

# JSOU International Education 2021



**JOINT  
SPECIAL  
OPERATIONS  
UNIVERSITY**



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UNIVERSITY**

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## ABOUT JSOU

**Mission** The Joint Special Operations University (JSOU) prepares SOF professionals to address strategic and operational challenges, arming them with the ability to think through problems with knowledge and insight.

**Vision** USSOCOM's "Think-Do Tank" – Center for Special Operations Thinking

**School History** In September 2000, under the leadership of then USSOCOM Commander, Army General Peter Schoomaker, JSOU was established as an institution of higher learning. Since its founding, JSOU has strived to provide the highest quality of joint SOF leadership education at both the operational and strategic levels. JSOU provides resident, mobile education team (MET), distance learning (DL), and PME courses to the joint SOF community. University faculty members also support senior and intermediate-level PME programs and the emerging educational requirements of numerous U.S., interagency, and international organizations.

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## **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW**

International students may attend select resident courses at JSOU, as well as mobile education team (MET) events conducted worldwide. Select virtual and online courses are also available. All requests for international student attendance at JSOU courses and METs must be coordinated through the Security Cooperation Organization (SCO) at the U.S. Embassy located in the student's respective country.

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### **Resident International Education Courses**

Conducted in English at the JSOU campus, MacDill AFB in Tampa, Florida:

- Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)
- Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course (SOCbT)
- Advanced Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course—Alumni (ASOCbT)
- International Executive Combating Terrorism Seminar (IECbTS)
- Operational Planning Course (OPC)
- Summit International (Summit-I)

### **Mobile Education Teams (METs)**

- Deployable worldwide ... we send instructors to teach in your country
- Translation of course materials and interpretation in numerous languages
- No English Comprehension Level (ECL) is required, but proficiency equivalent to an ECL of 70 is recommended if a MET is taught in English
- Material tailorable to address country-specific security objectives

### **Courses available as METs:**

- Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)
- Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course (SOCbT)
- Interministerial Collaboration Course (IMCC)
- Operational Planning Course (OPC)
- Maritime Operational Planning Course (MOPC)
- Special Operations Air Planning Course (SOAPC)
- Special Operations Air Integration Course (SOAIC)
- Asymmetric Warfare Challenges (AWC)
- Civil-Military Operations Seminar (CMOS)
- Special Operations Forces Integration Course (SOFIC)
- Principles of Resistance in Modern Warfare (PRMW)

- Information Related Capabilities Seminar (IRCS)
  - SOF Staff Development Course (SSDC)
  - National Resistance Course (NRC)
  - SOF Creative Problem Solving (SCPS) Course
  - SOF Design and Innovation Basic (SDIB) Course
  - Faculty Development Course (FDC)
  - Summit International Course (Summit-I)
  - International Mid-Level Leaders Course (IMLC)
  - International SOF Noncommissioned Officer Integration Course (ISNIC)
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## ■ **Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Security Challenges and Solutions in the Era of Great Powers Competition (GPC) Course**

Duration: Virtual 8 Days

Recommended Class Size: 15-20

ECL Required: 70 (no ECL if translation/interpretation requested)

Location: Virtual; JSOU.ZoomGov.com platform

Virtual MASL: D400009

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** Mid-to-senior level international military officers and equivalent level civilians working in the security sector.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an awareness of the dynamics associated with the Great Powers Competition (GPC) as it explores issues of motivations, security, economic and sociocultural context, government legitimacy, alliances, messaging, and irregular warfare. The curriculum is delivered by subject matter experts and includes case studies and numerous practical exercises to advance comprehension and improve sovereign and regional programs to counter the negative aspects of GPC. Students will develop heightened awareness of the capabilities, limitations, and capacities of nation-states to detect, deny, respond to and mitigate activities associated with violent extremism.

### **KEY LESSONS:**

- Global, Regional and Local Violent Extremism Threat Assessments
- Great Power Competition: US Perspective
- Strategic Communication
- The Rule of Law and Legal Safe Havens
- Understanding Ideology and Ideals
- Understanding Identity, The Narrative, and Impacts on Vulnerable Societal Groups
- Border Security and Sovereignty
- Threat Finances
- Understanding Social and Religious Factors Influencing Behavior
- Elements of National Power
- Coalitions and Alliances
- Ethics and Human Rights
- Long-Term Messaging

## ■ Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)

Duration: Resident 10 Days; MET 5-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 25-30

