



COMMON CORE COURSE TO BE REQUIREMENT FOR CAPTAINS' CAREER COURSES

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Captains' Career Common Core Course (C5) will become required for graduation from all branch captains' career courses (CCCs) beginning June 1.

The C5 provides a series of critical skills grounded in leadership, communication, composite risk management, critical reasoning/thinking and developing a positive command climate. The skills are intended to better prepare officers for their next 10 years of service, and the change is in keeping with the Army Chief of Staff's vision to continue transformation of the Army Officer Education System.

The instruction is in a Web-based interactive multimedia format that facilitates self-paced study. Although completion of the C5 is not a requirement to attend a captains' career course, Soldiers may complete the training before beginning the career course.

"This gives students a good basis for the beginning of the CCC

and relieves them of the requirement while they are at the resident phase," said Lieutenant Colonel Shawn M. Maxwell, C5 coordinator at the Center for Army Leadership, Professional Military Education Division.

The curriculum supports preparation of company-grade officers for company command, as well as battalion- and brigade-level staff positions in combined, joint and multinational environments. It provides first lieutenants and captains with a common foundation of operational and leadership instruction tied to the officer's specific career field, branch, and functional area needs, Maxwell said.

First lieutenants and captains may enroll in the C5 via ATRRS. Eligible officers should contact their career manager to determine specific branch requirements. More information is available at the Center for Army Leadership's Army Knowledge Online Web site at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/376783>.

ARMY LAUNCHES WOUNDED SOLDIER, FAMILY HOTLINE

At the direction of the Acting Secretary of the Army and Army Chief of Staff, the Army has opened a Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline (1-800-984-8523). The purpose of the hotline's call center is twofold: to offer wounded and injured Soldiers and family members a way to seek help to resolve medical issues and to provide an information channel of Soldier medically related issues directly to senior Army leadership so they can improve how the Army serves the medical needs of our Soldiers and their families.

Many wounded and injured Soldiers who have supported the global war on terrorism, as well as their families, are enduring hardships in navigating the medical care system. The Army is committed to providing outstanding medical care for the men and women who have volunteered to serve this great nation. Recent events made it clear the Army needs to revise how it meets the needs of our wounded and injured Soldiers and their families. In certain cases, the Soldiers' chain of command could have done a better job in helping to resolve medically related issues.

Leaders in Soldiers' chains of command also need to be aware that this call center exists and that it has not been created to circumvent the chain of command. The hotline is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, but it will eventually expand to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as additional personnel are trained and added to its staff.

DOCTRINE CORNER

The following publications have been published by the U.S. Army in the last three months:

- * **FM 3-21.20**, *The Infantry Battalion*,
- * **FM 3-05.202**, *Special Forces Foreign Internal Defense Operations*,
- * **FM-I 4-93.41**, *Army Field Support Brigade Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures*,
- * **FM 4-20.64**, *Mortuary Affairs Operations*,
- * **FM 3-90.61**, *The Brigade Special Troops Battalion*,
- * **FM-I 2-22.9**, *Open Source Intelligence*,
- * **FM 3-24**, *Counterinsurgency*,
- * **FM 4-20.153**, *Airdrop of Supplies & Equipment: Rigging Ammo*,
- * **FM 3-23.30 (Chg 1)**, *Grenades and Pyrotechnic Signals*,
- * **FM 4-02.43**, *Force Health Protection Support for Army Special Operations Forces*, and
- * **FM 4-20.167**, *Airdrop of Supplies & Equipment: Rigging Tracked Personnel - Cargo Carrier*.

PEO SOLDIER TESTS IMPROVED PARACHUTE SYSTEMS

DEBI DAWSON

Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier is testing a new parachute system that the Army plans to use to replace the system in use since the 1950s. The new parachutes address increased weight requirements and provide additional safety benefits.

Beginning in 2008, all T-10 parachutes, which have been in the Army inventory for more than 50 years, will be replaced with the Advanced Tactical Parachute System (ATPS) T-11. Although the T-10 is a proven system, today's paratroopers face increased requirements beyond the T-10's design.

Paratroopers are required to jump in more equipment than in the 1950s, when the total weight of Soldier, parachute system and combat load averaged 300 pounds. The T-11 is designed to carry a paratrooper with a total jump weight of as much as 400 pounds safely to the ground.

A key safety benefit of the T-11 is a significantly slower rate of descent averaging 18 feet per second, resulting in a 25-percent reduction in impact force over the T-10. The T-11 achieves the slower descent by having a canopy with a 28 percent larger surface area than the T-10, while weighing only seven pounds more. Additionally, the main canopy design results in minimal oscillation after inflation and after lowering the combat load.

Operational testing of the T-11 began in January under the supervision of the Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate and PEO Soldier. It is being tested by XVIII Airborne Corps paratroopers, riggers, and jumpmasters who will make more than 3,200 test jumps from January to October to ensure its suitability for use in mass-tactical, static-line operations.

