HEADQUARTERS, INTER-AMERICAN AIR FORCES ACADEMY

MISSION

The mission is to provide training and education, in Spanish, to the Armed Forces of the Americas in support of national interests and to foster inter-Americanism

Inter-American Squadron Officer School (ISOS) 5 Weeks

Course Description. The course is designed to develop officers' ready to lead air and space power in an expeditionary war fighting environment. This course mirrors the USAF Squadron Officer School (SOS). The course provides instruction in five key areas: profession of arms, leadership and management, international security studies, military sttidies, and communication studies. The heart of the course is officership, an area concentrating on core values and the unique role of officers in the profession of arms. Officer values, along with officership applications combine to teach students leadership and fellowship principles and how to build military teams through various readings, seminars, and team building exercises. These activities challenge each student to apply newly learned principles successfully and to influence group dynamics, cohesion, and effectiveness in a positive manner. The communication skills area enables students to hone their briefing and writing skills. ISOS brings air and space history, doctrine, and employment concepts to the students throughout the course. In addition, course develops the knowledge of the use of airpower, including basic theories of warfare, and the increasing role of aerospace and information systems in the joint environment. The course continues the development of the warrior/leader and "whole person' professional officers—capable of increased contributions to varied missions.

Noncomissioned Officer (NCO)Academy 7 Weeks

This course is modeled after the USAF Noncommissioned Officers Academy (NCOA). It is

specifically designed for those assuming higher NCO leadership positions. The course of study focuses on the educational needs of expeditionary/combat leaders. As a result, curriculum is designed to develop a mindset and associated skills with respect to four core attributes of every NCO: (1) Combat Leader; (2) Unit Manager; (3) Military Professional and (4) Managerial Communicator. Instruction is directed at improving their skills as leaders and managers. Students learn time, stress, change, and conflict management, concepts of human behavior, problem solving, team development, performance management, situational leadership, Profession of Arms (i.e. national security strategy, terrorism, joint planning, projection of airpower, standards of conduct) as well as implementing managerial communication (i.e. military briefing and team meetings) in the workplace.

Pilot Instrument Procedures 11 Weeks
This course is designed for pilots who fly missions under Instrument Meteorological Conditions (IMC). This course provides training in the basic procedures for instrument flight training. The training includes the control and performance concept, basic instrument maneuvers, basic navigation and flight planning, performance calculations, international rules and regulations, and simulator flight training to include high and low altitude approaches, landings, and missed approaches. Students will receive instruction in basic instrument maneuvers, confidence maneuvers, radial/arc intercepts, fix-to-fix navigation, and holding pattern procedures. There is no actual flight training involved and application is taught via flight simulators.

Instructor Pilot Instrument Procedures 11 Weeks
This course is designed for pilots to gain experience in instrument flying procedures for duties as instrument flight instructors. This course will reinforce the concepts introduced in the Pilot Instrument Procedures course. The training includes instructional theory, instructional techniques, the control and performance concept, basic instrument maneuvers, basic navigation and flight planning, performance calculations, international rules and regulations, and simulator flight training to include instrument maneuvers; high and low altitude approaches, landings, and missed approaches. There is no actual flight training involved and application is taught via flight simulators.

Search and Rescue (SAR) 5 Weeks
This course is designed for enlisted or officers who perform in the capacity of SAR coordination and operations or related duties. The course will give the student a working knowledge in concepts on how to organize and plan SAR center operations and mission planning. Class sessions focus heavily on scenario executions which give the student extensive practice in a simulated SAR environment. The training includes: Introduction of the SAR System, organizations and facilities; Rescue Coordination Center (RCC); communications and emergency signals; introduction of SARSAT; messages, medical attention and SAR Charts; alert phases and initial actions; survival factors; fundamentals of SAR planning, calculations, charts, and search patterns.