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: MacDill AFB, FL; Global

Resident MASL: D126076

MET MASL: D316400 or P319235

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** The CVE course is intended for international officers, senior noncommissioned officers, and government security officials whose current or future responsibilities involve combating terrorism and violent extremist organizations. The interaction of a diverse and interministerial audience is vital to reinforce the networks committed to preventing or mitigating the growth, influence, and impact of such organizations.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an awareness of the dynamics associated with violent extremism as it explores issues of motivations, prevention, organizational dynamics, sociocultural context, legitimacy, messaging and irregular warfare. The curriculum is delivered by subject matter experts and includes case studies to advance comprehension and improve sovereign and regional programs to counter violent extremism.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Irregular warfare as a component of violent extremism
- Sociocultural analysis to identify the roots of violent extremism
- A whole-of-society approach toward countering violent extremism
- Responses and mitigating strategies to counter violent extremism

## ■ **Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course (SOCbT)**

Duration: Resident 10 Days; MET 3-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 25-30

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: MacDill AFB, FL; Global

Resident MASL: D126019

MET MASL: D316003 or P319235

Virtual MASL: D400008

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** SOCbT is designed for international mid-to senior-level military officers (O4-O6), senior noncommissioned officers, and government security officials whose current or future responsibilities involve combating terrorism.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is an introduction to the Regional Defense Fellowship Program (RDFP) and presents a comprehensive perspective on how governments can combat terrorist threats. Based upon a mix of traditional and new principles of special operations and irregular warfare, the Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course is designed to build both country and regional combating terrorism strategic capabilities.

In MET format, this course may be tailored as either a three-day executive discussion on a narrow set of topics, a one-week custom theme seminar, or two-week seminar. Past themes for mobile seminars have included the nexus of crime and terrorism, developing high-value targets, countering threat finance, and counter-piracy.

### **KEY LESSONS:**

- Defining, analyzing, and combating terrorism
- Root causes and motivation
- Irregular warfare as a component of terrorism
- Strategy formulation
- Decision-making strategies for combating terrorism
- Critical asset identification and protection
- Civil-military operations
- Media issues

- Intelligence and information sharing
- Weapons of mass destruction
- Nexus between criminals and insurgents
- Whole of government challenges
- Ungoverned territory and border sovereignty

## ■ **Advanced Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course—Alumni (ASOCbT-A)**

Duration: Resident 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 80

Location: MacDill AFB, FL

Resident MASL: D126047

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** The ASOCbT-A course is designed for U. S. and international mid- to senior-level military officers, Ministry of Defense officials, and other security officials responsible for combating terrorism. Course enrollment is limited to O4 or equivalent and higher. Students should be alumni of a JSOU or other Regional Defense Fellowship Program (RDFP)-funded invitational course. A minimum ECL score of 80 is required. U.S. participation is by invitation only.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course integrates those international partnership networks established during the Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course and other RDFP-sponsored events and courses through an in-depth examination of irregular and asymmetric warfare as they pertain to global terrorist and criminal threats.

### **KEY LESSONS:**

- Policy, strategy, and the campaigning process
- Asymmetric warfare
- Understanding terrorism, radicalism, and violent extremism
- Threat finance
- Global strategy and strategic appreciation
- Legal aspects of combating terrorism
- Counterterrorism theory

## ■ International Executive Combating Terrorism Seminar (IECbTS)

Duration: Resident 5 days  
Recommended Class Size: 15  
ECL (Resident Only): 80  
Location: MacDill AFB, FL

Resident MASL: D126094

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This seminar is designed for international executive-level military officers, ministry of defense officials, and other security officials and SOF counterparts with actual or projected responsibilities for combating terrorism. U.S. student participation is by invitation only.

**DESCRIPTION:** This five-day seminar is designed to apply strategic principles for combating terrorism and irregular warfare with an emphasis towards understanding the breadth of and potential for international contributions to strategic concepts and how to best apply national and regional capabilities in concert with international warfighting partners. The IECbTS aims at improving partner nations capability and expanding their CbT capacity through education and discourse among international decision-makers. This seminar directly supports DSCA CbT goals and USSOCOM objectives to expand the SOF global network.

### KEY LESSONS:

- USSOCOM command group perspectives
- Understanding the global threat
- Irregular warfare
- Bolstering global efforts to combat terrorism
- Building networks and relationships

## ■ Interministerial Collaboration Course (IMCC)

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 25-30

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Location: Global

Resident MASL: D126089

MET MASL: D319035

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This course is designed for international students from various ministries/agencies, mid-career military professionals (O3-O5), and other government officials interested in enhancing their understanding and appreciation of how security forces and government institutions collaborate to confront modern issues such as humanitarian crises, disaster relief, violent extremist threats, insurgency, terrorism, extreme lawlessness, narcotics, security, trafficking, and piracy.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course focuses on the role of modern security forces and other government organizations in relation to diplomatic, legal, informational, and other elements of national power. It explores how the whole of government collaborates to disrupt complex irregular threats and includes discussions and practical exercises that analyze aspects of interministerial cooperation.