Lieutenant Colonel John Lemondes, PEO Soldier's Product Manager for Clothing and Individual Equipment, explained that the T-11's reserve parachute is more reliable and much safer than the T-10's. "The T-11 harness improves paratrooper comfort and integration with the parachute and mission equipment. The T-11 main canopy design results in a much smoother deployment sequence, minimizes oscillation and significantly reduces the rate of descent, which will result in many fewer jumper-related injuries. It will ultimately result in more Soldiers available for duty because of fewer injuries."

Under the current fielding plan, the 75th Ranger Regiment, the Rigger School and the Airborne School will receive the T-11 in 2008-2009. The 82nd Airborne Division will receive the new parachute in 2009-2011, and T-10s will be replaced Army-wide by 2014.

Headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, PEO Soldier designs, develops, procures, fields, and sustains virtually everything the Soldier wears or carries. By employing innovative concepts and



Courtesy photo

The T-11 parachute is being tested by XVIII Airborne Corps paratroopers, riggers and jumpmasters who will make more than 3,200 test jumps from January to October 2007.

technologies, PEO Soldier has made great strides in quickly getting improved equipment into the hands of Soldiers, especially those in Iraq and Afghanistan. PEO Soldier headquarters is supported by three Project Managers (PMs). PM Soldier Warrior is responsible for Land Warrior, Air Warrior, and Mounted Warrior. PM Soldier Weapons manages both individual and crew-served weapons. PM Soldier Equipment has purview over Sensors and Lasers, Soldier Survivability and Clothing and Individual Equipment. PM Soldier Equipment is the material developer and program manager for all of the U.S. Army's parachutes and auxiliary parachute equipment.

For more information on PEO Soldier, visit the organization's Web site at <http://www.peosoldier.army.mil>.

(Debi Dawson is a public affairs officer with PEO Soldier's Strategic Communications Office.)

ARMY TO FIELD IMPROVED ARMOR

DEBI DAWSON

The Army continues to upgrade body armor to increase protection from bullets and fragments, and soon will field the Improved Outer Tactical Vest (IOTV) to Soldiers deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The IOTV meets Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier's goals of providing Soldiers with the most advanced protective gear available while also improving comfort and mission effectiveness.

"The IOTV is more than three pounds lighter than the current OTV, but provides an equal level of protection over an increased area," said Brigadier General R. Mark Brown, Program Executive Officer Soldier. "This vest epitomizes our continuous efforts to seek the next improvement and to provide our Soldiers the best body armor available, bar none. It is live-fire tested — we know it will prove itself in combat."

"The weight of the IOTV was reduced by eliminating overlap," said Major Carl Fulmore, assistant product manager for Soldier Survivability. "With the IOTV, we were able to streamline previous improvements."

For example, the vest now has a higher cut in the underarm area, which will eliminate the need to attach the axillary or underarm protector to the current deltoid axillary protector set. The deltoid protector can still be attached at the commander's discretion. The vest's integrated throat protector provides the same protection as the current attachable version, but it's designed to be more comfortable. The now integrated side plate carriers decrease the vest's profile, and a lower back protector extends the vest's coverage by 52 square inches.

The IOTV's numerous improvements go beyond increased protection. A single-stage quick release added to the front of the vest allows a Soldier to doff the IOTV and its attachments with one pull. The vest then



falls to the ground in two pieces and can be put back together in minutes.

"This feature would only be used by Soldiers in emergency situations, such as being trapped in an overturned or submerged vehicle. It's not meant to simply be a quick way to get out of the IOTV at the end of the day or mission," Fulmore said.

Medics could use the quick release to treat wounded Soldiers, or they could use an opening on the left shoulder, which allows easy access while still providing protection to the patient.

Comfort and utility features are also part of the improved design. The most notable may be the IOTV's overhead opening. An internal waistband provides a snug fit and moves much of the weight from the shoulders to the waist.

"This design significantly decreased the vest's profile and should increase mobility. We believe mobility equals survivability," Fulmore said.

Other features include:

- The addition of a long variant to sizes medium through extra large. This extends the size range from eight to 11 and should result in a near-custom fit for Soldiers.
- Additional modular lightweight load-carrying equipment attachments as a result of moving the opening from the front of the vest. These attachments are now in the universal camouflage pattern.
- Enhanced small arms ballistic insert pockets with four inches of vertical adjustability, which will allow for better placement of the plates based on individual body proportions.
- Additional storage pockets.
- A mesh lining to aid ventilation.

Soldiers will continue to use the enhanced small arms protective inserts and the enhanced side ballistic inserts.

(Debi Dawson is a public affairs officer with PEO Soldier's Strategic Communications Office.)

