

USAWC class of 2012 start their class year

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Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin, USAWC Commandant, shakes hands with a member of the Army War College Class of 2012 in Bliss Hall Aug. 1. Martin and other college and post leadership spoke to the students and spouses for the first time as a group. Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos.

Aug. 1, 2011 – The Army War College Class of 2012 started their year of personal and professional development with a welcome by college leadership in Bliss Hall Aug.1.

Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin, USAWC commandant, welcomed the 367 students in the class and urged them to take full advantage of their time here.

“Welcome and thank you for your service,” said Martin. “I was in your shoes about a dozen years ago and I can tell you that this will be a foundational experience for the rest of your career.

“You each have a tremendous amount of experience. We need you to make a difference for our nation. What you learn here is what you will need to be successful at the strategic level.”

Martin provided some advice to the students on ways to gain the most from their 10-month program.

- Develop yourself personally and professionally
- Embrace and engage the experience
- Expand and develop your mind
- Assess yourself holistically, allow yourself to get healthy and fit as you can
- Invest in your families

- Invest in your relationships

Martin said that the students needed to prioritize this lives during their time here in order to maximize the experience.

“Create and craft your own journey. Figure out what you want to gain from this experience and develop a plan to get there,” he said. “Invest in yourself and use all of the resources of the Army War College.”

Members of the class said they were ready for the experience.

“This is a great opportunity, I’m honored to be here,” said **Lt. Col. John Box**. “I hope this year allows me to build on my experience and how I can learn from my seminar mates.”

“I’m anxious to learn from the viewpoint of the international students in the class,” said **Lt. Col. Rodney Garfield**. “I think they will provide a valuable perspective to some of the challenges we face.”

“I’ve heard great things about this college from previous students,” said **Lt. Col. Jeffrey Jarosz**. “I can’t wait to get started.”

Opening Ceremony Aug. 5

The USAWC year will officially kick off with an Opening Ceremony Friday, Aug. 5 at 4 p.m. here on Indian Field.

Class of 2012 breakdown

The U.S. Army War College Class of 2012 consists of 368 students, which include 210 Army (includes Reserve and Guard); 32 Air Force (includes Reserve and Guard); 15 Navy (includes Reserve); 18 Marine Corps (includes Reserve); and one Coast Guard officer. U.S. military officers are board selected and typically have approximately 20 years of service, having reached the rank of lieutenant colonel or colonel.

25 civilians from the Defense Department, the Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of the Army, Department of State, the National Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and the Veterans’ Administration are also in attendance.

Rounding out the class are 67 International Fellows, senior military officers representing Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Germany, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Yemen and Zambia.

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