

# USAHEC program offers leadership development for Special Forces

*Michael Lynch, US Army Heritage and Education Center*

## USAHEC program offers leadership development for Special Forces

**Special Forces warrant officers participate in a Gettysburg Battlefield staff ride as part of the USAHEC program in leadership development and Special Forces heritage education. (Courtesy photo)**



The U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) continues to support the Warrant Officer Institute of the Army's John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

Students from two separate courses, the Special Forces Tactical and Technical course and the Special Forces Warrant Officer Advanced

Course, travel to Carlisle and USAHEC as part of their training. The Tactical and Technical Course combines students from both the Warrant Officer Candidate School and the Warrant Officer Basic Course into one sequence of instruction.

Since its first visit here in 2009, the program has grown into a three-day USAHEC educational event, focused on leadership development and Special Forces heritage education.

The Center uses its Army Heritage Trail as an interactive venue for understanding American military history by focusing on the unconventional warfare practiced during each period represented by the trail exhibits. Firearms curator Brandon Wiegand uses the USAHEC historic weapons collection to present a description of the development of weapons technology throughout history. The course concludes with a day-long staff ride to Gettysburg.

USAHEC support to the Special Forces Warrant Officer Advanced Course includes a seminar on counterinsurgency, peacekeeping, and special forces history and culture, presented by USAHEC,

Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute and Strategic Studies Institute staff.

Classes begin with an overview of COIN doctrine, presented by Dr. Conrad C. Crane, director of the Military History Institute here and conclude with a roundtable discussion led by Dr. Henry Gole, retired Army colonel, on the history of Special Forces, its relevance today, and the future role of the Special Forces Warrant Officer.

The final piece of the three-day event focuses on senior level leadership and decision making during a day-long staff ride to the Gettysburg Battlefield.

USAHEC support of Special Forces Warrant Officer training is one of several training and education opportunities for active, Army Reserve and Army National Guard soldiers. The center has provided history-based training for the Army Recruiting Command, Military History Detachments, and ROTC units from area universities.

U.S. Army War College Archives - News Article - 31 January 2012