

**11<sup>th</sup> Senior Course on Defence Studies**  
**International Senior Course in Applied Strategy and Defence Diplomacy**  
**(Sep 10- Dec 11, 2026)**

			In-processing	VISIT
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
			Sep. 10	Sep. 11
			In-processing (Orientation, IT, administrative instructions) <u>Ice Breaking</u> (13:00-14:00h)	Visit at the Acropolis Archeological Site & Acropolis Museum

<b>Section 1: Research Methodology, Culture Awareness (RM-CA) &amp; Organizations Orientation (OO)</b>				
Describes the techniques and procedures used to identify and analyze information regarding a specific research topic - Understanding the importance and meaning of cultural awareness and how people acquire their cultures and culture's important role in personal identities and communication in the strategic environment. - The comprehensive information and orientation of NATO and EU				
<i>Research Methodology (RM)</i>	Cultural awareness (CA)			Organizations Orientation (OO)
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Sep. 14	Sep. 15	Sep. 16	Sep. 17	Sep. 18
<u>RM-1</u> Identifying the functions and qualities of academic writing.	<u>CA-1</u> Organizational Culture and Leadership	<u>CA-2</u> Leading in a Multicultural Environment	<u>CA-3</u> Students Country presentations	<u>OO-1</u> NATO Orientation
<b>Section 2: Thucydidean Approach to Applied Strategy (TAAS)</b>				
-Understanding basic concepts related to war, policy, and strategy. -Analyzing and appraising theories regarding the employment of military power both on a strategic and at a high-operational level by utilizing current practices on land, sea, air, cyber, and space operations and examining the elements of states' power (diplomatic, informational, military, economic)				

<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Sep. 21	Sep. 22	Sep. 23	Sep. 24	Sep. 25
<u>TAAS-1</u> Theory, War, and Strategy	<u>TAAS-2</u> Strategic Thinking: A Brief History from Thucydides to Clausewitz	<u>TAAS-3</u> Thucydides And Grand Strategy	<u>TAAS 4</u> The Thucydides Trap applied at the Strategic Level	<u>TAAS 5</u> Sea power (class held at Georgios Averof floating museum)
<b>Section 3a: Strategic Leadership (SL) Cont.</b>				
<p>- Elaborating on the various aspects of classical antiquity by providing students with an appreciation of the uniqueness of strategic leadership orchestrating accumulated knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to lead national security organizations in a national and global strategic environment.</p> <p>- Comprehending the range of conceptualizations of diversity and their relative influence on organizational processes and performance by analyzing the challenges and opportunities associated with the management and leading complex of a demographically diverse organization</p>				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Sep. 28	Sep.29	Sep. 30	Oct.01	Oct.02
<u>SL-1</u> Principles of strategic leadership	<u>SL-2</u> Strategic Leadership: The Essential Skills ( Anticipate, Challenge, Interpret, Decide, Learn)	<u>SL-3</u> Strategic Leadership Culture and Crisis Management	<u>SL-4</u> Senior Leader Communication	<u>SL-5</u> Senior Leader Communication
<b>Section 3b: Strategic Leadership (SL)</b>				
<p>-Elaborating on the various aspects of classical antiquity by providing students with an appreciation of the uniqueness of strategic leadership orchestrating accumulated knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to lead national security organizations in a national and global strategic environment.</p> <p>-Comprehending the range of conceptualizations of diversity and their relative influence on organizational processes and performance by analyzing the challenges and opportunities associated with the management and leading complex of a demographically diverse organization</p>				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Oct. 05	Oct. 06	Oct. 07	Oct. 08	Oct. 09

