

GPOI United Nations Staff Officers Course, In Residence Course

(MASL #P179045)

Introduction: The Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) offers a peacekeeping training course entitled “United Nations Staff Officers Course” (UNSOC). The goal of this training is to assist nations in improving the abilities of their armed forces to better participate in United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations. The specific purpose of the UNSOC is to prepare and train staff officers (Captain - Lieutenant Colonel or civilian equivalents) for service as staff officers in UN multinational and sector headquarters or within national contingents to conduct peacekeeping operations. Upon completion of the UNSOC, participants are expected to be competent in the knowledge, skills and attributes of effective UN staff officers.

The course meets current standards of performance established by the UN and includes best practices from training conducted by other nations involved in peacekeeping operations.

The UNSOC can be conducted by a Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) partner country as either a national (MASL #273013) course (on a bilateral basis with just the US), or as a regional (MASL #309103) course. If regional, participants are invited from other GPOI participating countries in the region or world-wide to attend the course. Participants could also be from non-GPOI participating countries, but those candidates should use IMET/EIMET or be self-funded.

The duration of the course is 12 calendar days inclusive of weekend rest/cultural/social programs. The training methodology is centered on presentations by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in conjunction with group and plenary discussions. The focus of group work is problem solving presented by a fictitious peacekeeping operations scenario and/or examination and analysis of self-contained problems related to various aspects of peacekeeping operations.

Training Objectives: The specific objectives of the UNSOC are to:

- a. Examine major issues in peacekeeping operations;
- b. Understand UN role and responsibilities in PKO;
- c. Understand the Military Staff Functions and responsibilities in UN peacekeeping missions; and
- d. Conduct operational Level Staff Planning processes for UN peacekeeping operations.

Facilitators/Staff: The instructor staff for the UNSOC consists of three to four SMEs and one senior SME with experience as a staff officer in the field.

Participants: The optimum course size is 30 students. These individuals are identified among GPOI participating countries in the region or worldwide. Participant rank or grade should be equivalent to Captain - Lieutenant Colonel. Previous peacekeeping experience is desirable but not required. Preference should be given to nominees who might potentially be assigned as staff officers in peace-keeping operations.

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