



JOINT AIR OPERATIONS

JO 5510 SYLLABUS

AY 26

**JOINT PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION PHASE I INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
COURSE**

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
AIR COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE
Twenty-First Century Leaders for Twenty-First Century Challenges**

**AIR COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE
MAXWELL AFB, AL**

FOREWORD

This syllabus for the *Joint Air Operations* course for the Air Command and Staff College, Academic Year 2026 (September-October 2025), provides both an overview of the course narrative, objectives, and questions, as well as a detailed description of each lesson to assist students in their reading and preparation for lecture and seminar. Included herein is information about course methods of evaluation, schedule, and the fulfillment of joint professional military education core goals.

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JOINT AIR OPERATIONS (JO) COURSE OVERVIEW

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Air Command and Staff College (ACSC) aims to produce air-minded graduates and advocates who demonstrate critical analysis and persuasive communication about airpower and operational problem solving. This course equips students with the knowledge required to effectively foster and incorporate airpower thinking into joint operations.

To ensure those operations succeed, the Air Force Future Operating Concept (AFFOC) identified “Six Fights.” These are:

1. The fight to compete with and deter
2. The fight to get into theater
3. The fight to get airborne
4. The fight for air superiority
5. The fight to deny adversary objectives
6. The fight to sustain

The ability to win these fights will not occur in a vacuum. Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and interagency partners, working as a part of the joint force, need to expand their skills outside of their areas of technical expertise to engage in these fights simultaneously.

To this end, the Joint Air Operations (JO) course supports the ACSC curriculum goal of developing air mindedness to counter contemporary threats and achieve victory within and beyond the air domain. The JO course introduces officers and civilians to the fundamental concepts, functions, capabilities, organization, and application of airpower. The course provides students with a baseline understanding of airpower, introducing and reinforcing information through three blocks of instruction. These blocks of instruction address:

1. Airpower Fundamentals – key concepts necessary for understanding the use of airpower
2. Joint Integration – how airpower supports and is supported by the Joint Force
3. Airpower Application – how to effectively exploit airpower at the operational level of war.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Through the study of Air Force and Joint Doctrine, case studies, lectures, and instructor-led discussion, students will:

1. Understand US airpower fundamentals.
2. Understand how airpower contributes to the joint functions at the operational level.
3. Apply airpower to address contemporary threats.

COURSE MAP

Contemporary national security challenges call for a common understanding of and proficiency with airpower concepts. The JO course builds upon concepts introduced in the *Foundations of*

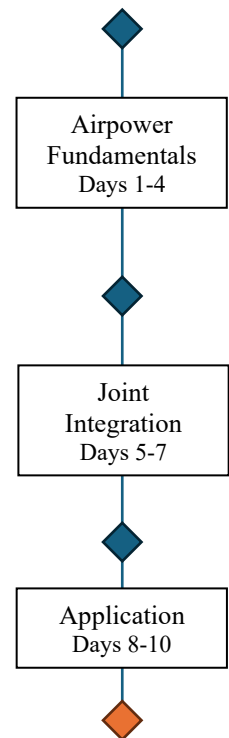
Military Theory and Leadership and the Profession of Arms courses and sets the tone for the broader ACSC curriculum.

The Joint Airpower Fundamentals course is divided into three phases:

Phase 1 – Airpower Fundamentals (Days 1-4): The course begins with a focus on baseline knowledge: the Airman’s perspective; airpower’s core functions; and service-specific airpower capabilities. This phase also considers Great Power Competition, examining threats posed by the People’s Republic of China and Russia and recalling Chinese and Russian military theory.

Phase 2 – Joint Airpower Integration (Days 5-7): Building on foundational concepts introduced in Phase 1, Phase 2 goes on to address how airpower integrates with the Joint Force. This phase focuses on familiarization with the joint functions and the unique relationship airpower has to them, doctrinal command relationships and authorities, and how the US Military services present forces to a Joint Force Commander.

