

Naval Staff College Diploma

International officers in the Naval Staff College (NSC) complete a robust program of academic core courses and electives, as well as professional development including a Field Studies Program and country presentations. Upon completion they receive a U.S. Naval War College (NWC) Diploma. Selected students will be eligible to earn a Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies.

Eligibility

- NSC is open to U.S. and international military officers from participating countries in the O3, O4, and O5 pay grades.

Location & Duration

- The 11-month curriculum for resident students is divided into trimesters and is taught at NWC in Newport, Rhode Island.

Learning Format

- Core Courses are primarily seminar format but include the field studies program, capstone exercises, and comprehensive writing assignments.

Outcome

- Upon completion, international officers receive an NWC Diploma. Selected students will be eligible to earn a Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies degree.

General Program Overview

- Field Studies Program | Ongoing, Required
Provides students with an understanding of U.S. society, institutions, and culture through exposure to various topics.
- Country Presentations | Ongoing, Optional
Each student must deliver an oral and visual presentation describing their country to a large audience of academics, students, and interested guests.
- Student Selected Elective | All Trimesters, Optional
The elective program, optional but encouraged, offers graduate level courses that provide specialized areas of study. Note: Electives are required each trimester for those international officers pursuing a master's degree.
- Theater Security Decision Making | Fall Trimester, Required
Educates students on effective decision-making and leadership, focusing primarily at the theater strategic level.
- Strategy and Warfare | Winter Trimester, Required
Examines how the overall strategic environment shapes operational choices and outcomes.
- Joint Maritime Operations | Spring Trimester, Required
Prepares students on critical and creative problem-solving skills that pertain to decision-making and leadership in the maritime domain.