### KEY LESSONS:

- 21st Century challenges to the global strategic environment
- Key lessons learned in interministerial engagement failures and successes
- The three principles for interministerial collaboration
- Negotiations
- Legal issues
- Contributing factors to terrorism in the modern environment
- International and external collaboration
- Selected case study
- The role of diplomacy and development

## ■ SOF Staff Development Course (SSDC)

Duration: MET 5-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-30

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D307020 or P319242

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** SOF staff officers and senior noncommissioned officers serving on a SOF staff or task force from the national command-level to the brigade/battalion/task-group levels.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course may be tailored to meet a country-specific SOF staff development requirement.

**KEY LESSONS (National command-level):**

- Principles of SOF and SOF doctrine
- National vs. coalition command and control challenges
- HQ information management, responsibilities and reporting
- SOCOM staff functions and responsibilities
- Special operations component planning process
- Synchronization and interoperability with conventional forces
- Air planning considerations
- Role of SOF liaison elements

**KEY LESSONS (Brigade/battalion/task-group levels):**

- Theory of special operations
- SOF doctrine, insurgency and COIN fundamentals
- SOF staff structure, planning and reporting processes
- Special operations mission planning
- Intelligence preparation of the environment (IPOE)
- COA development, analysis, comparison and selection
- Find, fix, finish, exploit, analyse, disseminate methodology
- Battle space management and targeting basics
- SOF air integration
- Plans and orders production
- Integration with conventional forces
- Non-kinetic effects

## ■ Operational Planning Course (OPC)

Duration: Resident 10 Days; MET 10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

Resident MASL: D126091\*

MET MASL: D309074 or P319170

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This course is designed for special operations military officers, warrant officers, and senior noncommissioned officers who are preparing for a national or international joint special operations assignment that may involve joint staff planning.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Operational Planning Course (OPC) is designed to prepare students to function successfully as part of a NATO/PFP Special Operations Component Command planning group. It also prepares the students to function as planning augmenters to other non-SOF NATO/PFP headquarters. The course uses presentations, discussions and a NATO approved practical exercise to allow each student to participate as a member of a SOCC planning group.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Operational-level strategy
- Centers of gravity and critical factor analysis
- Lines of operation
- SOF perspective for joint operations
- SOF command and regional relationships
- Operational planning process—situational awareness to course of action decision brief
- Deliberate and crisis action planning
- Contingency planning
- Multi-Service and interagency planning considerations
- Digital planning and collaborative tools suites (when appropriate)

*\*Introduction to Special Operations Forces (ISOF) (DL MASL: D126075) is the prerequisite for OPC (Resident MASL: D126091)*

## ■ Maritime Operational Planning Course (MOPC)

Duration: MET 10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D319040 or P319170

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This two-week course is designed for international mid-career military officers and noncommissioned officers from the SOF maritime community, who may serve on an operational-level planning staff.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course prepares students to function successfully as part of a command joint special operations task force (JSOTF) or coalition-led special operations component command planning group where there is a predominant need for maritime SOF planning. The course focuses on SOF component planning, coordination, and integration of the SOF element within a maritime-based activity.

### KEY LESSONS:

- SOF perspective for joint operations
- Establishing SOF command and control relationships
- Contingency planning
- Maritime SOF capabilities
- The maritime threat environment
- Legal consideration in the maritime area of operation
- Centers of gravity; critical factor analysis; and lines of operation
- Operational planning process—mission analysis to course of action decision brief
- Deliberate and crisis action planning
- Sea based/land based considerations and challenges

## ■ Special Operations Air Planning Course (SOAPC)

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 16-24

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D319036 or P319376

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This seminar is for U.S. and international special operations air task group (SOATG)-level planners, officers (O2-O4), and warrant officers, who are responsible for planning and de-conflicting the full range of special operations and conventional air/aviation (air mobility, reconnaissance and surveillance, military assistance, direct action, and joint fires) during ground and maritime special operations.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides SOATG staff members with the knowledge to plan and coordinate air support special operations. Students will learn to plan and synchronize objectives and resources across multiple task units by applying the concepts and processes taught in a series of small-group practical exercises, culminating in an air mission approval briefing.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Apply special operations air/aviation planning doctrine during a realistic scenario
- Insertion, fire support, resupply, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR), forward area refueling, threat mitigation, and risk assessment
- SOF air planning in a low to medium threat environment
- Conduct feasibility analysis and recommendation
- Produce an air mission approval briefing for SOATG commander approval
- Understand how special operations missions achieve strategic or national objectives
- Deconflict the primary planning problem with other SOATG-level missions
- Recommend synchronization courses of action in order to mitigate limited SOF-specific air/aviation assets while still meeting ground and maritime commanders' needs