Phase 3 – Joint Airpower Application (Days 8-10): Phase 3 concludes the course with a focus on the application of airpower. This phase provides an introduction to the Air Operations Center (AOC) – including its structure, processes, and products – while asking students to apply airpower concepts key to an air operation. Phase 3 also explores the Joint Planning Process for Air (JPPA), addressing how familiarity with the JPPA supports advancement through subsequent courses in the ACSC curriculum.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. JO-600 (E): CASE STUDY PRESENTATION

Course Instructors (CIs) will assign seminars into groups of two or three students. Each group will be assigned a historical case-study to research and present their findings to the class. Presentation will include a short summary of the historical event, explaining how the event relates to the joint functions and how it ties into the “Six Fights.” Each student presentation will be followed by a five-minute question/answer/discussion period led by the CI. This assignment is worth **30 percent** of the final JO 5510 grade and will be graded as a group. The presentation will be during seminar on Day 6, 25 September 2025.

2. JO-601 (E): AIRMEN’S PERSPECTIVE ESSAY

Write a three-page (double-spaced) essay answering the prompt that will be released on Day 1 (18 September 2025) of the course. This assignment is worth **40 percent** of the final JO 5510 grade. The essay is due at 1700 on 1 October 2025.

3. JO-602 (C): CLASS CONTRIBUTION

Each student is expected to attend lectures and seminars, read the assigned texts, participate in class exercises, and contribute to seminar discussions. Contribution is worth **30 percent** of the final JO 5510 grade.

COURSE MATERIALS

There are no required books for the JO Course. All readings will be provided digitally via Teams or are available via hyperlink.

Complete versions of Joint Publications and other doctrinal resources are available for access and download from the Joint Doctrine website: <http://www.jcs.mil/Doctrine/Joint-Doctrine-Pubs/>

Unclassified but restricted publications are available via CAC access to the Joint Electronic Library (JEL+) website: <https://jdeis.js.mil/jdeis/generic.jsp>

Complete versions of US Air Force Doctrine can be found at the Air Force Doctrine website: <https://www.doctrine.af.mil/>

JOINT AIR OPERATIONS (JO) SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Phase 1: Airpower Fundamentals

DAY 1 – THE AIRMAN’S PERSPECTIVE AND TENETS OF AIRPOWER

DATE: 18 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the purpose, organization, and methods of evaluation of the Joint Air Operations course.
2. Understand the perspective of “The Airman” as described by USAF doctrine.
3. Understand the Tenets of Airpower and how they relate the “Six Fights” listed in the USAF future operating concept.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-500 (L): Introduction to the Joint Airpower Fundamentals Course. This lecture will introduce the purpose, structure, organization, calendar, and deliverables of the JO course.

CONTACT HOURS: 30-minute lecture

JO-501 (L): The Airman’s Perspective. This lecture examines the “Airman’s Perspective,” its distinguishing features, and its differences from other Services’ views on warfighting.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour lecture

JO-502 (L): The Tenets of Airpower / United States Air Force Capabilities. This lecture surveys the Tenets of Airpower, asking students to consider how they might prove advantageous in the “Six Fights.” It also provides an overview of US Air Force capabilities, limitations, and force presentation, using vignettes to illustrate how the Air Force employs forces and executes missions.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 20-minute lecture

REQUIRED READINGS (75 Pages)

(Readings will be discussed in Seminar on Day 2)

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 1, *The Air Force*. 10 March 2021, 1-3, 6-16. [EL]
2. Field Manual (FM) 100-20, *Command and Employment of Air Power*, 21 July 1943, 1-3. [EL]
3. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0, *Operations*, 22 January 2025, 11-18, 20-24 (skim Six Fights and ACE). [EL]
4. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-01, *Counterair Operations*, 15 June 2023, 25-29. [EL]
5. Joint Publication (JP) 3-01, *Countering Air and Missile Threats*, 6 April 2023 (inc. ch1 13 March 2024), IV-12–IV-13, IV-16–IV-18. [EL]
6. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-03, *Counterland Operations*, 31 October 2024, 24-25, 30-35. [EL]

