course Administration

#### Section A - Syllabus Management

1. **Syllabus Interpretation:** This syllabus is directive and must be followed as written. When available, JTS will host guest lecturers to augment course material.
2. **Syllabus Waiver:** All syllabus waivers must be approved by the JTS Director. In all instances JTS will strive to maintain course content while not extending training past the scheduled training dates.
3. **Syllabus Review:** JTS conducts syllabus reviews on an annual basis or as directed by the JTS Director. Following syllabus review, the JTS Director approves any syllabus modification.
4. **Syllabus Content.**
  - a. **Updates:** Course managers approve all lesson updates prior to course presentation.
  - b. **Modification:** The JTS Director approves all syllabus modifications and lesson additions prior to course inclusion.
  - c. **Frequency of Review:** JTS reviews syllabus content on an annual basis. JTS executes additional content review quarterly and/or when lesson references are updated.
5. **Syllabus Classification:** SECRET//REL USA, FVEY level or below.

#### Section B - Training Management

1. **Course Manager Responsibilities:** The JTS Director designates course managers. The course manager is responsible for monitoring the content of the assigned course. Prior to course start, the course manager approves the course schedule and flow of events.
2. **Instructor Responsibilities.**
  - a. **Lecture:** Instruction will not exceed 60 minutes without a scheduled break.
  - b. **Practical Exercises:** JTS instructors will facilitate practical exercise discussion and work. To enhance the joint environment, JTS Instructors will not provide answers to practical exercises. Students are expected to collaborate and use the information provided to make an informed decision.
3. **Course Standards:** Students must achieve a minimum of 80% on all exams. The course manager may leverage a consolidated exam in the event of a shortened course (e.g. federal holidays).
4. **Training Capacity:** The course capacity is 30 seats and will not exceed these numbers. During the first day of training, if a student fails to arrive at the course, the JTS administrator will open the seat to the standby list. Student quotas are managed based upon service and combatant command needs.
5. **Training Materials:** The following is a list of materials needed to accomplish the Staff Course outlined by this syllabus.
  - a. Academic lectures
  - b. Practical exercises
  - c. JTS Joint Targeting Student Guide
  - d. Supplemental articles, white papers, doctrine, publications, and studies for discussion
  - e. Exam 1, Exam 2
  - f. 31 computers (30 for students and 1 for instructors)

- g. 3 Big screen monitors for display
- h. VTC capability (if available)

## 6. Unsatisfactory Performance

- a. **Exam Failure:** If a student fails to achieve at least 80% on an exam, they will be remediated on the exam material and allowed to re-take the exam. Students that score below 80% will be afforded the opportunity of re-attempting one exam per course. Failure of a subsequent exam will result in an overall failure of the Joint Targeting Staff Course. Student failures and removal will be determined by the JTS Staff Course Manager and JTS Director.
- b. **Unexcused Absences:** Two (2) unexcused absences will result in removal from the course at the discretion of the JTS Staff Course Manager and JTS Director.
- c. **Security Violation:** All security violations will be dealt with on an individual basis and may result in removal from the course.
- d. **Dismissal from Course:** In the case of a dismissal from the course for not achieving the academic and/or overall performance standards, the student's current commanding officer will be notified through formal correspondence by the JTS Director. The student will not receive a certificate of completion or Joint Qualified Officer points.

## Chapter 3

### Lesson Descriptions

<u>Lesson ID</u>	<u>Lesson Name</u>	<u>Duration</u>
JTS S0000	Welcome	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Outline course expectations, introduce JTS curriculum and instructors, facilitate student introductions, identify a class leader, and identify student responsibilities and conduct.		
JTS S0010	Joint Targeting Processes and Definitions	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to define specific targeting terminology and summarize the joint targeting process and service component targeting processes.		
JTS S0020	Law of War	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to describe the legal ramifications of target selection and the difference between lawful and unlawful military targets.		
JTS S0040	Combatant Command and Joint Task Force Targeting Organizations, and Architecture	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to explain the role of major Combatant Command and Joint Task Force organizations, to include the Joint Targeting Coordination Board, and the processes that support the Joint Force Commander.		
JTS S0050	Commander's Objectives, Targeting Guidance, and Intent	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to explain the role and importance of Phase 1 of the Joint Targeting Cycle (Commander's Objectives, Targeting Guidance, and Intent).		
JTS S0060	Collection Support and Targeting	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to describe the importance of Intelligence Collections and how Collections support the entire Joint Targeting Cycle.		
JTS S0070	Introduction to Target Development and Prioritization	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to describe, in general terms, Phase 2 of the Joint Targeting Cycle (Target Development and Prioritization) and the role of the Joint Intelligence Preparation of the Operational Environment.		
JTS S0080	Target System Analysis	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to define Target System Analysis and describe its role in target development.		
JTS S0090	Target Development	1.0
<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to describe how target development is conducted at the entity level within Phase 2 of the Joint Targeting Cycle.		