International Logistics 9 Weeks Course
This course is designed for personnel assigned to or projected for assignment to

supply/logistics leadership positions and who already have some supply knowledge or experience. This course prepares students for leadership positions in the supply/logistics field by introducing them to the latest principles of logistics integration and resources management including the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program. The course presents and reinforces principles of management, leadership, funds management, management of reparable assets, and fuels management. Training includes introduction to management, logistics plans, the use of department of defense supply publications and technical orders, materiel management, fuels management, the process of foreign military sales, and the use of the supply tracking and reparable returns software.

Supply Management 9 Weeks
This course is for airmen or NCOs, newly commissioned officers, or civilian personnel working in base supply or supply-related functions. This course prepares supply specialists to assume entry-level supply responsibilities and perform related duties in inventory management and warehousing concepts. The students develop the necessary skills to establish and manage a supply activity, manage the inventory, and manage a warehouse. Students receive training on how to identify, inventory, account, and manage property. They also learn how to set up a warehouse and how to operate material handling equipment to include training on forklift safety and how to operate it.

Information Technology 8 Weeks
Course Description. This course is designed for students who work or will work with computers. Students with no computer experience or those who have had limited formal training will benefit from it. Training includes familiarization with computer information technology security, computer concepts, software concepts, hardware concepts and troubleshooting techniques, customer contact training, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA), smart boards, scanners, Windows 2000/NT/XP software installation and optimization, and extensive use of contemporary program applications.

On-the-Job Training Administration 4 Weeks
Course Description. This course is designed for officers, NCOs, and civilians to enable them to effectively develop, administer and evaluate On-The-Job Training (OJT) Programs. The course is oriented for middle to upper-level training supervisors and managers who are directly involved with job-specific training activities. Training includes OJT organization, developing training plans for individual elements, developing training directives, administering and tracking training programs, evaluating training, and documenting training.

Technical Training Instructor 8 Weeks
This course designed for experienced officers, NCOs, and civilians to perform instructor duties. The course provides the student a fundamental knowledge on how to conduct classroom instruction and how to develop curriculum. Training includes the learning process, communication skills, curriculum development, instructional media, student measurement, lesson planning, questioning technique, student counseling and practice teaching, qualities of an instructor, Instructional Systems Development (ISD), instructor roles,

group dynamics, laws of learning, introduction to evaluation, developmental approach, and the communicative process. Provides training on preparing for and delivering presentations to include questioning techniques, outlining, use of multi-media, developing lesson plans, and instructional methods. Students plan, develop, and present lessons using lecture and demonstration/performance methods of instruction.

Introductory Air Intelligence 6 Weeks
This course is designed for officers O1-O3 and enlisted requiring basic intelligence operations experience. The course provides training to personnel with little or no intelligence experience to accept the responsibilities of an intelligence officer or NCO at the unit level. Students receive fundamental information on the different fields within the intelligence community. Training includes Principles of Intelligence, intelligence skills, use of maps and charts for order-of-battle information, order of battle maintenance, combat intelligence operations, brief and de-brief, development, and target mission folder preparation.

Ground Defense Skills 8 Weeks
This course is designed for security forces personnel (defenders) of any branch charged to protect key resources in the field needed to sustain air operations during peacetime or contingencies. Training includes concepts and principles/threat spectrum, the handling of prisoners of war, and law of armed conflict, tactical communications, night training and elementary night movement, patrolling and land navigation, personal hygiene/field sanitation, tactical vehicle deployment, camouflage individual/equipment, listening/observation posts, range determination, warning/operations orders, hand and arm signals, cover and concealment, tactical sentry duties, move under direct fire/move over, through, and around obstacles, weapons training. Students will participate in field training exercises, which simulate patrol and urban defense operations.

