

Comprehensive Crisis Management Course, 4 credits

Core aims of the course

This blended learning course is an introductory course that simulates a NATO-led multinational staff (battalion level) governed by NATO/PfP staff working procedures.

Course dates

Weeks 19 - 21 in May 2018

Place / Residency Period

The course takes place in Santahamina, Helsinki.

Learning objectives

Upon completion of the course, students should

- Comprehend the NATO planning process and be able to produce the plans and orders required in the planning process
- Comprehend the C3 (Command, Control and Communications) means and methods used in crisis management operations
- Comprehend and describe comprehensive crisis management and the concept of security and safety and how these link to military crisis management
- Comprehend military crisis management education as a whole and recognise civilian working procedures in the training of crisis management know-how
- Comprehend the NATO operating procedures in a crisis management operation
- Recognise the operation's guidance documents and remember the regulations addressing international human rights
- Recognise the general education and training systems of other countries

Entry requirements / prerequisites

To be eligible to attend the course, nominees must fulfil the following criteria:

- Bachelor's degree in military science or from a civilian university
- Security clearances: NATO Secret clearance is required.
- Basic computer skills and the ability to engage in e-learning

The course is intended for military and civilian personnel who have no prior experience in working in a staff in planning or command tasks. National Defence University students have priority. However, other employees within the military and civilians can also be accepted as students.

The course will be taught in English and requires good academic English skills. Although students are expected to have prior studies in military history, all students will complete a pre-task on the basics of insurgency and counterinsurgency warfare so as to ensure a common basis. (English language proficiency as described in STANAG 6001: listening 2, speaking 2, reading 2, writing 2. Language testing is a national responsibility. No additional training or translation will be provided.)

Course content, progression and methods

The course builds on prior academic studies and professional experience as a military instructor or subject-matter expert. Alternatives will be designed for students who have not worked in or with armed forces.

Lectures, case studies and scenarios provide students with a basic understanding of the different functions found in international staff headquarters. The size of teaching groups varies from small groups to all students enrolled on the course. In the initial stages of the actual exercise, students are divided into different sections of a headquarters where students then rehearse their own task according to a scenario. Students then apply what they have learnt and the staff planning procedure will be looked at comprehensively.

In the first phase we familiarise ourselves with the concepts of comprehensive crisis management and security and with various perspectives on training in the different stages of an operation. The first phase consists of 15 hours of group work and 12 hours of e-learning. In the second phase, lectures and case studies provide students with a basic understanding of the different functions found in international staff headquarters.