<u>SL-6</u> Strategic Decision-Making Tools in Strategic Environment (PMESII & SWOT)	<u>SL-7</u> Behavioral Decision Making in the age of AI: Theory	<u>SL-8</u> Behavioral Decision Making in the age of AI: Practice	<u>SL-9</u> Theories: Military Leadership. (War and Ethics, Religion and Military Leadership)	<u>SL-10</u> Theories: Military Leadership. (Charismatic and Transformational Leadership)
<b>Section 4: Introduction to Peace Support Operations (PSO) (Field Study Trip 1)</b>				
This cycle will take place at NATO's Multinational Peace Support Operations Training Center (MPSOTC) in Northern Greece. It will provide basic knowledge about Peacekeeping Operations, policies, and CIMIC Operations (IOs, NGOs and GOs)				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Oct. 12	Oct. 13	Oct. 14	Oct. 15	Oct. 16
Departure from Athens by bus  Visits to Thermopylae, 1 <sup>st</sup> Army HQs and EL.EU HQ  Arrival at Thessaloniki.	<u>PSO 1</u> Peace Building Activities - Introduction to NATO STRATCOM - NATO STRATCOM Policy/Narrative (at the NRDC GRC) MPSOTC Presentation- Hybrid Warfare- CIMIC Ops (at the Supreme Joint War College)	Visit to Rupel's Fort Military Museum	Visit to Archeological Museum of Vergina (Macedonian Royal Tombs)	a. Visit to to Archeological Museum of Thessaloniki  b. Visit to to the War Museum of Thessaloniki (TBC)  Departure from Thessaloniki
<b>Section 5: Strategic Crisis Management (SCM)</b>			<b>Section 6: Critical Thinking in Strategic Studies (CT)</b>	
Broadening learning experience focused on thinking, leading, and communicating at the strategic level. Students will participate in required academic deliverables in persuasive writing, speaking on strategic issues, and providing the best military advice.			--Thinking process and various methods for efficient and effective learning, thinking, and communication.  -Thinking and learning skills in complex/unbounded settings, different approaches to thinking, and knowledge of certain techniques such as comprehension questioning, divergent and convergent thinking, and visualization.	
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21	Oct. 22	Oct. 23

<u>SCM-1</u> Crisis Management /Risk Management	<u>SCM-2</u> Crisis Management /Risk Management_Syndicate work	<u>SCM-3</u> Crisis Management / Syndicate work	<u>CT-1</u> -Principles of Critical Thinking -Leadership and Critical thinking	<u>CT-2</u> -Critical thinking in decision-making
<b>Section 7: Applied International Relations &amp; Foreign Policy (AIR&amp;FP) cont.</b>				
-Acquiring knowledge and understanding of Defence Doctrine, National Strategy, and Foreign Policy concepts and theories. -Being acquainted with issues such as the formulation of National Defence Policy as well as with transnational and contemporary security threats				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Oct. 26	Oct. 27	Oct. 28	Oct. 29	Oct..30
<u>AIR&amp;FP-1</u> The Modern Structure of the International System: UN, NATO (and Global Partners), EU (and CFSP)	<u>AIR&amp;FP-2</u> Aspects of Diplomacy (Economic, Military, Energy) Secessionism-National Minorities	HELLENIC NATIONAL DAY (Official holiday)	<u>AIR&amp;FP-3</u> Issues of National Security: Immigration, Environment, Energy etc.	Visit at the Mycenae, Archaeological sites, and Nafplion
<b>Section 7: Applied International Relations &amp; Foreign Policy (AIR&amp;FP)</b>				<b>Seminar/ Certification</b>
-Acquiring knowledge and understanding of Defence Doctrine, National Strategy, and Foreign Policy concepts and theories. -Being acquainted with issues such as the formulation of National Defence Policy as well as with transnational and contemporary security threats				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Nov.02	Nov.03	Nov.04	Nov.05	Nov.06