PICATINNY DESIGNS NEW GUNNER ARMOR

PICATINNY ARSENAL
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

The Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center at Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey, has designed a new armor shield that provides much needed protection for HMMWV (high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle) gunners in combat situations.

The Picatinny Objective Gunner Protection Kit (O-GPK) was a joint development by Picatinny engineers and Soldiers recently returned from active duty in Iraq. With more than 2,500 of the systems already being used in theater, the O-GPK is currently in mass production at Army depots, and field-ready kits are arriving in Iraq and Afghanistan on a weekly basis.

"The O-GPK provides significant force protection and situational awareness for the (HMMWV) gunner," said Thomas Kiel, lead designer of the O-GPK. "The system includes a combination of steel and transparent armor that (is) configured to protect our Soldiers against enemy rifle fire and IED blasts."

The O-GPK includes transparent armor windows and rearview mirrors that allow Soldiers to maintain a protected posture while performing mission objectives with full visibility through the windows. The kit is modular and utilizes the existing features of HMMWV design for quick installation onto the overhead turret with no special tools required.



U.S. Army photo
A Picatinny Objective Gunner Protection Kit installed on a HMMWV.

TSMs Transition to TRADOC Capability Managers

In November 2006, the U.S. Army Infantry Center began a transition of its Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Systems Managers (TSMs) to TRADOC Capability Managers (TCMs) in coordination with the Army Capabilities Integration Center (ARCIC). The TSMs were systems-focused and by TRADOC regulation had built-in disestablishment criteria after fielding of a specific system. However, we have learned that the TSMs provided intensive oversight of key Army systems across the Army imperatives of doctrine, organizations, training, materiel, leader development and education, personnel and facilities (DOTMLPF) at very low cost in terms of personnel resources. The TSM system provided a direct user representative link to the materiel developer community, specifically, product managers (PMs) and program executive officers (PEOs). In short, the TSM concept has worked well for key Infantry assigned systems, i.e. Soldier, Bradley, Stryker, Tube Launched Optically Tracked Wire Guided (TOW)/Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS), and Javelin.

As the Army nears the completion of modularity and implements base realignment and closure (BRAC) federal law, it became apparent to both the Infantry and Armor Centers and ARCIC that a different paradigm needed to be established to manage our BCTs across the domains of DOTMLPF and still maintain a direct user link to PMs and PEOs. Conceptually, it was determined that TCMs would not be disestablished and continue to provide intensive DOTMLPF oversight of assigned systems as well modular BCTs. Therefore, in coordination with efforts to establish the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCOE) at Fort Benning, TCM-Heavy Brigade Combat Team, TCM-Stryker, TCM-Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT)/Close Combat Missile Systems (CCMS), TCM-Soldier, and TCM-Combat Identification were established from the existing TSM structures at the Infantry and Armor Centers.

The new paradigm is to intensely manage our BCT formations as well as assigned systems. A major change will especially occur for the IBCT. Whereas TSM-CCMS only provided DOTMLPF oversight of the TOW/ITAS and Javelin systems, TCM-IBCT/CCMS will now provide that oversight as well as DOTMLPF integration for the IBCT. While it is not envisioned that TCM-IBCT/CCMS will be the proponent for all IBCT issues, TCM-IBCT will provide a single point of contact to help resolve key IBCT issues as they arise.

TCM-IBCT/CCMS Mission

The TCM-IBCT/CCMS serves as the MCOE single point of contact to oversee the IBCT as it is properly organized, trained and equipped for success on the battlefield. Performs duties as the Army's centralized manager for all combat developments user

activities associated with the Javelin, ITAS, TOW missile system, and kinetic energy (KE) close combat missile systems.

TCM-IBCT/CCMS is in the process of

conducting an initial DOTMLPF assessment of the IBCT and will brief the Chief of Infantry in third quarter FY 07. We will incorporate input from our active and reserve component IBCTs in this assessment. By the end of March 2007, TCM-IBCT/CCMS will have accomplished the following tasks:

- Write TCM-IBCT campaign plan.
- Finalize charter with ARCIC.
- Educate USAIC, TRADOC and DA agencies and the filed Army concerning TCM-IBCT role.

Throughout the remainder of the year TCM-IBCT/CCMS will:
April-June 2007 —

- Review Directorate of Combat Developments post combat survey and CALL data ... Determine initial IBCT DOTMLPF assessment.

- Conduct DOTMLPF Assessment of IBCT and brief CG in 3QFY07.

- Visit IBCTs to confirm/adjust assessment.
- Develop/Open IBCT Web Portal.

July-December 2007 —

- Establish Integrated Concept Team.
- Coordinate within USAIC and TRADOC to address issues.
- Continue visits to IBCTs.
- Refine DOTMLPF Assessment of IBCT.

IBCTs will comprise 54 percent of the Army (active and reserve components). That equates to 38 of 70 BCTs. It is time that this versatile formation gets the staff oversight that it deserves and requires.



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