



THE UNITED STATES NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

GRADUATION
CEREMONY



NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

June 14, 2024



HISTORY OF THE U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

Founded in Newport, Rhode Island on October 6, 1884, the U.S. Naval War College is the oldest war college in the world. Commodore Stephen B. Luce was the first President and organized the War College as a place to study the highest aspects of the military profession, defining it as “a place of original research on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war.” These foundations were built upon by Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan, second President of the College, who had originally been selected by Luce to initiate the course in Naval History. Of all the men who were to influence the institution in its early years, none was to have a more profound impact. Mahan’s views deeply affected such leaders as Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt and through them and others helped shape the United States’ destiny at the turn of the century. Mahan’s Naval War College lectures, published as *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660–1783* (1890), gained him worldwide acclaim and first established the U.S. Naval War College as an internationally respected institution. Other early faculty members made pioneering contributions to hallmark areas of enduring interest for the College. Among them were Charles Stockton, who drafted the first international law code for naval warfare in 1898, and William McCarty Little, who developed the art of naval war gaming between 1886 and 1914.

Functioning continuously since 1884, except for brief periods during the Spanish-American War and World War I, the War College numbers among its graduates such distinguished naval officers as Admirals Sims, Spruance, King, Nimitz, and Halsey, in addition to many others who today are holding prominent positions.

The work begun more than one hundred years ago by Luce and Mahan continues today. As graduates well know, the curriculum is both demanding and rewarding. For the military professional, the unique education provided by the Naval War College is unrivaled. In recognition of the academic rigor and educational excellence of its program, the U.S. Naval War College has been accredited since 1991 by first the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and now the New England Commission of Higher Education to award a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. In 2015 this accreditation was expanded to award two degrees. Graduating students in the senior level course now receive a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies while graduating students in the intermediate course receive a Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies.

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION AND REGALIA

For centuries, institutions of higher learning have dignified their ceremonies with an academic procession, a custom descending from the clerical procession. The procession is led by a marshal, followed by the student body and the academicians or faculty, attired in the robes prescribed for their respective degrees. Distinguished visitors and delegates follow the faculty, and last in the procession comes the president of the institution.

Each member of an academic procession ordinarily wears a cap, gown, and hood. In the procession today military faculty will not wear academic gowns. The earliest illustration depicts gowns worn at Oxford University that somewhat resemble cassocks worn by English teachers who found good use for the hood, or cowl, as protection against the weather. A uniform American system of academic heraldry displays the level of degree, the field of study in which it was earned, and the institution by which it was granted.

It is the hood which provides academic regalia its color and offers the most information about its wearer. The silk lining of the hood bears the color, or colors, of the degree-granting college or university; its velvet facing reveals the color assigned to each area of study. The Bachelor's gown is relatively simple, falling in straight lines from an elaborate yoke and having pointed sleeves. The Master's gown is slightly more elaborate and fastens about the wrist. The Doctor's gown is marked by velvet panels down the front and around the neck, as well as by three bars of the same material on the well-shaped sleeves. It is cut more fully and may be ornamented. The hood worn is three feet in length for Bachelors, three and one-half feet for Masters, and four feet for Doctors, with velvet trimming of two, three, and five inches in width respectively.

The edging, or facing, velvet of academic hoods indicates the area of study. The principal scholarly fields seen in the procession today include:

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|--|---------------------|
| <i>Philosophy</i> | <i>Dark Blue</i> |
| <i>Arts, Letters, Humanities</i> | <i>White</i> |
| <i>Business Administration</i> | <i>Light Brown</i> |
| <i>Economics</i> | <i>Copper</i> |
| <i>Engineering</i> | <i>Orange</i> |
| <i>Law</i> | <i>Purple</i> |
| <i>International Affairs/Public Administration</i> | <i>Peacock Blue</i> |

The American mortarboard, derived from the soft Oxford cap, is black. Its tassel, for holders of the bachelor's and master's degree, is usually black, while gold tassels are worn by holders of doctoral degrees and heads of institutions. The tassel is worn on the right side of the cap by undergraduates, on the left by holders of bachelor's and higher degrees.

GRADUATION PROGRAM

Processional Music Navy Band Northeast

Procession of Students and Faculty

Arrival of Official Party*

National Anthem* ...Musician First Class Holden W. Moyer, U.S. Navy
Vocalist, Navy Band Northeast

Invocation*Commander Robert D. Fasnacht, U.S. Navy
Command Chaplain, Naval Station Newport

Welcome Rear Admiral Peter A. Garvin, U.S. Navy
President, U.S. Naval War College

Commencement AddressAdmiral Scott H. Swift, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Student Awards

RADM Joseph C. Strasser NSC International Leadership Prize

RADM Joseph C. Strasser NCC International Leadership Prize

Navy League Awards

Presentation of Graduates

Presentation of Diplomas

Charge to Graduates..... Rear Admiral Peter A. Garvin, U.S. Navy
President, U.S. Naval War College