## ■ Special Operations Air Integration Course (SOAIC)

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D319039 or P319378

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This seminar is for U.S. and international officers (O2-O4), warrant officers (W1-W4), senior noncommissioned officers (E6-E9), and civilians responsible for integrating, coordinating, and planning special air operations in support of ground or maritime operations. Officers and noncommissioned officers from any service that may serve on a joint air component staff, a SOATG staff, or special operations air command and will be responsible for integrating, planning, and coordinating air/aviation support to ground and maritime special operations.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course focuses on theater-level integration of special operations air power in support of national and coalition objectives. Using a series of small group exercises, students will learn command and control (C2) of special operations forces (SOF) air and how SOF air integrates into the joint air tasking; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; coordination; and joint targeting cycles. The course culminates with a challenging, theater-level integration exercise.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Understand the nature of SOF and what differentiates SOF from conventional military forces
- Special operations air/aviation command and control
- The integration of SOF air/aviation with SOF and conventional forces
- Understand the various SOF liaison elements and functions
- The joint air tasking cycle and how SOF integrates into that cycle
- The theater-level joint targeting cycle and how to integrate SOF into the process
- Describe how the SOATG, special operations air command, and special operation component command coordinate between SOF tactical targeting and theater-level joint targeting
- Airspace management as it relates to the SOF air/aviation processes

- Planning for and integrating ISR capabilities to enable special operations
- Comprehend the joint force commander and components' responsibilities for personnel recovery in a theater of operations and explain the special operations' role in that structure
- Solve a realistic planning problem and present the solution for evaluation

## ■ Asymmetric Warfare Challenges (AWC)

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D312012

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This course is designed for international military officers, warrant officers, and senior noncommissioned officers who are preparing for a national or international special operations assignment that may involve joint staff planning.

**DESCRIPTION:** The course is designed to introduce students to the concepts and principles of asymmetric warfare (AW). Through presentations, discussions, case studies, and a series of practical exercises, the course provides an overview of the asymmetric environment, the evolution and theory of AW, and its associated components and challenges and uses practical exercises to bring out key learnings.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Environment and threats—culture, coalition warfare, and armed groups
- Insurgency theory
- Supporting activities
- Intelligence support
- Legal issues
- Authorities
- Information operations
- Primary activities
- Introduction to center of gravity analysis
- Counterinsurgency
- Foreign internal defense
- Unconventional warfare
- Stability operations
- Counterterrorism

## ■ Civil-Military Operations Seminar (CMOS)

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 25-30

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Location: Global

MET MASL: D319037

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This tailored CMOS is designed for international staff officers, civil-military planners, special operations officers, warrant officers, and senior noncommissioned officers who are preparing for a national or international civil-military cooperation assignment. Personnel with experience in international operations of joint task force (JTF)/Corps/division-level operations are also desired course candidates.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the considerations at the operational level of war which is necessary when planning for and conducting civil-military operations within the joint environment. The course addresses the concepts of understanding the operational environment, developing an operational approach, and conducting mission analysis.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Civil-military cooperation concepts
- Stability operations, multinational operations, and liaison functions
- Combined and JTF concepts and operations
- Whole of government and nongovernmental organization collaboration
- Analysis of the civil environment
- Introduction of center of gravity and critical factors analysis
- Introduction to the operational planning process for civil-military cooperation

## ■ Information Related Capabilities Seminar (IRCS)

Duration: MET 3-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D319043

Virtual MASL: D400006

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International military officers (O2-O5), warrant officers, and senior noncommissioned officers (E7-E9) responsible for planning and integrating information related capabilities (IRC). Civilian members of the government, ministries, and academics who require this education are encouraged to attend.

**DESCRIPTION:** The course discusses contemporary issues and topics on how IRC are incorporated into government-influenced operations to achieve command objectives. The course addresses emerging trends such as working with the media, social media, and integration of information capabilities into an interagency environment.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Information related capability overview—authorities and command and control
- Information related capabilities
- Public affairs, strategic communication, and information operations
- Public diplomacy and civil-military operations
- The integration of IRC into planning
- The theory of influence
- Country capabilities discussion
- The military information support operations (MISO) seven-step planning process—planning, target audience analysis, series development, product development design, approval, distribution/dissemination, and evaluation
- Propaganda analysis

## ■ Principles of Resistance in Modern Warfare (PRMW)

Duration: MET 3-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D312018 or P319244

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** The PRMW seminar is designed for U.S. and international mid- to senior-level military officers (O4-O6), Ministry of Defense officials, Ministry of Interior officials, and other security officials responsible for developing plans for internal defense and resistance to foreign aggression.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course explores the principles of resistance in modern warfare, specifically violent resistance movements. It examines past and present resistance movements from the perspective of the resistance movement. The curriculum explores the concepts, theories, and techniques of resistance movements, organizational structures, as well as insights of why and how resistance movements form and progress.