7. Todd R. Phinney, *Airpower versus Terrorism. Three Case Studies*, (Maxwell AFB, AL: Air University Press, March 2007), 9-20. [EL]
8. Amy Hudson, "Saving Outpost Keating," *Air Force Magazine* 93, no. 10 (October 2010), <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/article/1010keating/>. [EL]
9. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-02, *Strategic Attack*, 4 August 2025, 1-6. [EL]
10. *Air Force Future Operating Concept Executive Summary*, 6 March 2023. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 1, *The Air Force*. 10 March 2021, 1-3, 6-16.
2. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0, *Operations*, 22 January 2025, 11-18, 20-24.
3. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-01, *Counterair Operations*, 15 June 2023, 25-29.
4. Joint Publication (JP) 3-01, *Countering Air and Missile Threats*, 6 April 2023 (inc. ch1 13 March 2024), IV-12–IV-13, IV-16–IV-18.
5. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-03, *Counterland Operations*, 31 October 2024, 24-25, 30-35.
6. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-02, *Strategic Attack*, 4 August 2025, 1-6.

DAY 2 – AIRPOWER FUNCTIONS AND CAPABILITIES

DATE: 19 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand air superiority missions, including offensive counter air, defensive counter air, and integrated air and missile defense.
2. Understand global precision attack missions, including strategic attack, air interdiction, and close air support.
3. Understand rapid global mobility missions, including airlift, air refueling, and aeromedical evacuation.
4. Understand how global ISR uses targeting and airborne ISR to achieve effects across the physical domains.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-503 (S): Airpower Core Functions: Air Superiority. This seminar uses a case study to assess air superiority, its importance to modern fighting forces, and the types of missions required for gaining air superiority and denying an adversary the same.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

JO-504 (S): Airpower Core Functions: Global Precision Attack. This seminar defines global precision attack, surveys its different associated missions, then explores how the joint force accomplishes them.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

JO-505 (S): Airpower Core Functions: Rapid Global Mobility. Airpower is uniquely suited for moving material, equipment, and people quickly and over great distances. This seminar examines rapid global mobility, revealing how it can be a force multiplier when properly executed.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

JO-506 (S): Airpower Core Functions: Global ISR. This seminar defines global ISR, and examines its role with respect to the collection, analysis, processing, and dissemination of meaningful data to the joint force.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

REQUIRED READINGS (70 Pages)

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-36, *Air Mobility*, 24 June 2024, 1-22. [EL]
2. Joint Publication (JP) 3-36, *Joint Air Mobility and Sealift Operations*, 4 January 2021, IV-1–IV-4. [EL]
3. Charles Pope, “One year later, historic Afghan airlift inspires pride and reflection across the Air Force,” Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs, 30 August 2022, <https://www.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/3144426/one-year-later-historic-afghan-airlift-inspires-pride-and-reflection-across-the/>. [EL]
4. Derek M. Salmi, *Behind the Light Switch. Toward a Theory of Air Mobility*, (Maxwell Air Force Base, AL: Air University Press, August 2020), 157-172. [EL]
5. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 2-0, *Intelligence*, 1 June 2023, 1-4, 26-32. [EL]

6. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-60, *Targeting*, 12 November 2021, 19-32. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-36, *Air Mobility*, 24 June 2024, 1-22.
2. Joint Publication (JP) 3-36, *Joint Air Mobility and Sealift Operations*, 4 January 2021, IV-1–IV-4.
3. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 2-0, *Intelligence*, 1 June 2023, 1-4, 26-32.
4. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-60, *Targeting*, 12 November 2021, 19-32.

DAY 3 – AIRPOWER FUNCTIONS AND CAPABILITIES (cont.)

DATE: 22 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand Command and Control missions and roles, including battle management, Area Air Defense Commander, and the Airspace Control Authority.
2. Understand how airpower missions outside the Airpower Core Functions – personnel recovery, special operations forces (SOF), and antisubmarine warfare (ASW) – impact joint operations.
3. Understand US Navy, US Army, and US Marine Corps aviation and air defense force organization, warfighting perspectives, and unique airpower contributions.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-507 (S): Airpower Core Functions: Command and Control (C2). This seminar considers C2 in relation to the effectiveness of joint operations, mission command, and battle management. It further surveys the nodes inherent in command and control of the air.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

JO-508 (S): Airpower Core Functions: Other Airpower Missions. While most missions flown by the joint force fall under the Airpower Core Functions defined by the USAF, some do not. This seminar will discuss those missions, why and how they differ from USAF-designated missions, and why they are key to the Joint Force.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

JO-509 (S): US Naval Aviation and Air Defense. This seminar continues the discussion of joint air operation fundamentals, focusing on US Navy (USN) air capabilities and operations.