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AIR&amp;FP-4</u> International Law of the Sea Exclusive Economic Zone, Maritime Delimitation and Law of the Sea, Search and Resque</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AIR&amp;FP-5</u> The Structure of Peaceful Relations: International Justice System of Settlement of International Disputes Recent Case Law on Palestine /USA, Iran /USA, Ukraine /Russia, Georgia /Russia, Philippines /China, Chagos Islands Opinion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AIR&amp;FP-6</u> General Principles of Foreign Policy, "Soft" vs "Hard" Power, "Smart" Power</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AIR&amp;FP-7</u> Great Power Politics (Russia, China,India)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CYBER Certification (by PLYMOUTH)</p>
<b>Section 8: Defence Diplomacy and Negotiations (DD&amp;N)</b>				
Providing a framework to prepare, conduct, and assess effective negotiations but also to establish firm foundations in understanding diplomatic key concepts by being familiarized with the evolution of Diplomacy through time, diplomatic tools, and practices				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Nov. 9	Nov. 10	Nov. 11	Nov. 12	Nov. 13
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DD-1</u> Areas and Instruments, Roles and Goals, Modes of Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N-1</u> Negotiation's Theory I. Preparation of Negotiations</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N-2</u> Negotiations Theory II: Strategic Conflict Management/ Negotiating Strategies-Tactics</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>N-3</u> DD &amp; Negotiations Theory Synthesis / Role Play and Exercise</p>	Athens War Museum visit
<b>Section 9: Countering the Changing Threat of International Terrorism (CCTIT)</b>				
<p style="text-align: center;">-Examining the phenomenon of international terrorism in the 20th and 21st Centuries -Discuss the various strategies for countering it.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-Imparting deep knowledge about particular terrorist groups, and deploying several concepts to understand their motivation, organization, and evolution.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-Assessing the development of counter-terrorist strategies since the end of the Cold War, charting the emergence of more holistic approaches. The study of terrorism embodies history, psychology, and political science.</p>				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Nov. 16	Nov. 17	Nov. 18	Nov. 19	Nov. 20

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CCTIT-1</u></p> <p>-What is Terrorism? History and Understanding of the Phenomenon of Terrorism. -Terrorist Movements: a Profile of Terrorists and Their Organizations/ Tactics</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CCTIT-2</u></p> <p>-What makes a Terrorist? -Understanding Religious Terrorism -The rise of Al-Qaeda &amp; ISIS -The Strategy of the GWOT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CCTIT-3</u></p> <p>-Addressing Islamic Fundamentalism in the Caucasus: The Russian Government's response to the threat of Terrorism</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CCTIT-4</u></p> <p>-Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) -Future Prospects for Defeating Terrorism: Managing the Threat</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Preparation for CMX (WAR GAMES)</p>
<b>Section 10: Managing Maritime Security Threats (MMST) (Field Study Trip 2)</b>				
<p>This cycle will take place at the NATO Maritime Interdiction Training Centre (NMIOTC) which is located at Chania on the Island of Crete. It aims to introduce students to Maritime Security Operations and the contemporary threats in the maritime environment. It also looks to educate students on the NATO concept, to analyze NATO Operations Legal Aspects, Operational Planning Processes and Briefing Techniques</p>				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Nov. 23	Nov. 24	Nov. 25	Nov. 26	Nov. 27
Departure to Crete	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NMIOTC</u></p> <p>a. NATO Intelligence Cycle of Maritime Security Ops b. The Maritime System -Transnational Organizations -Multinational Responses to Maritime threats c. Evidence collection principles in Maritime Security Operations</p>	<p>Visit to Souda Naval Base</p> <p>Visit to 115 CW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NMIOTC</u></p> <p>NATO's Alliance Policy and decision-making process NATO's Alliance Partnership and Cooperation Programs NATO's Alliance concept Visit to NATO Missile Firing Installation (NAMFI) and Air Defence Center of Excellence</p>	<p>Visit Knossos Archaeological site and museum</p> <p>Visit to Heraklion Archaeological Museum Departure to Athens</p>

<b>Section 11: War Games/ Strategic Exercise</b>				
Exercising to encourage reflection, critical assessment, and consideration of issues that arise in a complex and ambiguous environment. The core courses provide opportunities for critical thinking and reflective learning, often culminating in an end-of-course exercise				
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Nov. 30	Dec. 01	Dec. 02	Dec. 03	Dec. 04
CMX (war game)	CMX (war game)	CMX (war game)	CMX (war game)	CMX (war game)
<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>
Dec. 07	Dec. 08	Dec. 09	Dec. 10	Dec. 11
Major projects' presentations of the students		OVERALL DISCUSSION "THE CURRENT GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION IN MULTIPOLAR WORLD"	Course Conclusive Feedback Preparation/Rehearsal Ceremony Formal Lunch in Athens Officers Club	Graduation Day/Official Ceremony