### KEY LESSONS:

- What is resistance
- The purpose of resistance
- The conditions of resistance
- The essentials for resistance
- The elements of resistance
- The establishment of a political infrastructure prior to occupation
- The establishment of an underground and paramilitary infrastructure
- The establishment of communications, intelligence, and security infrastructures
- The establishment of subversion and sabotage capabilities
- The establishment of a support and sustainment infrastructure
- The establish escape and evasion support capability
- The plan and prepare for post-occupation/post-hostility period

## ■ National Resistance Course (NRC)

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-25

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: Pending

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This course is designed for international SOF and interministerial officials serving in roles to develop national “total defense” strategies with responsibilities for building national resilience mechanisms. This includes military planners, special operations, interior ministry, intelligence, border control, and law enforcement professionals.

**DESCRIPTION:** This one-week course examines national resistance against a foreign occupier. Course material will focus on how a nation deters, defends, and resists a full or partial occupation of its sovereign territory. The course will also discuss external support to national resistance efforts to include U.S. SOF support to resilience strategies and resistance movements. The overall course classification is unclassified however, the course practical exercise can be modified for audiences requesting an exercise with sensitive or classified topics.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Anatomy of resistance
- Resistance command & control
- External support to resistance
- Case studies
- Practical exercise

## ■ **Special Operations Forces Integration Course (SOFIC)**

Duration: MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 25-30

ECL (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D312017 or P319243

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International officers (O4-O6), senior noncommissioned officers (E8-E9), and civilian leaders.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course seeks to facilitate discussions among host nation senior officers on the challenges of developing and integrating SOF forces. SOFIC may also be incorporated into the host nation's PME to provide the senior students from national defense universities, war colleges, Ministry of Defense, and senior staff with a better understanding of the roles and missions of national SOF and the requirements, for effectively integrating SOF into joint operations. The curriculum focuses on the strategic and operational levels of conflict and the utilization of special operations. The course is also intended to provide a venue for partner nation SOF professionals to brief their countrymen and senior leaders on their national SOF structures and missions and integration efforts and systemic challenges in order to foster a closer examination of SOF in joint planning.

### **KEY LESSONS:**

- Introduction to special operations and missions
- History of USSOCOM-SOF transformation and operation EAGLE CLAW
- History of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) SOF—structure, missions, and capabilities
- Partner nation SOF history and missions
- Partner nations' SOF units, organization, tasks, and challenges
- SOF aviation support, intelligence fusion, and targeting
- SOF in combined joint operations
- SOF and conventional forces integration
- Role of noncommissioned officers in SOF operations

## ■ International SOF NCO Integration Course (ISNIC)

Duration: MET 5-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 16-22

ECL (Resident Only): 70

Locations: Global

MET MASL: D319041

Virtual MASL: 400007

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International noncommissioned officers (E5-E6) and warrant officers assigned to international SOF military organizations.

**DESCRIPTION:** The course broadens students' understanding of special operations, leadership, and noncommissioned officer functions. The students further develop their knowledge of planning, counseling, effective communications, and how strategy affects operations. This course emphasizes the role of the SOF noncommissioned officer through each lesson and is designed to strengthen and develop SOF senior enlisted leaders.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Introduction to critical and ethical thinking
- SOF core activities
- SOF troop leading procedures and higher echelon planning processes
- Noncommissioned officer roles and responsibilities
- Principles of leadership
- Effective communications
- Ethics in leadership
- Leader development
- Joint and multinational task forces
- Military counseling

## ■ International Mid-Level Leaders Course (IMLC)

Duration: Distance Learning 8 Weeks; MET 10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 16

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global; MacDill AFB, FL

Distance Learning MASL: D400012

MET MASL: D319052

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International senior noncommissioned officers (E7-E8) and warrant officers who are assigned to SOF military organizations are eligible to attend this course.

**DESCRIPTION:** This leadership course prepares international senior noncommissioned officers currently assigned to special operations units to assume leadership positions in an operational level organization. Participants are educated in critical and strategic thinking, how to synthesize complex problem sets, conduct higher level planning, evaluate and manage risk, influence organizations, develop persuasive communication and negotiation skills, and assume leadership positions in larger organizations.