Special Reaction Team 8 Weeks
This course is designed for mid-level security forces members of any branch charged to manage high-risk situations. Training includes use of force, concepts of fire, weapons employment, protective equipment, SRT course of fire, SRT build-up area operations, suspect search, apprehension, and restraint, and a rigorous physical conditioning program. This training will take the average security forces or police member to a higher level of knowledge on how to effectively engage in high-risk situations while preserving lives. 2. Major Equipment: M-16 Rifle, M-9 Handgun, Fire Arms Training Simulator, GAU Rifle, M-500 Shotgun, M-203 Grenade Launcher, and Hand Held Radios

International Antiterrorism I 1 Week
This course is designed to instruct all members of the armed forces and their civilian counterparts regardless of specialty and or rank the basic concepts of antiterrorism. The course provides training in the characteristics of terrorist operations, describing the phases of a terrorist incident, discussing the most common terrorist acts, explaining the types of weapons used by terrorist, and identifying the countries that supply the major portion of terrorist weaponry.

International Antiterrorism II 1 Week
The course is designed to prepare mid-level to high-ranking members of any branch of the military or civilian counterparts to advise installation commanders in antiterrorism matters. The course provides training in the roles of the Intelligence (INTEL) and Counterintelligence (CI) agencies, antiterrorism roles and responsibilities, training requirements, and how to organize for antiterrorism. The student will be able to identify basic physical security considerations as they apply to installations and facilities. The objective of this lesson is to familiarize the student with the purpose of the vulnerability assessment, the functions of the assessment, and the process one must go through in order to conduct an assessment. The vulnerability elements associated with an assessment, the application of physical security and assessments, and the procedures for actually conducting an assessment will be discussed.

Rule Of Law and Disciplined Military Operations 1 Week
The objective of this course is to teach international officers, and NCOs the basics of the international rules of law and their impact on human rights, including how these international standards fit into the planning of military operations. This information is vital to any country that may participate in international peacekeeping missions sponsored by the United Nations. The course provides training in the rules of engagement, the law of armed conflict, the role of a military justice system, and human rights. The Defense Institute of International Legal Studies, a detachment of the US Naval Justice School, teaches this course at the academy. Depending on availability, the students will spend an afternoon visiting an actual military courtroom.

Human Factors in Aviation 1 Week
Course Description. This course is targeted for aircrew members, officers, and NCOs that require familiarization with human factors that may affect their performance. The course analyzes frequent physical, emotional, and medical events that may impede the normal response during the daily work that requires full concentration. The students will become aware of several human factors that may increase the risk for fatal errors.

Aircraft Maintenance Officer 10 Weeks
This course is designed for officers in aircraft maintenance leadership and management positions by giving them the tools and training in the essential areas of the maintenance career field. The curriculum provides maintenance management skills as well as organizational structures and management techniques used in the planning and developing of functional areas within a maintenance organization. Training includes Operational Risk Management (ORM), Safety Analysis, Safety Inspections, Quality Assurance Program, Total Quality Management, Team Dynamics, Tools and Problem Solving, Technical Order System, On-the-Job Training Program, Supervisory Management, Flight line Organization and Leadership, Common Maintenance Practices and Terms, Flight line Processes, Aircraft Generation Sorties, Maintenance Indicators, Aircraft Scheduling Process, Aircraft Status, Minimum Essential Sub-system Listing (MESL), Emergency and Contingency, Logistics, and Supply System.

Aircraft Pneudraulics Systems Technician 12 Weeks

This course is designed for personnel performing tasks with Aircraft Pneudraulics Systems. This course provides training in the fundamentals of Aircraft Pneudraulics Systems. The training includes ground safety, technical publications, aircraft familiarization, pneudraulic hardware, maintenance equipment, basic hydraulic systems and units, sub-systems units, pneudraulics systems, shock absorbing devices, brake systems, brake assemblies, operational checks, and troubleshooting procedures on hydraulic systems. Students will become familiar with hydraulic and pneumatic principles, system theory, hydraulic system and subsystem operation, on-aircraft troubleshooting techniques, and related sys em support equipment.

Aircraft Maintenance Superintendent 10 weeks
This course is designed for experienced senior non-commissioned officers, selected junior officers, and civilian equivalents to perform supervisory duties and assume a greater leadership role within a maintenance complex. Training includes quality assurance, total quality management, technical order system, supervisory on-the-job training, weight and balance, supervisory management, and organization structure and logistics. The training received will increase the individual's knowledge and understanding of maintenance operations and increase their ability to function as a senior maintenance supervisor.

