FAQ

What is “red teaming”?
Red Teaming is an activity performed by individuals educated and trained to enhance staff planning and decision making; decision support, critical review, and threat emulation.

Why is red teaming necessary?
Even the best plans have errors, in hindsight. Most errors arise from cultural misunderstanding, tunnel vision, group think, or mirror imaging. These errors occur because military members are similarly educated, trained, and assimilated. More over, if they do their jobs well, it’s because they’re conditioned to focus on reaching a defined end-state. As such, they fall into the gravitational pull of western military thought.

Don’t we already do red teaming inside our organizations?
Yes! Good organizations are so in part because they build components of red teaming into their major processes, i.e., MDM, hypothesis, critical analysis, courses of action, etc. Hence, the organization accomplishes its mission without disruption and with minimal deviations. Sadly, the underlying inherent dilemma is: performing these major processes well demands purposeful focus. That crucial behavior, purposeful focus, innately limits outsider perspectives and rippling implications. During the process, nobody wants to marginalize the crowd’s synergy, or become a ‘toad in the road’ squashed after too many questions. Deadlines and details consume the activity with no time to truly challenge assumptions. Therefore, the contrarian must be someone outside that vested interest, trained and chartered to truly consider alternative perspectives.

What does the Red Team do for its command?
Red Teams give commanders an independent capability to fully explore alternatives in organization, concepts, plans, operations, and capabilities; in the context of other perspectives, i.e., coalition, local.

What has the Army done?
The Army established MTOE requirements (ASI 7G and 7J). TRADOC chartered the UFMCS to support the fielding of a force-wide capability.
**9E-SI/ASI7G/920-ASI7G**

**RED TEAM LEADER**

18-week courses run twice a year. Awards ASI 7G. Red Team Leader Course (RTLC) is the full curriculum. Students study non-western theory, world cultures and religions, and critical thinking systems. They explore TTP, diverse theories, and coalition doctrine. They research case studies, interact with deployed commands, and spend 1 week in a real-world practical experience. Open to O4-O6. By exception, commander may select: O3, CW3 and above, E6 and above, GS09 and above, and contractors.

**9E-SI/ASI7G/920-ASI7G ALT**

**STOP-GAP RED TEAM LEADER**

9-week courses run once a quarter. Awards ASI 7G. The Stop-gap course is similar to the RTLC, but course length does not allow the same subject depth; deploying units receive priority. It is designed to increase the flow of trained RT Leaders for ARFORGEN; enroll student well ahead of rotation. Open to O4-O6. By exception, commander may select others.

**9E-SI/ASI7J/920-ASI7J**

**RED TEAM MEMBER**

6-week courses run once a quarter. Awards ASI 7J. The Red Team Member Course is NOT intended for designated RT leaders. RTMC focuses more on preparing individuals to execute RT functions, tasks, and TTP; less on theories, culture, and operational environments. Open to O3 and above, CW3 and above, E6 and above, GS09 and above, and contractors.

**9E-F16/920-F6**

**CRITICAL THINKING FOR RED TEAM PRACTITIONER**

2-week courses run twice a year. No ASI awarded. This course is for organizations without a designated red team. The Red Team Practitioner Course familiarizes the student with theory and critical thinking for challenging assumptions while considering alternate perspectives within the operational environment. Open to all, specifically soldiers at unit level. UFMCS can accommodate up to 7 MTT requests per year. Contact UFMCS Operations for more information.

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**Which course should I take?**

You should take the:

- **RTLC** if you are preparing to lead a red team (full curriculum - premier edification).
- **SG RTLC** if you will lead a red team, and are deploying soon (stop-gap essentials).
- **RTMC** if you will be a member of a red team (baseline edification and TTP).
- **RTPC** if you don’t need an ASI and just want to improve your critical thinking skills.