Advance Operations Course by Distributed Learning (AOC DL)

January 2020
Purpose. AOC credentials Basic Branch Field Grade Officers to serve on general staffs and lead battalion and brigade-sized units in the execution of unified land operations guided by mission command philosophy in joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational environments. They are prepared to lead and conduct Large Scale Combat Operations in tactical units focused at the division level, executing as part of Unified Action. Officers that can see, understand and seize the initiative to exploit positions of relative advantage.

Key Tasks:
1. Analyze the conduct of Operations in Large Scale Ground Combat.
2. Analyze the commander’s role in Unified Land Operations.
3. Analyze how to develop leaders and operational organizations.
4. Incorporate effective communication skills

End State: While operating as a staff officer, section or warfighting function lead in a division conducting combined arms, Large Scale Combat Operations in a complex, contested environment with in Unified Action against a peer threat, credentialed Basic Branch Field Grade Officers:
   1. Are capable of preparing and leading organizations to prevail in large scale combat operations in complex environments.
   2. Can synchronize the elements of combat power during planning to converse effects at the decisive point in sustained large-scale combat operations.
   3. Apply critical and creative thinking, ethical reasoning, and problem solving processes to analyze complex operational problems and recommend solutions.
   4. Can communicate information clearly, correctly, and convincingly to reach a shared understanding.
   5. Apply historical context to inform military judgment and decision making.
AOC DL Construct

**Shape**
- Deploy
- Conduct Large Scale Combat Ops
- Home Station

**Prevent**

**Conduct Large Scale Combat Ops**

**Consolidate Gains**

**Module 100**
- **Train/Deploy**
  - Training IPR
  - Deployment Plan
  - 8 Weeks

**Module 200**
- **JRSOI**
  - Movement Plan
  - 7 Weeks

**Module 300**
- **Transition to Offense**
  - Targeting Practicum
  - MDMP thru COA Analysis
  - 12 Weeks

**Module 400**
- **Division Offensive Operations**
  - MDMP thru Orders Production
  - Attack Exercise
  - 14 Weeks

**Module 500**
- **Transition from Offense**
  - Army Design Methodology
  - 9 Weeks

**FM 3-0 Framework**

Shape
- Deter
- Seize the Initiative
- Dominate
- Stabilize
- Enable Civil Auth

Built upon the FM 3-0 Framework
• Takes place in the Baltic region of Europe
• Uses notional countries from areas we know as Scandinavia and Russia
• 4ID operations will take place in Latvia and Lithuania which are not altered in the scenario
  • Students can use real-world mapping information to analyze their operations
• Adversary in the scenario is Bothnia supported by Otso and Donovia.
  • Bothnia is near-peer enemy with modern Soviet weaponry. They are a proxy of Donovia which is a hegemonic power in the region.
• Bothnia invades Estonia and NATO responds
• Background on the situation is provided to students in DATE-E Scenario Study Guide and Bothnia National Intelligence Estimate.
Brigade Training and Division Deployment Operations

**ASSESSMENTS:**
- M131 Discussion Thread: 5% (I)
- M134 Brigade Unit Training Plan Briefings: 30% (G)
- M151 BB Test: 10% (I)
- M141 BB Test: 5% (I)
- M149 Division Deployment COA Brief: 25% (G)
- M100A1: Division Challenge Point Paper: 25% (I)
- FGOCO: (select individuals); delayed grade in M500 (10%)

**HISTORY AND LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENTS:**
History and Leadership grades are cumulative over all five of the AOC Modules and do not count toward the M100 grade.

- M111 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M112 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M121 Blackboard Test (3.3%)
- M122 Blackboard Test (3.3%)
Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (JRSOI)

**M200 DL**
- **Stage Set**
  - Gotland Update
- **M211 DL**
  - Complexity
- **M203 DL**
  - Theater Land Operations
- **M201 DL**
  - JRSOI
- **M222 DL**
  - 7th Armored Div at St. Vith

**M202 DL**
- **Staff Tools**
  - BB Test (4%)

**M212 DL**
- **Leading Multi-National Operations**
  - BB Test (4%)

**M208 DL**
- **Division Movement**
  - BB Test (5%)

**M205 DL**
- **Joint Targeting**
  - BB Test (5%)

**M208 Movement Plan and Briefing**
- M200 Integrated Exam (30%)
- Field Grade Officer Competency Observation (FGOCO)

**History and Leadership Assessments:**
History and Leadership assessments are cumulative over all five of the AOC Modules. History and Leadership tests do not count toward the Module 200 block grade.