CONTACT HOURS: 30-minute seminar

JO-510 (S): US Army Aviation and Air Defense. This seminar continues the discussion of joint air operation fundamentals, focusing on US Army (USA) air capabilities and operations.

CONTACT HOURS: 30-minute seminar

JO-511 (S): US Marine Corps Aviation. This seminar continues the discussion of joint air operation fundamentals, focusing on the US Marine Corps (USMC) air capabilities and operations.

CONTACT HOURS: 30-minute seminar

JO-512 (L): Joint Airpower Capabilities. This lecture focuses on the command and control of joint air operations and how the Joint Force integrates air capabilities to generate and exploit access, maneuvers, and effects using airpower.

CONTACT HOURS: 45-minute lecture

REQUIRED READINGS (97 pages)

1. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, II-1–II-7. [EL]
2. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-01, *Counterair Operations*, 15 June 2023, 9-15. [EL]

3. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0.1, *Command and Control*, 22 January 2025, 4-8. [EL]
4. Air Command and Staff College, Department of Joint Warfighting, *Joint Warfighting Capabilities Primer*, (2024), 46-47, 59-63, 65-66, 68-71, 121-144, 151-152. [EL]
5. Fighter Pilot Podcast, *Combat Search & Rescue in the Navy (ep. 193)*, 14 June 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD3Dz2YdiuQ>. [Accessed via website only] timestamp 34:50-43:51 (9 minutes).
6. Jason Lancaster, "Close the Gaps! Airborne ASW Yesterday and Tomorrow" *Center for International Maritime Security*, 2 June 2021, <https://cimsec.org/close-the-gaps-airborne-asw-yesterday-and-tomorrow/>. [EL]
7. Parth Satam, "35 Years Later, Retired AC-130H Spectre Crews Recount the Action from 1989's 'Operation Just Cause' in Panama," *The Aviationist*, 23 December 2024, <https://theaviationist.com/2024/12/23/operation-just-cause-ac-130-memories/>. [Accessed via website only]
8. Benjamin S. Lambeth, "Air Force-Navy Integration in Strike Warfare," *Naval War College Review* 61, no. 1 (Winter 2008), Article 4, <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol61/iss1/4>. [EL]
9. Michael A. Hanson, "Grenada, 1983 Operation Urgent Fury," *Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines* 105, no. 10 (October 2022), 26-32. [EL]
10. Clarence A. Robinson Jr., "Gulf War: Apache Raid," *Defense Media Network*, 2 February 2011, <https://www.defensemedianetwork.com/stories/gulf-war-apache-raid/>. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, II-1–II-7.
2. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-01, *Counterair Operations*, 15 June 2023, 9-15.
3. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0.1, *Command and Control*, 22 January 2025, 4-8.

DAY 4 – ADVERSARY CAPABILITIES

DATE: 23 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the capabilities of the China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) and how they could impact US joint and allied options for achieving effects at the operational level of war.
2. Understand the capabilities of the Russian Federation and how they could impact US joint and allied options for achieving effects at the operational level of war.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-513 (L): China's People's Liberation Army Capabilities. This lecture explores the PLA's transformation from a middling force to the United States's pacing threat, specifically in air forces.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute lecture

JO-514 (L): Russian Federation Capabilities. This lecture examines contemporary Russian weapons systems and air capabilities as well as legacy Soviet systems and capabilities that are widely proliferated around the world.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute lecture

REQUIRED READINGS (55 Pages)

1. China Aerospace Studies Institute, *PLA Aerospace Power: A Primer on Trends in China's Military Air, Space, and Missile Force*, (Montgomery, AL: China Aerospace Studies Institute, 2024), 6-47, 57-69. [EL] (skim 27-47 and 57-69)
2. China Aerospace Studies Institute, "Competition with China: The PLA Air Force," youtube video, 28:12, 4 February 2022, <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/CASI/Display/Article/2915084/competition-with-china-the-pla-air-force/>. [Accessed via website only]
3. China Aerospace Studies Institute, "Competition with China: PLA Rocket Force," youtube video, 29:59, 22 May 2023 <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/CASI/Display/Article/3367283/competition-with-china-pla-rocket-force/>. [Accessed via website only]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