<b>JTS S0100</b>	<b>Organizational Support to Targeting</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to identify Department of Defense (DOD) and non-DOD level entities that contribute to intelligence-related targeting activities.	
<b>JTS S0110</b>	<b>Target List Management</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to define and describe target development nomination and review, vetting, validation, and prioritization of targets.	
<b>JTS S0120</b>	<b>Capabilities Analysis</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to explain the concept of capabilities analysis and its role in joint targeting.	
<b>JTS S0130</b>	<b>Weaponizing Familiarization</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to define and describe weaponizing and the principles that support the weaponizing process.	
<b>JTS S0140</b>	<b>Air-to-Surface Weapons and Fuses</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to identify proper warheads, weapons, and fuse terminology. Students will have a basic understanding of the various air-to-surface weapons available for targeting.	
<b>JTS S0150</b>	<b>Air Component Fires Assets</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to identify current mission sets, capabilities, and limitations of the air component assets available to an operational-level planner.	
<b>JTS S0160</b>	<b>Surface-to-Surface Fires</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to identify current capabilities and limitations of the surface-to-surface assets available to an operational-level planner.	
<b>JTS S0170</b>	<b>Operations in the Information Environment</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to explain the concepts, organizations, and applications of information forces and their relationship to joint targeting.	
<b>JTS S0175</b>	<b>Space Support to Joint Targeting</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will be able to explain the concepts, organizations, and applications of Space Forces and their relationship to joint targeting.	
<b>JTS S0180</b>	<b>Joint Targeting in Cyberspace</b>	<b>1.0</b>

*Objective:* Students will be able to explain the concepts, organizations, and applications of cyberspace operations and their relationship to joint targeting.

**JTS S0190      Collateral Damage Estimation Methodology      1.0**

*Objective:* Students will be able to describe the basic application of the Collateral Damage Estimation Methodology in supporting military operations.

**JTS S0200      Commander’s Decision and Force Assignment      1.0**

*Objective:* Students will be able to explain Phase 4 of the Joint Targeting Cycle (Commander’s Decision and Force Assignment), to include the process and key decisions from the Joint Targeting Coordination Board.

**JTS S0210      Mission Planning and Force Execution      1.0**

*Objective:* Students will be able to explain Phase 5 of the Joint Targeting Cycle (Mission Planning and Force Execution), to include planning requirements and input planners receive from Phase 4.

**JTS S0220      Dynamic Targeting (Find, Fix, Track, Target, Engage, Assess)      1.0**

*Objective:* Students will be able to explain the application of the F2T2EA targeting process within the Joint Targeting Cycle and how it is used to engage dynamic and time sensitive targets.

**JTS S0230      Air Tasking Cycle      1.0**

*Objective:* Students will be able to explain the role of the Air Tasking Cycle in mission planning and force execution.

**JTS S0240      Combat Assessment      1.0**

*Objective:* Students will be able to understand the concept and scope of Combat Assessment (Phase 6 of the Joint Targeting Cycle).

