

Dr. Jacqueline Whitt , USAWC professor fills a gap in scholarship with her book chapter, answering social/cultural questions about serving in the military

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Dr. Jacqueline Whitt, USAWC professor, fills a gap in military scholarship with her book chapter *Willing and Qualified: Social and Cultural Considerations and the Generation of Landpower in the Global War on Terrorism*

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Answering social and cultural questions about what it means to be qualified to serve in the military, Dr. Jacqueline Whitt, Army War College professor, fills a gap in scholarship.

“A lot has been written on joint warfighting, specific organizational structures, different tactical and operational approaches,” said Whitt. “I wanted to come at it from a different point of view.”

In her book chapter, “Willing and Qualified: Social and Cultural Considerations and the Generation of Landpower in the Global War on Terrorism,” Whitt examined social and cultural considerations the Army and Marine Corps applied to staff the global war on terror.

The chapter looks at three groups of people—women, LGBTQ individuals, and non-U.S. citizens—and how policy over the last 20 years has impacted their ability to serve, explained Whitt. The book chapter was selected for the USAWC Madigan Award—the Excellence in Scholarship Award—was published in 2019 in *Landpower and the Long War: Projecting Force after 9/11*.

“It is meaningful to me, in part, because it recognizes that the purview and mandate of the Army War College are not simply to talk about things that are related to weapon systems or technical details or organizational details necessarily. [T]he social and cultural implications of the ways militaries are organized, who serve in them, and under what terms people get to serve or are excluded from that service are actually quite fundamental to leadership at senior level,” she said.

“These elements are especially important for leaders who are going to lead

a diverse force to understand the origins of [policies] and the policy implications for different choices made about personnel,” said Whitt.

While teaching at the Air War College, 2012-2016, Whitt discovered that senior officers were also interested in exploring these same questions.

Whitt balances multiple responsibilities—teaching the core course, War Policy, and National Security, and the elective Great Books for Senior Leaders. She is the Editor in Chief of the War Room, a multimedia forum for Army War College students and faculty to publish informed insights about national security and defense.

Currently on sabbatical, Whitt is at the Office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, drafting public diplomacy doctrine and standing up an organizational learning team to conduct training based on effective public diplomacy.

Whitt drew a parallel between public diplomacy and the Army War College International Fellows program’s ability to promote understanding of American culture and US policies. For public policy, however, the work is on a global scale and in a different context, said Whitt.

Whitt holds a B.A. in History and International Studies from Hollins University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in History from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.