National Security and Joint Warfare

History demonstrates that to formulate and implement successful national security policies, senior leaders must be able to wisely employ the four instruments of national power: diplomatic, informational (psychological), military, and economic. It is essential that senior military leaders understand the interplay between these elements so that proper military advice is provided to civilian leadership and a sound military strategy is developed. The National Security and Joint Warfare (NSJW) course is designed to develop an in-depth understanding of both the development of national security strategies and the execution of joint warfare. It begins with a study of the U.S. Constitution and the “American Way of War” and how that translates into our national security organization and the strategies, policies, and products developed in that system. The course focuses on the national security decision-making process, joint warfare, and the role of the military in national security. NSJW takes advantage of the College’s proximity to the NCR by traveling to the Pentagon, the State Department, Service and Interagency Headquarters, Capitol Hill, and various think tanks to discuss topical issues with senior civilian, military, and government leaders. Finally, the course includes a trip to designated CONUS-based Combatant Commands and the use of case studies and exercises, including the capstone JLASS exercise.

National Security and Joint Warfare (NSJW) Learning Outcomes:

- Analyze the principal contributors to national security policy and their relationships.
- Evaluate the formal governmental processes that contribute to the development of national security and defense policy.
- Apply joint and service warfare concepts and doctrine to strategic and operational planning.
- Evaluate the impact of current issues on national defense policy.