

FCCC Course Overview

1. PURPOSE: We have multiple objectives during this course. The 20 week FCCC is designed to be graduate level education for the finance company grade officer. Although some instruction is in traditional instructor to student format, much of the course is geared toward group projects to enhance officer development through sharing of ideas with peers under the mentorship and direction of a course director. Additionally, the course is taught in a classroom XXI. All students will have their own computer in a state of the art classroom. Although not all encompassing, the following areas are stressed throughout the course:

- a. Leadership: Review the traits of a good leader and how these traits apply to us.

- b. Tactical: Study the current Finance Doctrine, apply the doctrine during the STXs/FTX, review technical and combat skills needed for our wartime mission, and practice these skills hands on during the capstone FTX. We have integrated the warrior ethos and contemporary operating environment in to our tactical training. Students can expect to review lessons learned from OIF/OEF as they apply to tactical training.

- c. Technical: Review the sections in a finance office from a supervisor's perspective, study special areas like resource management and accounting, and practice briefing techniques.

- d. Peers: Meet, discuss ideas, and share experiences with fellow finance officers (both International and U.S.).

- e. Briefing and Writing: There are multiple assignments and training events that teach, apply, and test the briefing and writing skills of students.

- f. Preparation for Detachment Command: Much of the course is geared toward providing students will tools and abilities they can use during command.

2. MAJOR EVENTS: The following major events will occur during the course:

a. Academic/Professional Development:

- (1) Branch Assignments Visit.
- (2) Kennesaw Mountain Staff Ride.
- (3) Three Week FTX.
- (4) Battle Analysis Presentation.
- (5) Combined Arms Exercise.

(6) Joint and Finance Organizational Briefings.

(7) Training Management.

b. Socials:

(1) FCCC Officer and Spouses Hail or icebreaker (casual).

(2) Columbia, SC Chamber of Commerce Reception (coat & tie/cocktail dress).

(3) Dining Out or Regimental Banquet (dress blues).

(4) Class dinner (casual).

(5) Class breakfasts and officer calls (duty).

3. SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION (SGI):

a. The Finance School adopted the SGI teaching concept in 1987. Small group instruction is a learning technique which provides a small team environment for students to informally discuss the lesson objectives in a planned and purposeful manner. This kind of instruction limits lecture style presentations and concentrates on group experiences and discussion.

b. Under SGI the class is divided into teams ranging from 12 to 16 officers per team. For our purposes we use SGI during approximately one-half of the technical and leadership training. In order for SGI to be successful, each officer must share his or her experiences and ideas with the team.

c. The small group leader (SGL) serves as teacher, coach, counselor, and evaluator of the small group of students. The SGL's goal is to establish a close working relationship with the FCCC students by sharing his/her knowledge, experience, and values to guide students toward achieving specific course goals and objectives.

d. The teaching strategy of the SGLs relies on intensive hands-on experience that challenges each student to think creatively and make decisions under pressure. The SGLs are responsible for student professional growth in the areas of leadership, problem solving, coordination, communicating, and understanding Finance organizations and functions. During Team Leader Orientation your team leader will further explain SGI.

4. GRADING PLAN:

a. You must achieve an 80% on all test subjects. (International officers must achieve a 70% average.) A failing score in any subject area (allowed one retest per area) can be grounds for dismissal from the course.

b. You must achieve a satisfactory grade in written and oral communicative skills. You will also be required to demonstrate proficiency through other written and oral assignments that are assigned.

5. **CLASS SCHEDULE:** The schedule encourages the officer to manage time efficiently. A typical academic day begins at 0550 and ends between 1630-1730. During an average week, a student can expect to have homework at least three week nights and over the weekend. Students must plan the use of time to balance the demands of FCCC and the need for rest and recreation.

6. OFFICER EVALUATION:

a. The Course Director prepares the Academic Evaluation Report (AER) at the end of the course. Although academics are important, we stress the total officer concept, which includes other areas such as: teamwork, physical fitness, leadership, technical and tactical competence, interpersonal skills, time management, and oral/written communication. You must meet the following minimum standards in order to qualify for the EXCEEDED COURSE STANDARDS block on the DA Form 1059 Service School Academic Evaluation Report (AER):

(1) Academics: 90% average (must pass all tests first time).

(2) Final APFT: 270 points (with a minimum of 90 for each event).

(3) AER: Have at least three "superior" ratings marked in block 14 of DA Form 1059. LEADERSHIP SKILLS must be one of the superior ratings.

(4) Must meet the height/weight standards IAW AR 600-9.

(5) Performance/behavior free of any display of unprofessional conduct.

b. Not more than 20% of the class can receive "EXCEEDED COURSE STANDARDS."

7. RECOGNITION:

- a. LTC Lewis L. Hawkins Award: Awarded to the officer demonstrating the greatest level of professionalism in the eyes of peers and team leaders. Criteria include leadership, academic excellence, physical fitness, examinations, interpersonal and communicative skills.
- b. APFT Recognition: Officer receives a physical fitness badge and a Commandant's Coin for a score of 300.
- c. Physical Excellence Award: Awarded to the officer with the highest APFT score, as determined by the extended table.
- d. Academic Honor Graduate Award: Awarded to the officer with the highest academic average at the conclusion of the course.
- e. Combined Armed Services Command (CASCOM) Award: Awarded to the officer demonstrating the most outstanding leadership attributes, as determined by peers and the Course Director. (The Hawkins Award recipient is not eligible for this award).