Aircraft Technician 12 weeks
This course is designed for aircraft maintenance technicians. The training includes aircraft familiarization to personnel with assignments to heavy aircraft (bombers, tankers, and airlift) and/or light aircraft (fighters, trainers, and attack). Additional training is provided on operational principles and ground safety, aircraft systems and sub¬systems, component description and operation, aircraft ground handling, inspection, servicing procedures, and operation of aerospace ground equipment, component operation and location on the canopy, ejection seat, environmental, fuel, electrical, landing gear, flight controls, engines systems and subsystems, technical orders and publications, and aircraft airframe.

Aircraft Structural Maintenance Technician 12 weeks
This course is designed to prepare personnel for the duties as an aircraft structural maintenance technician. The training includes how to repair, modify, and fabricate aircraft metal components and assemblies, cleaning and inspecting aerospace equipment for corrosion, removal of corrosion by mechanical and chemical treatment, manufacture and application of aerospace marking, mixture and application of organic coatings, cleaning and storage of spray equipment, and manufacturing tubing and cable assemblies. They will also learn the theory of corrosion and to form a better understanding about common aircraft metals. Finally, students will learn the fundamentals of painting aircraft parts.

Helicopter Crew Chief 12 weeks
This course is designed for personnel working as a helicopter maintenance technician. The training includes ground safety, publications, airframe familiarization, landing gear maintenance, special and common tools, hydraulic, electrical, instruments and avionics system familiarization, rotary wing aerodynamics, major component removal and installation, flight control system

rigging, T-53 engine and related systems inspections, drive train systems maintenance, familiarization of Vibrex equipment, and vibrations as applicable to helicopters.

Corrosion Control Technician 6 weeks
This course is designed to train maintenance personnel in the fundamentals of corrosion control. Students learn procedural requirements for the detection, prevention, and treatment of corrosion on aircraft and equipment. The training includes: cleaning and inspecting aerospace equipment for corrosion, removal of corrosion by mechanical and chemical treatment, manufacture and application of aerospace markings, mixture and application of organic coatings, and cleaning and storage of spray equipment.

J-85 Engine Technician 10 weeks
This course is designed for engine specialists who want to receive advanced training on the J-85 engine. This course provides training to intermediate depot-level maintenance repair and inspection procedures on principles of the engine, its components, and its systems. The training includes familiarization with the engine and its systems; engine inspection procedures; field level disassembly; compressor repair, and reassembly of the engine and accessories.

C-130 B/E/H/T-56 Engine Technician 6 weeks
The course is designed to provide advanced operating principles and theory of the T-56 engine to establish a solid maintenance foundation for journeymen. The training includes familiarization with special tools, ground safety, inspections, repair, components removal and installation, troubleshooting, oil systems operation, fuel systems, anti-icing, bleed air, electrical systems, starting systems, and general maintenance procedures.

C-130 B/E/H Propeller Technician 5 weeks
This course is designed for technicians working with the C-130 B/E/H propeller. The training includes advanced operational theory and hands-on maintenance training in order to establish a solid craftsman foundation. The students are trained to analyze facts and draw conclusions related to operation and troubleshooting of the propeller's systems and subsystems, propeller familiarization, in-shop maintenance, propeller electrical system and schematics, and flight line maintenance, operate, troubleshoot, isolate malfunctions, perform minor repairs, and remove and replace components on C-130 propeller systems.

T-53-L-13 Engine Technician 5 weeks
This course is designed for jet engine technicians working with T-53-L-13B engine systems and maintenance procedures. Students learn the necessary skills to perform intermediate and organizational level maintenance. The training includes: system familiarization, inspection, maintenance, repair, servicing, and troubleshooting on the T-53-L-13 Turbo-Shaft Engine.

