

## Commandant welcomes Second Resident Course

By Curt Keester 16 July 2018



*The Army War College Distance Education Program Class of 2018 welcomed former Homeland Security Advisor, Tom Bossert, as he delivered his opening keynote address of the Second Resident Course in Bliss Hall July 16.*

*Culminating in their graduation July 27, 2018, strategic studies students will spend two weeks listening to guest lectures, experts in their fields and debating topics of strategic leadership, national security strategy and civil-military relations.*

**CARLISLE, Pa. (July 17, 2018)** – Complimenting two years of distance learning, and culminating in their graduation, July 27, strategic studies students will spend two weeks listening to guest lectures and debating topics of strategic leadership, national security strategy and civil-military relations.

Army War College Commandant, Maj. Gen. John Kem, welcomed the 372 students of the Distance Education Program Class of 2018 back to Carlisle Barracks for the beginning of their Second Resident Course in Bliss Hall July 16. Kem's lecture opened the students' two-week capstone event that marks the end of their two-year journey toward a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies.

"It is not for the faint of heart, it's rigorous, it's hard," said Kem of the

Distance Education Program. “That is why you all have done a great job getting to this point. One of the most valuable parts is this ability to come together at the end, and bring all that you have done together, share it in class and synthesize.”

Kem challenged the students to go back to the Army, joint forces, civilian agencies, and ally and partner nations and make a difference through the lessons they have learned at the Army War College. As leaders, making the leap to the strategic realm the students will have a greater ability to influence decision-making and policy he said.

Following Kem's remarks Tom Bossert, former Homeland Security Advisor, delivered a keynote address to the Second Resident Course. Bossert discussed protecting America and counter terrorism actions at the National Security Council during his remarks.