

AIR WAR COLLEGE



MISSION

Air War College (AWC) for lieutenant colonels and colonels with less than 21 years of service who will fill positions of high responsibility during the remainder of their careers.

LINEAGE

Air War College
War Collage
Air War College

STATIONS

Maxwell AFB, AL, 22 Dec 1948

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The Air War College (AWC) was established in 1946 and is the senior service school for the Air Force. The World War II experiences of Army Air Corps leaders validated the importance of the education they received at the Air Corps Tactical School during the interwar period. At the end of the war, these leaders planned a comprehensive professional educational system for the greatly expanded Army Air Corps. The Air War College was then, and remains today, the apex of this system. Today, the AWC mission is to prepare students to lead in a joint, interagency and multinational environment at the strategic level across the range of military operations; to develop cross-domain mastery of joint, air, space, cyberspace power and its strategic contributions to national security; and to advance innovative thought on Air Force, Department of Defense, and National Security issues.

In October 2008, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) accredited the AWC to grant JPME Phase II credit to US students as a Senior Development Education College, upgrading the Phase I accreditation received in 1992.

Air University received congressional authority in 1999 to confer the Master of Strategic Studies degree upon AWC resident program graduates, and was accredited in 2004 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

The AWC resident curriculum includes research, electives, regional studies and core courses in leadership and strategy, international security studies, national and military strategy, and joint warfighting. Students participate in the Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) sponsored National Security Forum (NSF), involving approximately 140 civilian guests from across America in lectures and discussions on topics relevant to national security. Students can also study a foreign language.

The resident student body consists of approximately 240 senior military officers and civilians from US military services, federal agencies, and 45 other countries. The resident faculty consists of 39 officers with command experience and extensive operational backgrounds from the US military services and representatives from the German Air Force and the Royal Air Force, and 24 federal service employees with terminal degrees and extensive expertise.

The AWC distance learning curriculum mirrors the resident program and includes a five course core curriculum and an elective. The five core courses are: Foundations of Strategy, National Security and Decision Making, Global Security, Joint Military Operations and Joint Strategic Leadership. In addition to the core curriculum, students also complete the Intercultural Development Inventory and the Culture Simulation.

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 20 Oct 2022
Updated:

Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.