Benediction*Commander Robert D. Fasnacht, U.S. Navy
Command Chaplain, Naval Station Newport

Departure of Official Party*

*Guests please stand

COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

Rear Admiral Peter A. Garvin, U.S. Navy
President

Dr. Stephen J. Mariano
Provost

Dr. Doyle K. Hodges
Dean of Academics

Captain Brian D. Doherty, U.S. Navy
Dean of Students

Professor Thomas E. Mangold, Jr.
Dean, International Programs and Maritime Security Cooperation

Dr. Steven L. Pierce
Interim Dean, College of Distance Education

Professor Edward B. Cashman, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Dean, College of Maritime Operational Warfare

Dr. Paul D. Brister
Dean, Center for Naval Warfare Studies

Professor William J. Nault
Interim Dean, College of Leadership and Ethics

Dr. Derek S. Reveron
Chair, National Security Affairs Department

Captain John Porado, U.S. Navy
Chair, Joint Military Operations Department

Dr. Marybeth P. Ulrich
Chair, Strategy and Policy Department

Colonel Lawrence T. Brown, U.S. Army
Senior Army Advisor

Colonel Craig R. Wonson, U.S. Marine Corps
Senior Marine Corps Advisor

Captain Duneley A. Rochino, U.S. Navy
Senior Navy Advisor

Colonel Rebecca F. Russo, U.S. Air Force
Senior Air and Space Force Advisor

Captain Fred S. Bertsch, U.S. Coast Guard
Senior Coast Guard Advisor

Mr. Walter M. Braunohler
Senior State Department Advisor



ADMIRAL SCOTT H. SWIFT, U.S. NAVY (RET.)

Admiral Swift served in the U.S. Navy for more than 40 years, rising from his commission through the Aviation Reserve Officer Candidate program to become a Navy light attack and strike fighter pilot.

He held command seven times, serving as Commander, F/A-18 Weapons School, Lemoore, California; Commander, Strike Fighter Squadron 97; Commander, Fleet Replacement Squadron VFA-122; Commander, Carrier Air Wing 14; Deputy Commander, Naval Forces CENTCOM; Commander, Carrier Strike Group 9; Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet; and finally completing his uniformed career as the 35th Commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet in 2018.

During his years of service, he participated in combat Operations PRAYING MANTIS, SOUTHERN WATCH, ENDURING FREEDOM, and IRAQI FREEDOM and received a master's degree from the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

As founder of The Swift Group LLC, previous MIT Center for International Studies Robert E. Wilhelm Fellow, MIT Research Affiliate, Senior Fellow at the Center for Naval Analyses, Adjunct Professor at the Naval War College, U.S. Naval Institute Board Member, and Spirit of America Advisory Board Member, Admiral Swift continues to explore opportunities to serve where his interests, abilities, and experience and national need align.

NAVAL COMMAND COLLEGE

Lieutenant Colonel Abdelhafidh Kherbache, Algerian Naval Forces
Commander Claudio A. Otero, Argentine Navy
Commander M. A. X. Power, Royal Australian Navy
Captain Saeed Marzooq Masoud, Royal Bahrain Navy
Captain Sandro Baptista Monteiro, Brazilian Navy
Captain Daniel Vladimirov Todorov, Bulgarian Navy*
Captain Jacob French, Royal Canadian Navy
Commander Federico Cavada, Chilean Navy
Commander Maria Angela Fuentes Calderon, Colombian Navy
Captain Darija Jurko, Croatian Navy
Commander Oscar Barrionuevo Vaca, Ecuadorian Navy
Commander Malo Raoul, French Navy
Commander Daniel Läzer, German Navy
Captain Isaac Ziem Aratuo, Ghana Navy
Captain Sotirios Masikas, Hellenic Navy
Captain Adit Patnaik, Indian Navy*
Colonel Dodi Hermanto, Indonesian Navy
Commander Omer Rabiner, Israeli Navy
Captain Massimo Petricca, Italian Navy
Captain Yuichiro Kashiwagi, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force
Commander Younghan Park, Republic of Korea Navy
Brigadier General Khaled M. Alrayyes, Kuwait Naval Force
Colonel Sandris Gaugers, National Armed Forces of Latvia
Commander Juan Alexander Guadarrama Mendoza, Mexican Navy
Captain Fadlallah Drissi Zellaji, Royal Moroccan Navy
Commander Andrew John Mahoney, Royal New Zealand Navy
Captain Ismail Kolawole Lawal, Nigerian Navy
Commander Martha Landeraen Hess, Royal Norwegian Navy
Captain Atif Sultan, Pakistan Navy
Captain Manuel Alejandro Zuñiga Medina, Peruvian Navy
Commander Christian Paul A. De Jesus, Philippine Navy
Captain Aleksander Mateusz Urbanowicz, Polish Navy
Captain Emanuel Ionuț Ungureanu, Romanian Naval Forces
Commander Haitham Zaid Alkathiri, Royal Saudi Naval Forces
Commander El Hadji Abdou Goumbala, Senegalese National Navy
Captain Santiago Martinez Mata, Spanish Armada
Commodore L. A. Dumindu W. Abeywickrama, Sri Lanka Navy
Commander Chih-Huang Chung, Taiwan Navy