PT-6A Engine Technician 4 weeks
This course is designed for technicians working with the PT-6 engine. The course provides advanced operational theory and hands-on maintenance training with extensive knowledge on intermediate level maintenance repair skills. Training includes familiarization, engine

maintenance and inspection, analyze facts and draw conclusions related to operation, and troubleshooting of the PT-6 engine and engine systems.

UH-1H Helicopter Technician 12 weeks
This course is designed for helicopter crew chiefs working with the UH-1H airframe and its systems. Emphasis is placed on those tasks that relate to the journeymen level such as operating adjustments, component overhaul, and troubleshooting of most common helicopter anomalies. The training includes ground safety, landing gear maintenance, flight control system inspection and troubleshooting, T-53 engine and related systems inspections, T-53 adjustment procedures, familiarization of rotors and drive train systems, maintenance of rotor system components and overhaul techniques, use of Vibrex equipment and vibration analyzer, vibrations and their effects, use of technical orders, and use of special tools.

UH-1N Helicopter Technician 7 weeks
This course was designed for helicopter crew chiefs working with the UH-1N airframe and its systems. Emphasis is placed on those tasks that relate to the journeymen level such as operating adjustments, component overhaul, and troubleshooting of most common helicopter anomalies. The training includes, ground safety, airframe familiarization and maintenance, landing gear maintenance, hydraulic, electrical, instruments and avionics system familiarization, rotary wing aerodynamics, major component removal, inspections and installation, drive train system familiarization, disassemble, inspect and assemble drive shaft components, PT-6B/T-400 engine and related systems inspections, engine rigging procedures, flight control system rigging, UH-1 vibration characteristics and causes, and use of vibration troubleshooting equipment as applicable to helicopters.

LINEAGE
United States Air Force School for Latin American designated and organized, 31 Oct 1948
Redesignated Headquarters, USAF School for Latin America, 26 Dec 1948
Redesignated Caribbean Air Command School for Latin America, 1 Sep 1949
Redesignated Headquarters, USAF School for Latin America, 27 Sep 1949
Redesignated USAF School for Latin America, 28 Aug 1953
Redesignated Headquarters, USAF School for Latin America, 24 Mar 1955
Redesignated Headquarters, School for Latin America, USAF, 6 Sep 1955
Redesignated USAF School for Latin America, 1 Dec 1960
Redesignated Inter-American Air Forces Academy, 8 Sep 1966
Redesignated Headquarters, Inter-American Air Forces Academy, 24 Oct 1994

STATIONS
Curundu Heights, Canal Zone, 31 Oct 1948
Albrook AFB, Canal Zone, 25 Jul 1949
Homestead AFB, FL, 1 Jan 1976
Lackland AFB, TX, 28 Aug 1992

ASSIGNMENTS

Panama Air Depot Wing, 31 Oct 1948
Panama Air Depot, 27 Apr 1949
5700 Air Base Group, 25 Jul 1949
Caribbean Air Command, 26 Jul 1950
USAF Southern Air Division, 1 Jan 1976
Twelfth Air Force, 1 Oct 1989
Air Combat Command, 1 Jun 1992
Lackland Training Center, 2 Jun 1993
37 Training Wing, 1 Jul 1993

COMMANDERS
Col Marc F. Stratton

HONORS
Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations
Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Apr 1963- 31 Mar 1965
1 Jan 1970-31 Dec 1971
1 Jul 1975-30 Jun 1977
1 Jan 1981-15 Aug 1982
1 Jul 1995-30 Jun 1996
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2003

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards
1 Jul 1987-30 Jun 1988
1 Jan 1989-31 Dec 1990
1 Jul 1992-30 Jun 1994

EMBLEM
Per fess nebuly Celeste and Azure, on the first a lamp inflamed Or garnished Tenné, in base two stylized gauntleted hands clasped of the last and Or, all within a diminished bordure of the like.
Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "INTER AMERICAN AIR FORCES ACADEMY" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, and indicates the organizations coordinated functions. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The emblem is symbolic of the Academy. The Lamp of Knowledge refers to the administrative and technical training in various

Air Force operations and related subjects for officers and airmen of Latin American Air Forces provided by the Academy. The clasped hands, a symbol of unity and friendship with the gauntlets denoting the military aspects, represents the Academy's participation in the promotion of Western Hemispheric solidarity. (Approved, 26 Jan 1996)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The Inter-American Air Forces Academy (IAAFA) was founded on 15 Mar 1943, at the request of Peru's Minister of Aeronautics, General Fernando Melgar. The Academy trained 11 Peruvian students at Albrook Field, Panama Canal Zone, marking the first US aeronautics training in Latin America.