This course has two levels. Level 1 is a 10 to 15 day MET only. Level 2 is an 8-week distance learning course plus a 10-day MET.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Intermediate critical, creative, and ethical thinking
- Individual to organizational leadership transition
- Strategic communications
- Elements of national power
- Campaign phasing
- Joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational environment
- Mission command
- Public speaking
- Multi-domain battle
- Leadership communications
- Team development

## ■ **Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy (JSOFSEA)**

Duration: Distance Learning 6 Months and Resident 9 Weeks

ECL (Resident Only): 80

Locations: Online and MacDill AFB, FL

Distance Learning MASL: D179001

Resident MASL: D171047\*

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This is an invitational course only. Senior SOF noncommissioned officers and senior noncommissioned SOF enablers (E8-E9).

**DESCRIPTION:** This program educates enlisted students for senior-level leadership roles in SOF. Students, from an operational and strategic perspective, will develop and refine critical, creative, and ethical thinking skills. Students will also analyze and evaluate the implications of the profession of arms, organizational communication and leadership, SOF enablers and partners, and national policy on USSOCOM.

### **KEY LESSONS:**

- Joint leadership: strategic leadership, situational leadership, and team building
- Joint communications: effective writing, presentation protocol, and cross-cultural communication
- Joint manning/awards and health and injury rehabilitation
- National security affairs
- Organization management
- JTF operations
- USSOCOM SOF overview
- Military strategy
- Culture of modern terrorism
- Irregular warfare

*\*Students must sign up for JSOFSEA Phase 1 (DL MASL: D179001) and JSOFSEA Phase 2 (Resident MASL: D171047) in order to take the course.*

## ■ Summit International (Summit-I)

Duration

Level 1: MET 10 Days

Level 2: Distance Learning 6 Weeks and MET 10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 12-14

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Online; Global; MacDill AFB, FL or contracted venues in the vicinity of Tampa, FL

Distance Learning MASL: D301701

MET MASL: D309122

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This course is designed for senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs) assigned to the flag officer level.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Summit International prepares Command Senior Enlisted Leaders (CSELs) for nominative noncommissioned officer leadership positions, normally at the O6 and higher command levels. Students learn mission-oriented leadership and strategic thinking skills that prepare them to effectively advise, lead, and mentor at the operational and strategic levels. This course has two levels.

Level 1 is a 10 to 15 day MET only. Level 2 is a 6-week distance learning course plus a 10-day MET.

**KEY LESSONS:**

- Strategic appreciation, strategic-creative-ethical-time systems thinking, military strategic theory
- National policy-strategy-national elements of power
- Joint Interagency Intergovernmental Multinational (JIIM) environment
- Organizational and strategic leadership at the senior level
- Volatile-uncertain-complex-ambiguous (VUCA) environments

## ■ SOF Creative Problem Solving (SCPS) Course

Duration: Resident 5 Days; MET 5 Days

Recommended Class Size: 18-24

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: MacDill AFB, FL or contracted venues in the vicinity of Tampa, FL; Globally

Resident MASL: Pending

MET MASL: P319325

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International mid-to-senior level military officers and senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs), as well as representatives from the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior and other security services who would benefit from education on problem solving. Civilian members of the government, ministries and academics who require this education are also encouraged to attend.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides a commercial problem solving framework, language, and processes to solve tough problems facing your organization. The course consists of three days of self-awareness through cognitive science, a problem solving methodology with a four-step process, and 21 effective tools; the fourth day is leading and inspiring trust; and the final day is presentations and feedback from leadership.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Cognitive preferences
- Creative problem solving (CPS) framework and theory
- CPS tools
- Practical application—utilizing a local issue

## ■ SOF Design and Innovation Basic (SDIB) Course

Duration: Resident 5 Days; MET 5-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 18-24

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: MacDill AFB, FL or contracted venues in the vicinity of Tampa, FL; Globally

Resident MASL: D126088

MET MASL: D319023

Virtual MASL: D400013

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International mid-to-senior level military officers and senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs), as well as representatives from the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior and other security services who would benefit from education on military design. Civilian members of the government, ministries and academics who require this education will be encouraged to attend.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides foundational military-design education for students interested in organizational change, innovation, creativity and disruptive thinking for SOF applications in complex emergent contexts. Students learn how to operate in design teams, use a wide range of multi-disciplinary design concepts in a flexible, adaptive methodology for fostering reflective practitioners and change agents.