Phase 2 – Joint Airpower Integration

DAY 5 – AIRPOWER IN JOINT FUNCTIONS

DATE: 24 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand how joint airpower relates to and enables the joint functions in US military planning and execution.
2. Understand the role of operational protection with respect to adversary threats.
3. Understand how intelligence is collected, disseminated and used by US military air forces.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-515 (S): Operational Protection – Air. This seminar discusses different aspects of operational protection for air forces especially looking at the threats adversary air assets present to them.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-516 (L): Intel in Air Operations. This lecture will look at the six-step process and apply it specifically to air operations. It will focus specifically on how air forces plan for and collect intelligence and how air forces use the intelligence in subsequent mission and operations.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour lecture

JO-517 (L): Airpower Perspectives. Colonel Warden’s lecture discusses how the use of airpower can directly influence all levels of war and how this use shapes the perspective of the warfighter. This lecture will reinforce lessons from the Foundations of Military Theory course regarding the foundations of airpower theory and war in the air domain.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute lecture

JO-518 (S): Fires – Air. This seminar looks at fires from the air perspective. This includes how they are planned, how they are achieved, and their effects.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-519 (S): Sustainment – Air. This seminar discusses some of the unique sustainment requirements of air forces and the challenges these can present to planning and execution of air operations.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-520 (S): Movement and Maneuver – Air. This seminar discusses what movement and maneuver aspects operational air planners need to consider.

CONTACT HOURS: 30-minute seminar

JO-521 (S): Information – Air. This seminar discusses those aspects of information that, while not necessarily unique to air forces, must be considered by air planners.

CONTACT HOURS: 30-minute seminar

REQUIRED READINGS (92 Pages)

1. Joint Publication (JP) 1, Vol 1, *Joint Warfighting*, 27 August 2023, III-24–III-26. [EL]

2. Joint Publication (JP) 2-0, *Joint Intelligence*, 26 May 2022 (inc. ch1 5 July 2024), xi-xiii. [EL]
3. Joint Publication (JP) 3-0, *Joint Campaigns and Operations*, 18 June 2022, III-15–III-54. [EL]
4. Joint Publication (JP) 3-01, *Countering Air and Missile Threats*, 6 April 2023 (inc. ch1 13 March 2024), I-1–I-13. [EL]
5. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0, *Operations*, 22 January 2025, 11-15. [EL] (review)
6. Joint Publication (JP) 4-0, *Joint Logistics*, 20 July 2023, I-11–I-13, III-8–III-10, III-12–III-13. [EL]
7. Milian N. Vego, *Joint Operational Warfare. Theory and Practice*, (US Navy War College, 2007), V-63–V-72. [EL]
8. Brent A. Lawniczak, “The Narrative Policy Framework in Military Planning,” *Joint Force Quarterly*, no. 108 (1st Quarter 2023), 21-28. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Joint Publication (JP) 1, Vol 1, *Joint Warfighting*, 27 August 2023, III-24–III-26.
2. Joint Publication (JP) 2-0, *Joint Intelligence*, 26 May 2022 (inc. ch1 5 July 2024), xi-xiii.
3. Joint Publication (JP) 3-0, *Joint Campaigns and Operations*, 18 June 2022, III-15–III-54.
4. Joint Publication (JP) 3-01, *Countering Air and Missile Threats*, 6 April 2023 (inc. ch1 13 March 2024), I-1–I-13.
5. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0, *Operations*, 22 January 2025, 11-15.
6. Joint Publication (JP) 4-0, *Joint Logistics*, 20 July 2023, I-11–I-13, III-8–III-10, III-12–III-13.

DAY 6 – AIRPOWER IN JOINT FUNCTIONS: PRESENTATIONS

DATE: 25 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVE

1. Through the use of a presentation, analyze a historic airpower case-study to demonstrate comprehension of how a selected airpower case study relates to the joint functions and ties into the modern “Six Fights.”