In the 1940s and 50s, the Academy expanded and changed in response to potential conflict in the Western Hemisphere and the world at large. The student load increased to 400 students per year. In 1952, the Commandant established the format for today's IAAFA, emphasizing "hands-on" training, adding officer courses, and creating a "Student Section" responsible for military and athletic instruction and US cultural awareness. In response to US emphasis in Latin America, the Academy changed its name from the "Central and South American Air School" to the "United States Air Force School for Latin America," to finally the "Inter-American Air Forces Academy" in 1966.

On 30 Sep 1989, IAAFA closed its doors at Albrook AFS, Panama, and moved to Homestead AFB, Florida, reopening 100 days later on 9 Jan 1990.

On 23 Sep 1992, following almost-complete destruction by Hurricane Andrew, IAAFA relocated to Lackland AFB, Texas, once again opening its doors just under 100 days, on 11 Jan 1993.

Subsequently, the Air Force decided to make that arrangement permanent and, on 2 June 1993, the academy was relieved from assignment to Air Combat Command and assigned to Air Training Command. The unit was then further assigned to Lackland Training Center.

IAAFA graduates an average of 800 students a year-quite a step up from the 11 students of 60 years ago.

Senior USAF officials, representatives from six Latin American nations, and leaders from the Inter-America Air Forces Academy opened a new airfield training complex at Lackland AFB, Tex., a part of Joint Base San Antonio. The $19 million IAAFA facility, eight years in the making, combines all aviation maintenance courses for the school in one location, according to academy officials. It also provides a new home for the 318th Training Squadron. "This facility serves as another milestone in the [academy's] 68-year legacy of enriching the global community of airmen," said Lt. Gen. Robin Rand, commander of 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern). The complex opened on Feb. 9 and welcomed its first students four days later. The IAAFA, founded in 1943, teaches technical courses, in both Spanish and English, to airmen from the militaries of

more than 20 Latin American countries every year. 2012

Today's resource-constrained environment demands unified approaches and hemispheric solutions, and institutions such as Inter-American Air Forces Academy are a linchpin to this strategy. For nearly 70 years, the IAAFA has conducted international training in the Spanish language, forging ties with Latin American military, national police and governmental agencies.

While training locations have varied, the mission of building partnerships and building partner capacity within the western hemisphere has been and will continue to be fundamental. The academy continues to erase linguistic and cultural barriers by building true and lasting partnerships. Whether providing in-country helicopter maintenance training in Latin American countries, or instructing courses in the classroom, the exchanges between IAAFA members and the Latin American military have helped build lasting ties while simultaneously improving capabilities.

Through both in-resident and mobile education and training courses, these partnerships, spanning years and often decades, aim to overcome institutional and political boundaries. It is because of these enduring partnerships, often built on successive tactical, face-to-face interactions, that positive strategic effects result in line with our National Security Strategy. IAAFA aircraft maintenance instructors recently partnered with Air Mobility Command's 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron to provide helicopter maintenance training in Honduras.

This was just one of a series of exchanges that fostered good relations between Inter-American aircraft maintainers, emphasized foundational maintenance practices and boosted Honduran Air Force helicopter capability. The resulting capability had an immediate impact and contributed to a decreased amount of drug trafficking activities within the country's borders. As the Academy approaches its 70th year of creating positive strategic effects through building and maintaining Inter-American partnerships, one thing is for sure; many of IAAFA's more than 43,000 alumni will be key to that effort and IAAFA will continue to strive to enable partner nations to build their military. 2012

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

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