### KEY LESSONS:

- SOF design fundamentals and the design approach
- Systems theory and military design
- Design team facilitation fundamentals
- Pictures and metaphor fundamentals
- Scenario planning and futures
- Reflective practice in design
- Design methodologies and how they differ

## ■ SOF Design and Innovation Advanced (SDIA) Course

Duration: Resident 5 Days; MET 5-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 18-24

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: MacDill AFB, FL or contracted venues in the vicinity of Tampa, FL; Globally

Resident MASL: D126095\*

MET MASL: Pending

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** International mid-to-senior level military officers and senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs), as well as representatives from the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior and other security services who have attended the Design and Innovation Basic Course\* and would benefit from education on military design. Civilian members of the government, ministries and academics who require this education will be encouraged to attend.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course prepares students for design thinking during complex planning and resourcing efforts. Students use and build on the basic course\* lessons applying theory towards designing in teams. Students apply design thinking processes to a complex scenario through small group exercises, tailored lessons, and advanced readings. Upon completion the student will be able to participate on design teams that better inform leaders' decision-making.

Using critical and creative thinking, graduates will be able to participate on design teams that better inform leaders' decision-making.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Fostering conditions for innovation
- Design team facilitation fundamentals
- Social constructivism & SOF design
- Reflective practice & social paradigm theory
- Systems theory & military design applications
- Gaining minority perspectives within SOF design activities
- Designing towards emergent nonlinear goals in complexity
- Bridging campaign planning & operational planning teams
- Scenario planning for SOF design application & operational planning integration

\* *SOF Design and Innovation Basic Course (MASL: D126088 or MASL: D309075) is the prerequisite for SOF Design and Innovation Advanced Course (MASL: D126095)*

## ■ Faculty Development Course (FDC)

Duration: MET 10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 6-12

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: Global; MacDill AFB, FL or contracted venues in the vicinity of Tampa, FL

MET MASL: P366066

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** Individuals who will be developing curriculum and presenting lessons to students.

**DESCRIPTION:** The course prepares individuals to develop and teach curricula while creating an active learning environment focusing on higher levels of learning through the use of various teaching methodologies. The course is divided into two modules. Module 1: (Curriculum Design)—Student will receive lessons on learning theory, the Instructional Systems Design process, the ADDIE model (analysis, design, development, implementation, and evaluation), active learning, and student assessment and evaluation. Module 2: (Developing as an Instructor)—Students will receive lessons relating to a variety of teaching methodologies and presentation techniques, classroom management, questioning techniques, and facilitation. Students will give two presentations (7 minute extemporaneous, and a 30 minute formal lecture).

### KEY LESSONS:

- Learning theories
- Instructional Systems Design
- ADDIE Model
- Active Learning
- Student Assessment
- Evaluation
- Teaching Concepts and Techniques
- Classroom Management
- Questioning Techniques
- Facilitation

## ■ Introduction to Special Operations Forces (ISOF)

Duration: Distance Learning 28 Days

Recommended Class Size: N/A

ECL (Resident Only): 70

Location: Online

Distance Learning MASL: D126075

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This blended course is taught at the undergraduate level and is designed specifically for the special operations community, interagency, and international partners. The student's profile is E5-E8, W1-4, O1-O3, and their civilian agency equivalents (i.e., GS5-GS13) assigned to USSOCOM, TSOC, or a component directly supporting joint or coalition special operations. International students of similar ranks may attend.

**DESCRIPTION:** The course teaches student to collaborate as part of a complex array of actors and environments involving IA national security efforts. Topics include synchronization of countering transregional terrorist organizations (CTTO) and CVE efforts, key doctrine and policies, law enforcement and intelligence communities, organizational and cultural differences, and the developmental community.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Comprehend special operations and how SOF are employed
- History, structure, and responsibilities of USSOCOM
- Command and control relationships of USSOCOM

## ■ Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF) Level 1—Distance Learning

Duration: Distance Learning 28 Days

Recommended Class Size: N/A

ECL (Resident Only): 70

Location: Online

Resident MASL: D479003\*

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** Staff officers, noncommissioned officers, and active and reserve component augmentees who may serve in a JSOTF headquarters, active and reserve component augmentees enroute/assigned to a TSOC, DoD civilian, and contract personnel/enablers supporting a JSOTF or TSOC.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course focuses on the organization, functions, and responsibilities of each major joint staff section of a joint special operations task force (JSOTF), as well as looking at the command and control structure of a JSOTF. Other lessons include JSOTF involvement in civil-military operations and the interoperability of a JSOTF with IA, nongovernmental, and intergovernmental organizations. Officers completing this course will be awarded 0.5 Joint Qualification (JQO) points.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Comprehend the mission and organizational structure of USSOCOM
- Essential functions, responsibilities, structure, and general mission of a JSOTF component
- Organizational planning structure, basic planning process, and the types of plans and orders produced by JSOTFs
- Functions of the joint operations center and the importance of information operation and of joint fires to a JSOTF
- Theater special operations command and control and its relationship with SOF units
- Considerations when providing logistics and support to a JSOTF
- Importance of interagency and civil-military operations in support of a JSOTF