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-600 (E): Seminar presentations. Working in groups of two to three members, students will present an analysis of a historic airpower case study from the list provided by the JO course team on Day 1 of the course, explaining how the case relates to the joint functions and ties into the modern “Six Fights.” Presentations will be 15 minutes long plus 5 minutes for Q&A, and account for 30 percent of the overall JO grade.

CONTACT HOURS: 3-hour Seminar

REQUIRED READINGS

None

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Joint Publication (JP) 3-0, *Joint Campaigns and Operations*, 18 June 2022, III-1–III-54.

DAY 7 – AIRPOWER ORGANIZATION

DATE: 26 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the USAF’s command structure to include major commands, numbered air forces and their functions.
2. Understand the joint task force (JTF) organization and roles, as well as command authorities to include combatant command (COCOM), operational control (OPCON), tactical control (TACON), and supported and supporting roles.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-522 (L): US Air Force Command Structure. This lecture describes this organization in detail by describing what combat power is assigned to which numbered air force/component-numbered air force (NAF/C-NAF) and major command (MAJCOM).

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour lecture

JO-523 (L): The Joint Task Force and Command Relationships. This lecture introduces the JTF, its organization, subordinate components, and responsibilities and the role of planning, integration, and synchronization in support of the JTF commander.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour lecture

JO-524 (S): Command Authorities. Building upon the previous lecture on the JTF and command relationships, this seminar discusses the authorities a commander has over assigned or attached forces and how that leads to unity of command and unity of effort.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-525 (S): Command and Control in Practice. This seminar looks at command and control units, how they conduct C2, and what advantages and disadvantages they have. It also looks at the command structures that allow for effective C2 of the air.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute seminar

REQUIRED READINGS (98 Pages)

1. “Understanding the Shield: An Overview of the U.S. Air Force Structure and Mission,” GovFacts, 2025, <https://govfacts.org/federal/defense/understanding-the-shield-an-overview-of-the-u-s-air-force-structure-and-mission/>. [EL]
2. “Air Force realigns to ensure readiness, future competitiveness,” Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs, 9 September 2024, <https://www.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/3900024/air-force-realigns-to-ensure-readiness-future-competitiveness/>. [EL]
3. Joint Publication (JP) 1 Vol 2, *The Joint Force*, 19 June 2020, III-1–III-21, IV-1–IV-14. [EL]
4. Joint Publication (JP) 3-0, *Joint Campaigns and Operations*, 18 June 2022, III-1–III-10. [EL]
5. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, II-1–II-21. [EL]
6. Matthew Quintero, “Master and Commander in Joint Air Operations,” *Joint Force Quarterly*, no. 92 (1st Quarter 2019), 90-96. [EL]

7. William Polson, “Gators’ Manage Skies During Operation Iraqi Freedom,” *Naval Aviation News*, July-August 2003, 53. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Joint Publication (JP) 1 Vol 2, *The Joint Force*, 19 June 2020, III-1–III-21, IV-1–IV-14.
2. Joint Publication (JP) 3-0, *Joint Campaigns and Operations*, 18 June 2022, III-1–III-10.
3. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, II-1–II-21.

Phase 3: Joint Airpower Application

DAY 8 – AIRPOWER ORGANIZATION / AIR OPERATIONS CENTER

DATE: 29 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Understand how the USAF presents forces to combatant commanders.
2. Understand the purpose, functions, and organization of the air operations center (AOC).
3. Understand how the AOC supports the joint force air component commander (JFACC) and joint force commander (JFC) in the planning and execution of joint/combined air operations.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-526 (S): Presentation of Forces – Air. This seminar discusses how joint airpower is presented to the Joint Force Commander. It also looks at the Global Force Management process and how it affects the generation of air forces to meet Combatant Commanders' requirements.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-527 (S): Units of Action. This seminar describes the major units of action from each service and what it means for the planner to develop operational plans using these forces.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-528 (S): Airpower Planning Overview. This seminar describes the overall process and some of the main factors the air planner must consider when planning at the operational level, to include commander's intent, objectives, desired military end state, and current and desired operational environment. It also emphasizes the importance of understanding what our own capabilities are, and their ability to create desired effects on the battlefield.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

JO-529 (L): The Air Operations Center – Doctrinal. This lecture discusses the makeup of the AOC and describes how the joint air tasking cycle produces an air tasking order (ATO).