- M211 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M212 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M221 Blackboard Test (3.3%)
- M222 Blackboard Test (3.3%)

**M200 ASSESSMENTS**
- M200 Integrated Exam 30% (I)
- M201 JRSOI Discussion Thread 10% (I)
- M202 Running Estimate 20% (I)
- M203 Blackboard Test 5% (I)
- M205 Blackboard Test 5% (I)
- M208 Movement Plan and Briefing 30% (I)
- FGOCO (select individuals)
Transition to the Offense

**ASSESSMENTS**

- M300DL Discussion Thread: 5% (I)
- M311DL Information Paper: 10% (I)
- M342DL Blackboard Test: 5% (I)
- M342DL Targeting Multi-media Package: 10% (I)
- M351DL Shaping Operations PE: 5% (I)
- M363A1DL Defense MA Briefing: 15% (G)
- M363A2DL Running Estimate: 15% (I)
- M363A3DL COA Statement and Sketch: 20% (I)
- M363A4DL Defense COA DEV Briefing: 15% (G)
- FGOCO (select individuals)

**HISTORY AND LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENTS:**

History and Leadership grades are cumulative over all five of the AOC Modules and do not count toward the M300 grade.

- M311 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M312 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M313 Blackboard Test (4%)
- M321 Blackboard Test (3.3%)
- M322 Blackboard Test (3.3%)
- M323 Blackboard Test (3.3%)

**AOC-DL M300 Overview**

**Weeks 16 - 18**

Introduction

**Weeks 17 - 18**

Elements of the Defense

**Weeks 19 - 20-21**

Defensive Planning Exercise

**Weeks 22-26**

M300DL Stage Setter

- Discussion Thread (5%)

M311DL Commander’s Visualization

- Bb Test (4%)

M312DL Decision Making

- Bb Test (3.3%)

M313DL Risk & Adaptability

- Bb Test (4%)

M321DL Expeditionary Deterrence

- Bb Test (3.3%)

M322DL Eighth Army in Korea, 1951

- Bb Test (3.3%)

M323DL Challenge of Hybrid Warfare

- Bb Test (3.3%)

M331DL Info Collection and Intel Ops

- Info Paper (10%)

M341DL Info OPS and DIV Targeting Process

- Targeting multi-media package (10%)

M342DL Defensive Fires and Effects

- Bb Test (5%)

M351DL Enabling and Sustaining OPS

- Shape Ops (5%)

M341DL Info OPS and DIV Targeting Process

- Multi-media Package (10%)

M351DL Shaping Operations PE

- 5% (I)

M363A1DL Mission Analysis Briefing

- 15% (G)

M363A4COA Briefing

- 15% (G)

M6323DL Defense COA DEV Briefing

- 15% (G)
Transition from the Offense

**ASSESSMENTS**
- M500 Discussion Thread: 20% (I)
- M501 Blackboard Test: 10% (I)
- M502 Blackboard Test: 10% (I)
- M599 Army Design Brief: 50% (G)
- FGOCO: 10% (I)

**HISTORY ASSESSMENTS:**
- History and Leadership grades are cumulative over all five of the AOC Modules and do not count toward the M400 grade.
- H400 Essay: 60%
- M521 Blackboard Test: 3.3%
- M522 Blackboard Test: 3.3%

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**Overview**

- **M500DL**:
  - Stage Setter
  - Discussion Thread (20%)
- **M521DL**:
  - XVIII Corps
  - Desert Storm
  - Bb Test (3.3%)
- **M501DL**:
  - Dense Urban Operations
  - BB Test (10%)
- **M522DL**:
  - 1st MARDIV
  - Fallujah
  - BB Test (3.3%)
- **M502DL**:
  - SOF Integration
  - BB Test (10%)
- **M503DL**:
  - Consolidate Gains
- **M504DL**:
  - ADM
- **M599DL**:
  - Army Design Briefing

**Weeks 45-47**
- **M599DL**:
  - Army Design Analysis
  - ADM Briefing (50%)
- **FGOCO**: (10%)

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**Discussion Thread (20%)**

**Week 42**

**Week 43**

**Week 44**

**Weeks 45-47**
Note: There is not a stand alone H400 Module; the lessons are embedded. The outline and essay will be submitted at a date to be determined in M400 and M500.

**ASSESSMENTS**
- 12x Blackboard Tests 40% (I)
- History Essay Outline 0% (I)
- History Essay 60% (I)
(I) = Individual Assessment
Note: There is not a stand alone L400 Module; the lessons are embedded. The Leadership Exam is submitted in M400.

**ASSESSMENTS**
- 10 x Blackboard Tests  40% (I)
- Leadership Essay Exam  60% (I)

(I) = Individual assessment