



DOD (D. Myles Cullen)

Senior Enlisted Advisor to Chairman
speaks at Ramstein Air Base

Widening the Aperture in Education

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Our education efforts provide a force multiplier in our effort to develop and advance the shared values, standards, and attributes that define our Profession of Arms. However, much is changing in the security environment as well as the experiences of our leaders that will challenge us to deliver high quality Joint education as never before.

—General Martin E. Dempsey
Joint Education White Paper

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As noted in the Chairman's Joint Education White Paper (dated July 16, 2012), we belong not only to a Profession of Arms, but also to a learning institution. Continued education allows us to become more proficient, more valued, and more relevant in our roles and responsibilities as senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs) and petty officers (POs).

Our four Service branches confidently maintain their traditional Title 10 obligation (man, train, and equip), and the enlisted professional military education system is well established throughout the enlisted Service academies. Enlisted professional military education serves as a dynamic foundation for continued growth and follow-on assignments. Outside of the confines of intra-Service billets are enlisted

joint assignments that necessitate additional education not normally embedded in an enlisted academy curriculum. Enlisted joint professional military education (JPME) has a similar design as it prepares Servicemembers for those joint or multinational roles.

As further defined in the Chairman's white paper:

The last decade has . . . demonstrated that our enlisted force requires education and not "just training." Recognizing that officers and enlisted personnel have different functions, responsibilities, authorities and levels of organizational accountability, Joint Force 2020 must develop the talents and abilities of leaders at every echelon to maximize their individual potential, build effective units, and to optimize their contribution to the joint fight. We must assist every service member in becoming a life-long learner, always hungry for new knowledge and deeper understanding.

There are many National Defense University (NDU)-sponsored programs available to our enlisted force that will offer continued growth in your professional military career.

Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education. Select NCOs/POs (E6 and above) are eligible. It is a stand-alone Web-based course that uses multimedia instruction. It contains a pretest, module knowledge checks, and final examination. Students can access this program through their respective Knowledge Online sites (for example, Army Knowledge Online, Joint Knowledge Online, Air Force Portal, Marine Online, and so forth).

Masters of Arts in Strategic Security Studies. Select enlisted personnel from special operations forces are eligible for nomination into this program located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The program analyzes the 21st-century geopolitical environment characterized by the rise of non-state actors and the uneven erosion of state sovereignty; evaluates the roles of power and ideology, rise of new politicized ideological movements, and bases for authority and legitimacy; studies the relationship among political objectives, strategy, and all instruments of national power; and develops skills to think critically and strategically, differentiate between policy and analysis, and apply knowledge in collaborative and complex circumstances with diverse partners.

Joint and Combined Warfighting School JPME-II. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) are eligible for nomination/selection to this program located at the Joint Forces Staff College (JFSC) in Norfolk, Virginia. Graduates will be able to lead joint planning efforts, integrate the creativity of operational art with the analytical and logical process of operational design, and be proficient with the Joint Operation Planning Process as the application framework to develop theater strategies and operational plans in a complex global operating environment.

Advanced JPME (AJPME). Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) are eligible for nomination/selection. AJPME is a Reserve component program similar in content but not identical to the in-residence JFSC Phase II course. Students are JPME Phase I graduates. AJPME educates Reserve officers, builds upon the foundation established in JPME Phase I, and prepares Reserve officers (O4 to O6) for joint duty assignments. AJPME is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed JPME Phase II-equivalent education for Reserve officers.

Reserve Components National Security Course. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) are eligible for nomination. It is a 2-week course facilitated by NDU two to three times per year. Currently, there is only one NCO/PO in each seminar (approximately 18 students per session).

Joint, Interagency, and Multinational Planner's Course. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) are eligible for nomination. It is a 40-hour course for government personnel along with international partners at O4 to O6 levels (or civilian equivalent) to engage in a 30-person seminar to enhance planning skills necessary to be more fully enabled planners for a unified commander in answering the challenges of complex contingencies and effective campaign planning.

Joint Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I) Staff and Operations Course. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) are eligible for nomination. The course provides students with a broad understanding of approved joint C4I doctrine and current policy guidance, helps students apply joint C4I concepts and organizations to the operational level of war (focused on the joint task force action officer), and helps students apply skills and procedures for duty in joint or Service C4I staff operations and planning assignments.

Joint Information Operations Orientation Course. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) may be considered for nomination case by case. This 1-week course gives students a common baseline of information operations knowledge upon which to build practical skills and abilities to employ tools and techniques. Students are exposed to four blocks of instruction: strategy; intelligence support; information-related capabilities; and organization, training, and equipping. Each block includes a combination of instructor lecture, guest speaker presentations, guided discussions, and/or panel discussions.

Joint Information Operations Planners Course. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) may be considered for nomination case by case. The course educates and trains students to plan, integrate, and synchronize full-spectrum information operations into joint operational-level plans and orders. The course accomplishes this through class presentations, guest lectures, case studies, and practical exercises in a joint seminar environment.

Homeland Security Planner's Course. Select NCOs/POs (E7 and above) are eligible for nomination. The course consists of 40 hours of instruction conducted through informal lectures, guided discussion, guest speakers, and case studies. It concludes with an 8-hour computer-assisted simulation exercise in homeland security consequence management.

KEYSTONE. This senior (E9) executive-level course prepares command senior enlisted leaders (CSELs) for service in a joint headquarters. The course enables students to think intuitively *joint*, while serving as CSELs in general/flag officer joint organizations. Areas of study and outcomes are national military capabilities and organization, joint doctrine, joint force leadership, and Service, joint, interagency, and multinational capabilities.

Do any of these courses sound interesting to you? If so, visit www.jfsc.ndu.edu/ or inquire at your command education and training office. **JFQ**