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour, 30-minute lecture

JO-530 (L): The Air Operations Center – Commander's Perspective. This lecture conveys the AOC Commander's perspective as it pertains to running an AOC and the processes that enable effective airpower in modern operations while coordinating with JFACC and JTF commander.

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour lecture

JO-531 (S): The Joint Tasking Cycle – Air. This seminar examines the Joint Tasking Cycle – Air and the Master Air Attack Plan (MAAP).

CONTACT HOURS: 1-hour seminar

REQUIRED READINGS (117 Pages)

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0, *Operations*, 22 January 2025, 37-40. [EL]
2. Tim Conway, "Global Force Management," (J-35 Info Paper, August 2023) 1-4. [EL]
3. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, E-1–E-3. [EL]

4. Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 13-1 Air Operations Center (AOC) Vol 3, *Operational Procedures - Air Operations Center*, 25 June 2024, 6-8, 13-22, 27-30, 36-38, 40-42, 47-49, 68-71, 94-96. [EL]
5. Joint Publication (JP) 3-60, *Joint Targeting*, 20 September 2024, I-1–I-4. [EL]
6. Benjamin S. Lambeth, *Airpower Against Terror: America's Conduct of Operations Enduring Freedom*, (Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2005), 221-231, 258-262. [EL]
7. Chris Gordon, "Inside the CAOC," *Air & Space Forces Magazine* 107, no.3 (March-April 2024), <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/article/inside-the-caoc/>. [EL]
8. Jennifer Hlad, "The All-in-One Kill Chain," *Air Forces Magazine* 101, no. 9 (August 2018), <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/article/the-all-in-one-kill-chain/>. [EL]
9. Air Command and Staff College, Department of Joint Warfighting, *Joint Warfighting Capabilities Primer*, (2024), 46-47, 59-63, 65-66, 68-71, 121-144, 151-152. [EL] (Review Only)

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-0, *Operations*, 22 January 2025, 37-40.
2. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, E-1–E-3.
3. Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 13-1 Air Operations Center (AOC) Vol 3, *Operational Procedures - Air Operations Center*, 25 June 2024, 6-8, 13-22, 27-30, 36-38, 40-42, 47-49, 68-71, 94-96.
4. Joint Publication (JP) 3-60, *Joint Targeting*, 20 September 2024, I-1–I-4.

DAY 9 – THE AIR OPERATIONS CENTER

Date: 30 Sep 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVE

1. Understand, through practical application, the joint air tasking cycle, culminating in creating a master air attack plan brief for the JFACC.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-532 (S): AOC Workshop Overview: Working as a class in seminar, and using the materials provided, students will develop a master air attack plan brief that would be given to the JFACC prior to incorporation into the air tasking cycle.

CONTACT HOURS: 3-hour seminar

REQUIRED READING (21 Pages)

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-60, *Targeting*, 12 November 2021, 3-9, 17-30. [EL]
2. Workshop materials. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-60, *Targeting*, 12 November 2021, 3-9, 17-30.
2. Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 13-1 Air Operations Center (AOC) Vol 3, *Operational Procedures - Air Operations Center*, 25 June 2024.
3. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, III-1–III-25.

DAY 10 – THE JOINT PLANNING PROCESS – AIR

DATE: 1 Oct 2025

LESSON OBJECTIVE

1. Understand the steps of the joint planning process for air (JPPA) and how it transforms strategic direction into operational tasks.

LESSON OVERVIEW

JO-533 (S): Joint Planning Process for Air. This seminar provides an overview of the seven steps of the JPPA.

CONTACT HOURS: 5-hour, 30-minute seminar

REQUIRED READINGS (33 Pages)

1. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, III-2–III-25. [EL]
2. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 5-0, *Planning*, 22 January 2025, 1-9. [EL]

RELATED SERVICE AND/OR JOINT DOCTRINE

1. Joint Publication (JP) 3-30, *Joint Air Operations*, 28 April 2025, III-2–III-25.
2. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 5-0, *Planning*, 22 January 2025, 1-9.
3. Joint Publication (JP) 5-0, *Joint Planning*, 1 July 2025.