

Interagency and Joint Education

CISA works closely with the services and various U.S. government agencies – including Defense, Homeland Security, the National Counterterrorism Center, State, Energy, and Congress – to support joint and professional educational requirements for partners in the defense, diplomacy, and intelligence community. Please visit www.ndu.edu or contact the CISA outreach office at (+1) (202) 685-3872.



The Faculty

CISA's faculty is uniquely positioned between academia and government and focus on topics such as international security studies, irregular warfare, non-state actors, and combating terrorism.



Reserve Component National Security Course (RCNSC)

This two-week course offers joint credit to senior officers and non-commissioned officers (E-8, E-9) of the U.S. reserve components, allied officers, and select civilians working to address contemporary national security challenges. The curriculum consists of lectures, seminars, on-site visits, and culminates in a policy exercise.

Global Alumni Network

CISA graduates form a network that spans across the globe, encompassing:

- More than 600 international graduates from over 90 partner states, such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Colombia, Brazil, Yemen, Jordan, Egypt, Kenya, Indonesia, and the Philippines;
- Alumni from U.S. government agencies and military services, including the Department of Defense, Defense Intelligence Agency, Office of Naval Intelligence, National Counterterrorism Center, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Transportation, Department of State, and the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.



This impressive diversity fosters a unique experience that endures for years beyond the course. Upon completion of the program, graduates return to senior counterterrorism and national security positions within their respective militaries and governments.

For more information about the College, please visit our website at www.ndu.edu

Version - June 2014



THE COLLEGE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS (CISA)



National Defense University

www.ndu.edu

The College of International Security Affairs (CISA)

CISA's mission is to educate and prepare civilian and military national security leaders from the United States and partner nations for the strategic challenges of the contemporary security environment. CISA prepares students for high-level policy and command and staff responsibilities through a graduate, interagency, and joint professional military education program. CISA is the Department of Defense flagship for education and building partnership capacity in combating terrorism and irregular warfare at the strategic level.



Master of Arts Degree in Strategic Security Studies

The ten-month Master of Arts in Strategic Security Studies is comprised of three phases. Phase I – crafted based on the vision of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff – is an NDU-wide “Foundations of Strategic Leadership”. This course introduces CISA's diverse student body to various critical and strategic thinking tools – to analyze topics such as national-level strategy, joint doctrine and operations – in order to anticipate and manage complexity, uncertainty, change, and surprise in the contemporary security environment. Phase II blends innovative principles of security studies and research methodology with an Area of Concentration—such as International Security Studies, Irregular Warfare, Counterterrorism, Homeland Defense, or South and Central Asia. Phase III gives students the opportunity to explore their functional or regional subject of interest by selecting elective courses, taking part in a capstone exercise, and researching and writing of a thesis.

Counterterrorism Fellowship Program (CTF)

The CTF program is the “flagship” of the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy's (Special Operations/ Low Intensity Conflict) worldwide combating terrorism educational portfolio and has produced over 600 graduates from 90 countries. During their stay in Washington, D.C., Counterterrorism Fellows engage in an intensive Master's degree coursework to include a thesis that addresses a specific security issue relevant to their area of operations, country or organization. To complement their academic coursework, students take part in a practicum where they visit government agencies to gain a better understanding of the U.S. national security decision-making process.



Joint Special Operations Master of Arts (JSOMA)

Sponsored by U.S. Special Operations Command, this unique program draws upon the diverse experiences of officers, select non-commissioned officers, special operations forces, civil affairs, and warrant officers and educates these rising military leaders to understand and apply strategic-level analysis. This ten-month, Master of Arts and joint education program is located at the JFK Special Warfare Center and School in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



South and Central Asia Program (SCAP)

Developed at the request of the Director of the Joint Staff and Commander, U.S. Central Command, SCAP supplements the on-the-ground experience of officers participating in the Afghanistan-Pakistan Hands program with theoretical, analytical, and regional expertise in South and Central Asia. In this program, students hone their skills to think critically and to evaluate how local and regional, challenges affect U.S. strategy and policy and global security.



Homeland Defense Fellowship Program (HDF)

CISA offers a four-month Homeland Defense Fellowship certificate program that occurs annually in Washington D.C. from September through December. Fellows analyze emerging threats to their respective homelands and share best practices for the purpose of organizing effective law enforcement responses and protecting critical infrastructure. Fellows also visit U.S. military, law enforcement, and first responder organizations at all levels of government to supplement their coursework.