HONORS

Distinction *

Highest Distinction †

Commander Panupong Jamruenvong, Royal Thai Navy
Captain Moncef Hammouda, Tunisian Navy
Commander İrfan Uygul, Turkish Navy
Colonel Nasser Mohammed Alnuaimi, United Arab Emirates Navy
Commander James E. G. Baker, Royal Navy
Lieutenant Colonel Richard D. I. Becker, U.S. Army
Lieutenant Colonel John A. Fulton, U.S. Marine Corps
Commander Alana Fotchuk Garas, U.S. Navy
Colonel Jesper R. Stubbendorff, U.S. Air Force

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Lieutenant Colonel Frederick J. Babauta, U.S. Army
Lieutenant Colonel Lyndsey M. Ballinger, U.S. Air National Guard
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Lieutenant Commander Phill Kyoung Ko, Republic of Korea Navy

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Lieutenant Commander Saleem Babangida, Nigerian Navy
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Lieutenant Commander Abdullah Akram, Pakistan Navy
Lieutenant Commander Leonel Rodriguez, Panama Navy
Lieutenant Commander Santiago Vascones, Peruvian Navy
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Lieutenant Commander Melanie Conese Lecaroz, U.S. Navy
Commander Nicholas E. Lowe, U.S. Navy
Major Daniel F. Loyco, U.S. Marine Corps*
Major Claire L. Marlow, U.S. Army
Major Alexander A. Mathews, U.S. Air Force
Lieutenant Commander Nicholas G. Mehalic, U.S. Navy
Major Seth P. Merrigan, U.S. Army
Major Dylan F. Metzler, U.S. Marine Corps*
Lieutenant Commander Rostislav Meyerzon, U.S. Navy Reserve
Lieutenant Commander Hugh A. Mitchell III, U.S. Navy*
Lieutenant Commander Ryan E. Moore, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Luke A. Moragne, U.S. Navy
Major Justin R. Motenko, U.S. Marine Corps
Major John J. Oliver, U.S. Army*
Lieutenant Commander Brian T. Osborne, U.S. Navy
Major Jacob C. Osborne, U.S. Army
Major Aaron J. Owens, Sr., U.S. Army
Lieutenant Christofer V. Paolillo, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Tiffany D. Pearson, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Alfredo J. Perez II, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Eddy Phouthaboun, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Patrick R. Powers, U.S. Coast Guard*
Lieutenant Commander Leroy Rhem, Jr., U.S. Navy

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**The Army Goes Rolling Along
(U.S. Army)**

*First to fight for the right,
And to build the nation's might,
And the Army goes rolling along.
Proud of all we have done
Fighting till the battle's won,
And the Army goes rolling along.
Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey!
The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadance loud and strong;
For where'er we go,
You will always know
That the Army goes rolling along.*



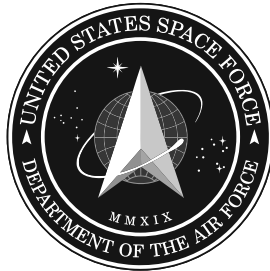
**Marine Corps Hymn
(U.S. Marine Corps)**

*From the Halls of Montezuma
To the Shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles
In the air, on land and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title
Of United States Marine.*



**The Air Force Song
(U.S. Air Force)**

*Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun;
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,
At 'em now, Give 'em the gun!
Down we dive, spouting our flames from under,
Off with one helluva roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame. Hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!*



**Semper Supra
(U.S. Space Force)**

*We're the mighty watchful eye,
Guardians beyond the blue.
The invisible front line,
Warfighters brave and true.
Boldly reaching into space,
There's no limit to our sky.
Standing guard both night and day,
We're the Space Force from on high!*



**Semper Paratus
(U.S. Coast Guard)**

*We're always ready for the call,
We place our trust in Thee.
Through surf and storm and howling gale,
High shall our purpose be.
"Semper Paratus" is our guide,
Our fame, our glory too.
To fight to save or fight and die,
Aye! Coast Guard, we are for you!*



Anchors Aweigh
(U.S. Navy)

*Anchors Aweigh, my boys,
Anchors Aweigh.
Farewell to foreign shores,
We sail at break of day-ay-ay-ay.
Through our last night on shore,
Drink to the foam,
Until we meet once more:
Here's wishing you a happy voyage home.*



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ADMIRAL ARLEIGH BURKE, USN 1960

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The motto of the Naval War College is

“Victory through Sea Power.”

The trident rising from the water symbolizes mastery of naval activities—its three tines are evocative of naval warfare on sea, air, and land. The pilot wheel atop the shield alludes to the mission of the college—education in naval warfare. The wheel’s eight spokes symbolize honor, duty, leadership, command, strategy, tactics, logistics, and weapons. The laurel wreath represents achievement of the mission.