



U.S. AIR FORCE



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INTER-AMERICAN AIR FORCES ACADEMY (IAAFA)



Inter-American Squadron Officer School (ISOS)



Professional Military Education (PME) is designed to help officers acquire the management and leadership skills they will need to be successful at each step of their careers.

PME provides the nation personnel with the ability and the knowledge of the employment of air, space and cyber power. It also provides the ability to make sound decisions within their leadership responsibilities throughout their career. Finally, it develops strategic thinkers/warriors and provides the tools necessary to become the future leaders of an institution.

Air University has partnered with IAAFA to provide its primary development education curriculum and turn it into an international course.



Course Description

The Inter-American Squadron Officer School is equivalent to the Squadron Officer School given by the Air University at Maxwell AFB. It has been translated into Spanish and adapted to be taught to Latin American and US Captains that possess the language capabilities. It is an 8 week course comprised of VI blocks with 260 contact hours. A mobile course is also available comprised of 6 weeks with 210 contact hours.

During this period of time, the students are taught the principles of leadership, followership, and the fundamentals of team integration throughout different lessons, seminars, and exercises that promote teambuilding concepts and esprit de corps.

The course has full Air University accreditation for Primary Development Education and is offered three times a year at IAAFA. This course is also offered mobile in a 6-week training course.

Throughout the course the students have multiple experiences such as the mil-to-mil engagement that helps to build or strengthen partner nation cooperation among Latin American and US Armed Forces .



BLOCK I Profession of Arms

Officers build upon their understanding of moral and ethical development by applying key concepts of accountability and professionalism to the challenges and opportunities inherent in leadership. Officers will analyze case studies to grasp the unique but vital relationship that binds the military in obedience to its civilian leadership and in defense of the civilian public. They will also integrate personal and professional values consistent with the highest standards of conduct expected of military officers.



BLOCK II Warfare Studies

Emphasis at the primary level is on the application of the military as a national instrument of power (IOP). Officers should understand their Service's roles, missions, distinctive capabilities, core competencies and structures both in the context of history and the joint operations that they may be called on to support. Officers should also have a working knowledge of the capabilities of sister-Services in order to better support the joint warfighting team.



BLOCK III Leadership and Management

Focuses on the tactical level to provide tools officers need to build and lead small teams and serve as dynamic followers. The focus at the primary level should be on the dynamics of the interaction between individual leadership skills and group interaction in building successful teams. Instruction should be focused on concepts and philosophies officers can use to improve individual leadership skills, adjust leadership styles to the situation, accomplish assigned tasks, and employ followers' abilities effectively. Opportunities are provided for officers to apply the leadership skills and techniques they have learned.



BLOCK IV International Security Studies

It focuses on aspects of national and international security affairs that provide the broad context within which junior officers and their superiors must operate. Special attention is paid to those national and international security topics that most affect an officer's ability to lead and follow, to communicate, and to understand what it really means to be an Airman in today's globalized environment.



BLOCK V Communication Studies

Provides opportunities to apply the principles of effective communication and receive feedback. Special attention is given to those listening, speaking, writing and the interpersonal communication instrumental in team building. Interpersonal communications emphasize maximizing the potential of individual as a part of a team. Officers learn to create and deliver organized, well-reasoned and well-supported arguments via the spoken and written word.

BLOCK VI Extracurricular Activities (BPC)

Officers will have the opportunity to executed combined exercises with students from the Inter-American Airman Leadership School to reemphasize the importance of trust between both parties in order to effectively complete a mission. Also, as part of IAAFA's Field Studies Program (FSP), officers will have an opportunity to have a profound cultural immersion on partner nations and in particular the United States.