*\*ISOF (Distance Learning MASL: D126075) is the prerequisite for JSOTF (MASL: D479003)*

## ■ Irregular Warfare Course (IWC)

Duration: Distance Learning 30 Days; Resident 8 Days

Recommended Class Size: 24

ECL (Resident Only): 80

Location: MacDill AFB, FL

Distance Learning MASL: D179131

Resident MASL: D126077

Virtual MASL: D400003

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This blended course is taught at the undergraduate level and is designed specifically for the special operations community, interagency, and international partners. The student profile is E5-E8, W1-4, O1-O3, and their civilian agency equivalents (i.e., GS5-GS13) assigned to USSOCOM, TSOC, or a component directly supporting joint or coalition special operations.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides students with tools and concepts to analyze IW theories and practices. Through case studies, multimedia, and selected readings students will be better equipped to collaborate with partners as well as outthink and out innovate adversaries in a complex operating environment.

### KEY LESSONS:

- Irregular Warfare overview
- Environment and armed groups
- Primary activities—COIN, FID, UW, Stability, CT
- Supporting activities—Intelligence, Influence, and Constraints

## ■ Influence in Special Operations Course (ISOC)

Duration: Distance Learning 30 Days; Resident 8 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20

ECL (Resident Only): 80

Location: MacDill AFB, FL

Distance Learning MASL: Pending

Resident MASL: D126093

Virtual MASL: D400011

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This course is taught at the undergraduate level and designed specifically for the special operations community, inter-agency, and international partners assigned to and/or in direct support of joint and coalition special operations. Attendance priority is given to members of the special operations community without an undergraduate degree, but the course is open to most in USSOCOM, DoD, and all U.S. government agencies.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides students with tools and concepts to analyze and evaluate influence theories and practices. Through case studies, exercises, and readings, students will examine the methodologies of historical and current examples of influence, propaganda, and persuasion in order to be better equipped to counter adversary narratives.

### KEY LESSONS:

- The national strategies and influence
- Influence and irregular warfare
- Foundations of U.S. influence
- Influence, propaganda, and persuasion
- The interagency information environment
- Instruments of U.S. informational power
- Cultural aspects of influence
- Psychological aspects of influence
- Mass communications
- Fallujah case study
- Russian, Nazi, and Vietnamese propaganda
- Influence in the Gray Zone

## ■ Special Operations Bilateral Seminar (SOBS)

Duration: Resident 3-10 Days

Recommended Class Size: 20-30

ECL Required (Resident Only): 70 if taught in English

Locations: MacDill AFB, FL or contracted venues in the vicinity of Tampa, FL

Resident MASL: D126085

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** This seminar is for international officers, senior noncommissioned officers, and government security officials whose current or future responsibilities involve combating terrorism/violent extremism or the development and utilization of SOF.

**DESCRIPTION:** SOBS is a tailored bilateral seminar designated for SOF priority partners and allies. The seminar may leverage existing course material from the established JSOU resident courses, MET, or may require the development of a unique country-specific curriculum. The seminar may take place at the JSOU campus or at contracted venues in the vicinity of MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida.

The seminar MASL reflects no tuition fees, travel, or lodging costs but is utilized solely for the creation of student invitational travel orders and to ensure compliance with all student training and reporting requirements. All funding issues associated with the bilateral seminars will be coordinated directly with respective country case managers.

THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS BILATERAL SEMINAR MAY INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, TOPICS FROM:

- Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course (SOCbT)
- Advanced Special Operations Combating Terrorism Course—Alumni (ASOCbT-A)
- Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)
- Interministerial Collaboration Course (IMCC)
- Civil-Military Operations Seminar (CMOS)
- Asymmetric Warfare Challenges (AWC)
- Operational Planning Course (OPC)
- Maritime Operational Planning Course (MOPC)
- Special Operations Air Planning Course (SOAPC)/Air Integration Course (SOAIC)
- Special Operations Forces Integration Course (SOFIC)
- Principles of Resistance in Modern Warfare (PRMW)
- Information Related Capabilities Seminar (IRCS)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL  
**JSOU-MET@socom.mil**

You may also contact the JSOU Regional Desk Officer  
(RDO) who acts as the JSOU liaison to each TSOC:

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## JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIVERSITY

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