## Chapter 4 Practical Exercise Descriptions

<u>Exercise ID</u>	<u>Exercise Name</u>	<u>Duration</u>
<b>JTS PE Read Ahead</b>		<b>1.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will review Practical Exercise Scenario and training material in preparation for PE01.	
<b>JTS PE01</b>	<b>Commander’s Objectives, Targeting Guidance, and Intent</b>	<b>3.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will characterize the operational environment, conduct center of gravity analysis, and develop targeting guidance that meets the Joint Force Commander’s operational objectives and intent.	
<b>JTS PE02</b>	<b>Target System Analysis (TSA) and Target Development Nomination (TDN)</b>	<b>2.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will conduct Target System Analysis to create Target Development Nominations.	
<b>JTS PE03</b>	<b>Joint Target List</b>	<b>2.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will use outputs of TSA and TDN process from PE02, review targets and associated target folders and nominate targets to a consolidated Joint Target List (JTL) and Restricted Target List (RTL).	
<b>JTS P0E4</b>	<b>Joint Integrated Prioritized Target List</b>	<b>2.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will review the consolidated JTL/RTL and based on targeting guidance, restrictions and component priorities, nominate targets as target nominations (TN), to a draft Joint Integrated Prioritized Target List (JIPTL). Students will then prioritize targets into an approved JIPTL.	
<b>JTS PE05</b>	<b>Capabilities Analysis</b>	<b>2.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will develop Asset Target Interaction lists and brief their component’s recommendations to achieve the desired effects.	
<b>JTS PE06</b>	<b>Joint Target Coordination Board (Capstone)</b>	<b>7.0</b>
	<i>Objective:</i> Students will produce a Joint Targeting Coordination Board (JTCB) brief to include the doctrinal recommendations for the Joint Force Commander’s approval.	

## Chapter 5 Student Evaluations

<u>Event ID</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Duration</u>
JTS Exam1	Examination 1	1.0

*Objective:* Students will demonstrate understanding of concepts and doctrinal information pertaining to Phases 1 and 2 of the Joint Targeting Cycle.

JTS Exam2	Examination 2	1.0
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*Objectives:* Students will demonstrate understanding of concepts and doctrinal information pertaining to Phases 3 through 6 of the Joint Targeting Cycle.

JTS AAR	Course After Action Review	1.0
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*Objective:* Students will do a comprehensive assessment of their work as a cohort during the two-week course and identify any necessary improvements to course modules, supporting material, publications, practical exercises, or exams. Students will additionally provide written course feedback through the course survey. Lastly, the students receive additional resources for further self-development as targeting professionals.

## Chapter 6

### Course References

#### 1. Joint Publications:

- JP 1, Doctrine for the Armed Forces of the United States
- JP 2-0, Joint Intelligence
- JP 3-0, Joint Campaigns and Operations
- JP 3-01, Countering Air and Missile Threats
- JP 3-03, Joint Interdiction
- JP 3-04, Information in Joint Operations
- JP 3-05, Joint Doctrine for Special Operations
- JP 3-09, Joint Fire Support
- JP 3-09.3, Close Air Support
- JP 3-12, Cyberspace Operations
- JP 3-14, Space Operations
- JP 3-16, Multinational Operations
- JP 3-24, Counterinsurgency
- JP 3-25, Countering Threat Networks
- JP 3-26, Joint Combatting Terrorism
- JP 3-30, Joint Air Operations
- JP 3-31, Joint Land Operations
- JP 3-32, Joint Maritime Operations
- JP 3-33, Joint Force Headquarters
- JP 3-36, Joint Air Mobility and Sealift Operations
- JP 3-55, Joint Military Information Support Operations
- JP 3-57, Civil-Military Operations
- JP 3-60, Joint Targeting
- JP 3-84, Legal Support
- JP 3-85, Joint Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations
- JP 5-0, Joint Planning

#### 2. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Directives

- CJCSI 3160.01E, No-Strike and Collateral Damage Estimation Methodology
- CJCSI 3122.06F, Sensitive Target Approval and Review (STAR) Process
- CJCSI 3162.02A, Methodology for Combat Assessment
- CJCSI 3370.01D, Target Development Standards
- CJCSM 3108.01A, Joint Fires Element

#### 3. Agency, Service and Other Publications

- ATP 3-60, Targeting
- MCWP 3-31, Marine Air-Ground Task Force Fires
- DIA Critical Elements Handbook
- DOD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms
- JMEM/AS Weaponizing Guides and Software
- National Defense Strategy
- National Military Strategy
- National Security Strategy