Command and General Staff College

Department of Distance Education

Course Descriptions & Information

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Command and General Staff Officers Course - Distributed Learning

CGSOC-DL

In 2011, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) released its vision for professional military education (PME) in *The U.S. Army Learning Concept for 2015*. This publication challenges the Army to deliver knowledge to leaders at the "operational edge" by developing adaptive Soldiers whose cognitive, interpersonal, and cultural skills ensure sound judgment in complex environments; and developing an adaptive knowledge delivery system that is responsive, allows rapid updates to learning content, and is not bound by brick and mortar.

The Department of Distance Education at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College offers the Command and General Staff Officers Course (CGSOC) via Distributive Learning to Active, Reserve, and National Guard Officers. CGSOC-DL consists of the CGSOC Common Core (CC) and Advance Operations Course (AOC). Completion of both courses meets MEL4 and JPME 1 certification requirements.

CGSOC Common Core DL

DDE's CC course – like resident CC – has nine blocks of instruction broken into three sequential phases. Students have 18-months total to complete the students complete it in less than a year. Having all the CC materials accessible online makes this course especially flexible for officers deploying in and out of theater, moving to new assignments, and in other unique circumstances. In addition to reviewing computer based lessons and completing numerous online quizzes, students also submit written individual assignments which receive substantial professional feedback from qualified faculty members. The asynchronous, self-paced approach in CC conforms to CGSS's philosophy towards developing agile and adaptive leaders who must be self-motivated for active participation in our diverse, broad, and ever-changing professional body of knowledge.

Common Core – DL Option

- **Resident Curriculum – computer based**
- **Independent study - online**
- **Conducted in three phases**
- **18 months to complete the course**
- **Assessments submitted and graded**
- **Student driven**
- **Faculty advisors and mentors in the loop**
- **USAR, NG, AC, Sister Service, DA Civilians, and International Students**

Common Core – TASS Option

- **Resident Curriculum**
- **Conducted in 3 phases – ADT, IDT, ADT**
- **18 months to complete the course**
- **Classroom experience with some computer based instruction**
- **TASS BDE faculty conduct classes—CONUS and OCONUS (Germany & Hawaii)**

There are two options for completing the Common Core Course by DL. The first option is completing the CGSOC Online course. In this option, students work online through three phases of the course. Common Core DL students are assigned a DDE faculty advisor that works with DL students to complete the course. The second option available for completing the CC-DL course is the TASS option where students complete the phases either at scheduled two-week ADT periods throughout the year and through 8 IDT periods over 8 months.

CGSOC Common Core students have the ability to transfer between the DL and TASS options during specific windows in the course. This provides additional flexibility to students as they work to complete the Common Core course.

Common Core Course Instructional Blocks

- Foundations
- Strategic Environment
- JIIM Capabilities
- Joint and Army Doctrine
- Joint Functions & Planning
- Army Planning
- History
- Leadership
- Force Management

CGSOC Advanced Operations Course DL

CGSOC– DL also offers the Advance Operations Course to qualified personnel. AOC-DL is the follow-on course to CGSOC-CC that provides basic branch career field officers with an asynchronous and synchronous course focusing on conducting unified land operations in Joint, interagency, and multi-national environments, and to educate officers so they have the requisite competencies to serve as division through echelon-above-corps-level staff officers.

Advanced Operations Course

- **Resident AOC Curriculum – conducted via synchronous and asynchronous means**
- **Not a self-paced course; scheduled sessions**
- **52 week facilitated course – 18 months to complete the course**
- **DDE AOC Instructors facilitate small group sections comprised of 16 officers**
- **USAR, NG, AC**

Officers attend AOC by DL in a 12-month online program offered through DDE. Students are assigned to a 16-officer staff group led by a full-time AOC instructor. Similar to resident CGSOC, the staff groups have a diverse selection of branches from all three components, though they are geographically dispersed. The coursework is a blend of group practical exercises and

ADVANCE OPERATIONS COURSE Continued

individual assignments completed through Blackboard and the Defense Connect On-Line (DCO) web conferencing service provided by the Department of Defense.

Students will typically collaborate one night a week and participate in collaborative end-of-block exercises. Students complete the same learning objectives of resident AOC students through online lessons, exams, written assignments, and online collaboration for tactical and operational exercises

Advanced Operations Course Instructional Blocks

- CFLCC Operations
- Decisive Action: Major Combat Operations
- Decisive Action: Stability Operations
- History: Military Innovation in Peace&War
- History: Roots of Today's OE
- Leadership

General John Pershing Award

The Department of Distance Education (DDE) nominates a distinguished student from each AOC-DL class (approximately four times annually). The distinguished graduate may come from any component and must meet the Directorate's rigorous selection criteria. The award is a gold-plated medallion with a raised-relief bronze of the CGSC crest, engraved with the name and class of the Distinguished Graduate. The names of the recipients are engraved on the General John J. Pershing Award plaque perpetually displayed at the Command & General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS.

CGSOC-Distributed Learning Enrollment Process

Enrollment Process for the Command and General Staff Officer Course – Common Core (CGSOC-CC) and Advanced Operations Course (CGSOC-AOC)

As a prospective student of CGSOC-DL courses, the following information is intended to provide you with basic eligibility and enrollment information in preparation for enrollment in courses offered by DDE.

1. Students must first obtain an ATRRS reservation in a current fiscal year for each phase of the Common Core, using the ATRRS Course ID: 701-1-250-ILE-CC (DL) and school code 701(DL) for the DL course option , or 701-1-250-ILE-CC and school code R701 for the TASS course option. (This course is currently titled Intermediate Level Education Common Core in ATRRS.)

2. After obtaining an ATRRS reservation, students must complete an online application on the DDE website. The application must be completed and the Academic Ethics Form must be signed and attached to the application. If students have trouble completing the application or attaching the Ethics Form, they should contact DDE for assistance.

3. DDE will verify student eligibility from the information provided in the online application. Once a student is determined to be eligible for the course, a welcome letter with course access information, course URL, and other important information will be emailed to new students in order for them to get started in the course.

For prospective AOC students, they must first complete the CGSOC-CC course to be eligible and then obtain an ATRRS reservation under school code is 1-250-C3B. Prospective students will be enrolled as described in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.

For additional information on the CGSOC-DL enrollment process, call 913-758-3401, and request to speak the *Student Services Division*.