

College of International Security Affairs
National Defense University



Colonel Brian T. Lamson
Joint Chiefs of Staff Chair
Department of War and Conflict Studies

Education

- M.A., University of Washington in Seattle, International Relations (Certificate in South Asia Studies from the Jackson School of International Studies), 2003
- Master of Defense Studies, National University of Bangladesh, 2001
- B.S., Iowa State University (Distinguished Military Graduate), 1992

Supplemental Education

- War College Diploma, College of International Security Affairs (CISA), 2014
- Executive Program, Singularity University, 2012
- Basic Strategic Arts Program, Army War College, 2007

Research Interests

- South Asia and Middle East Security Studies
- Emerging and Disruptive Technologies
- Security Assistance/Security Cooperation
- Strategic Risk and Risk Mitigation
- Irregular and Hybrid Warfare

COLONEL BRIAN T. LAMSON is the Joint Chiefs of Staff Chair and an Instructor in the War and Conflict Studies in the College of International Security Affairs (CISA) at the National Defense University (NDU).

Colonel Lamson was commissioned as an aviation branch second lieutenant in December 1989. He served as a test pilot in light and heavy cavalry units in the United States, Germany and Bosnia, and commanded a cavalry troop in the only airborne cavalry squadron in the United

States Army. His principal staff assignments include two assignments as an executive officer, a battalion logistics officer, and positions with both the Army and Joint Staff.

In 2014-2015, while assigned to CISA, he deployed to the Middle East where he served as the Chief of Strategy and Plans for ongoing U.S. government efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Prior to his assignment at NDU, he was the Senior Army Strategist at the Office of the Secretary of Defense. As such, he managed the department's futures and strategic risk portfolios. Other assignments included serving as the Chief Strategist for Police Development at NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan, and as Military Advisor to Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Colonel Lamson is qualified as a Foreign Area Officer (FAO) with a South Asia concentration and as an Army Strategist, and has held positions in both functional areas. He was selected to be the United States student representative to the Defense Services Command and Staff College in Mirpur, Bangladesh and the Army Attaché at the United States Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. He served as the FAO Asia Regional Manager within the Army G3/5, where he authored the 2006 FAO Report to Congress, and as a strategist he served as the War Plans Branch Chief in the Joint Staff J7. He also worked as a strategist in the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the Chairman's New Administration Transition Team where he led efforts to bridge the military strategy for Afghanistan between presidential administrations.

He speaks Bengali and Urdu and has been a fellow with the U.S. State Department, Department of Energy, Institute of World Politics, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.