



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY WAR COLLEGE AND CARLISLE BARRACKS
CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA 17013-5243

6 January 2012

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ATWC-ADE

MEMORANDUM FOR Prospective USAWC DDE Students

SUBJECT: U.S. Army War College (USAWC), Department of Distance Education (DDE)
Orientation Weekend

1. Several studies of university distance education programs have found that attendance at an onsite orientation significantly reduces student angst and contributes substantially to their subsequent success. The unique administrative requirements and online learning systems can sometimes be challenging for first-time online students. Feedback from students, who have attended previous USAWC orientation weekends, indicates that they benefited greatly from attendance, especially as they began to complete initial course requirements.
2. The USAWC DDE offers a voluntary resident two-day orientation weekend at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. For the Class of 2014, this orientation will be offered on 4-5 May 2012 and 11-12 May 2012. This optional resident program is designed to complement the online orientation beginning 13 April 2012. Faculty will review DDE course requirements, articulate evaluation standards, and familiarize new students with USAWC distance education online systems. Additionally, students are able to meet and develop a rapport with fellow students and supporting faculty.
3. No registration fee is required for either orientation weekend. Attendees are responsible for making travel arrangements and registering for the orientation weekend online, beginning on 15 February 2012. This can be accomplished at <https://dde.carlisle.army.mil> by selecting the "Welcome Class of 2014" link and following subsequent directions. USAWC will provide transportation support to and from Harrisburg International Airport and train station. We will also provide shuttles to and from the assigned local hotel during the weekend. Once registered online you will be notified of your assigned hotel. You are responsible for contacting the hotel and confirming the hotel reservation.
4. The tentative itinerary for the Distance Education Orientation Weekend is attached.
5. POC for the program is COL Darrell Fountain, (717) 245-4603 or darrell.fountain@us.army.mil. If you have administrative questions please contact Mr. Amos Myers, (717) 245-3424 or Carl_DDE-FirstYear@conus.army.mil.

Encl

*Hope to
see you here
in Carlisle!*

Clay K.S. Chun
Clayton K.S. Chun, Ph.D.
Chairman, Department of
Distance Education

Enclosure (Tentative Itinerary) to memorandum for U.S. Army War College (USAWC),
Department of Distance Education (DDE) Orientation Weekend

Tentative itinerary for DDE Orientation Weekend

Day/Time

Event

Friday

0730-0830 Registration (Bliss Hall Auditorium foyer)

0830-1630 DDE Round-Robin Technology Training

- Defense Connect Online (DCO) – operation and use
- Online Academic Student Information System (OASIS) – operation and use
- IT Assistance – computer configuration and setup
- Graduate Level Writing Seminar – expectations and key concepts
- Administrative Support Period –
 - Microsoft Office 2007 software issue
 - Bio Book Photograph
 - Biographical Data Information Entry

1645-1745 Student Welcome Social

Saturday

0700-0800 Registration for late arrivals (Bliss Hall rm 302)

0800-0830 Commandant, Dean & DDE Chairman Welcome (Bliss Hall Auditorium)

0830-0915 Curriculum Overview / Golden Threads/ DE2301 Introduction

0915-0930 Break (move to seminar rooms)

0930-1130 Introductions/Seminar Discussion

1130-1300 Lunch (Joint Deli Open)

1300-1420 Introduction to Critical Thinking

1420-1430 Break (move to seminar rooms)

1430-1530 Critical Thinking Seminar Discussion

1530-1630 Seminar Evaluation Standards

1630 Students Released