



Community College of the Air Force

CCAF UPDATE E-NEWSLETTER

JAN - MAR 2021, ISSUE 1



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The Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) newsletter is a forum to keep education services personnel, off campus instructional sites, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command training personnel, Air Force recruiters, and the community colleges constituents at large up-to-date with CCAF news, policies and procedures. The newsletter may be reproduced and is located on the **Air Force Portal** or **www.airuniversity.af.mil/Barnes/CCAF**.

CCAF is a part of Air University. Air University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award the associate, masters and doctoral degrees. Questions about the accreditation of Air University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).



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Questions: Contact CCAF Publications at 334-649-5075
The Airmen's College



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Lt Col Presuto

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CCAF Teammates,

As we surpass the one-year mark that sent us into a Pandemic-driven lockdown, I reflect on the perseverance of our CCAF *Reimagined* initiatives. You all have been there to support the academic policy changes required after our accreditation reaffirmation, the task force chartered to ensure CCAF is postured for the next fifty years, and our own internal review of all policies, procedures, and practices to safeguard the best academic degree pathways for our Airmen and Guardians. One of the exciting initiatives spurred from these changes is the new CCAF degree program set to launch this fall, Military Technology and Applied Sciences Management (MTASM)! This degree program not only provides pathways to completion for some Air Force Specialty Codes that lacked institutional credit requirements in their previous vocationally-based programs, it also focuses attention on our military foundation in the Profession of Arms. I hope you'll notice this issue of the CCAF Quarterly Staff Update showcases the MTASM degree, to include how we're communicating the intent of this pathway to senior enlisted leadership, Education Service Offices, our students and other echelons of stakeholders; the training plans we're developing in-house to ensure confident and cohesive advising of this program; partnering with our Headquarters Air University Communications Directorate (AU/A6) on the programming of the MTASM as the *first to launch* on a new enterprise-wide Student Information System (AU/SIS); our stakeholder training of the new AU/SIS; and how the MTASM lays the groundwork to carry out the changes in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2020, expanding CCAF degree program eligibility to our sister-services participating in CCAF-affiliated courses! We hope this issue answers some of your lingering questions around this important addition to our catalog, and we also hope this spurs more questions we may not have thought to anticipate.

The success of this College is enhanced by the village of stakeholders...YOU... helping to keep us informed of questions from the field, changes to training and education of our students, and your own thoughts on how to continually improve our processes and procedures. I thank you in advance for your time in absorbing this issue, sharing it with your colleagues, and any circle back for more communication and collaboration.

I hope this spring issue finds you healthy, connected, and excited to continue this educational journey!

Respectfully,

Lt Col Melanie Presuto
Commandant





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CMSgt Kloeppel

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Team,

I hope this version of the quarterly update finds you and your staff members well. We're over a year into the global pandemic and it's hard to fathom what was once abnormal has now become a way of life. We're now used to masks, altered work schedules, and most of us haven't shaken a hand since 2020! One thing has remained constant...the team here at CCAF has been working diligently to take care of all our Total Force students around the world. From accepting transcripts, applying civilian credits to military records, and everything in between, our staff has done a remarkable job. Additionally, the team has been focusing on building another degree program, which will help specific Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs) that lack enough institutional credit. This issue was brought to light following an intensive review prior to our recent reaffirmation and we are confident this new degree will provide a long term solution to challenges from non-CCAF affiliated schools, joint technical schools, and shortened technical schools/direct duty assignments.

To be successful, bringing a new degree program online requires a comprehensive strategic communication plan. Normally, I'll collaborate with Career Field Managers (CFMs) to ensure we accurately capture aspects of student training management, evaluation process, advanced upgrade, career progression, and impact on cross-training. For the new degree program, Military Technology and Applied Sciences Management, I've been explaining to the CFMs of those AFSCs that are now part of the degree, that this degree is different. Since there are a myriad of AFSCs that will now fall under this new degree, to include Special Duty Identifiers, Equal Opportunity, Air Force Band, and even Explosive Ordnance Disposal, it is easy to see how different these specialties are and *how* they are trained and even *who* trains them. This is why we need to be in lock step with the CFMs, because each of the AFSCs are on the list for a very different reason. Ultimately, the Airmen need to comprehend the benefits of this new degree, as they currently do not have a pathway to a degree. The list of AFSCs that will fall under the new degree will be included in this version of the newsletter, so feel free to print and have it handy when advising students.

We believe this new degree will be a huge benefit for thousands of Total Force Airmen who never had a pathway to a degree. Our team is currently planning town halls and training sessions for the new degree, so stay tuned for upcoming events. Please let me or my staff know if you have questions on the new degree program and thanks for taking care of the academic needs of our Airmen and Guardians!

CMSgt Kevin P. Kloeppel
Vice Commandant





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AFSCs Under Military Technology & Applied Sciences Management Degree Program

AFSC	Title	Degree	Credit Hours	# Students
3F4X1	Equal Opportunity	Human Services	0	391
3N0X6	Public Affairs	Mass Communications (Closed)	0	1,801
3N1X1	Regional Band	Music (Closed)	0	25
3N2X1	Premier Band – USAF Band		0	156
3N3X1	Premier Band – USAFA Band		0	18
1N7X1 9L000	Human Intelligence Specialist Interpreter & Translator	Intelligence Studies & Technology	4 0	83 67
8F000	First Sergeant	Human Resource Management	6	2,395
3D0X1	Knowledge Operations Management	Business Administration	4	1,503
8P100	Defense Attaché		0	162
1C5X1	Command & Control Battle Management Ops	Air and Space Operations Technology	6	2,287
3E851	Explosive Ordnance Disposal	Explosive Ordnance Disposal	6	1,412
8A200	Enlisted Aide	Hospitality & Fitness Management	0	62
8C000	Airman & Family Readiness NCO	Human Services	3	224
8B100	Military Training Leader	Education & Training Management	4	406

Click on Icon below for a copy of the table.

Degree Program





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Airmen at Al Udeid AB become CCAF Advisors

Two Airmen deployed to Al Udeid AB, Qatar have completed the online version of the CCAF Advisor Course and have been certified as CCAF Advisors. TSgt Casey Hardy and TSgt John-Viktor Non completed the 1-12 Feb Canvas-based course while deployed with the 379 Expeditionary Force Support Squadron. The primary purpose of this course is to enable deployed students to have access to knowledgeable academic advisors despite being in a forward operating location. TSgt Casey and TSgt Non were expected to simultaneously run a forward-deployed education center and attend the complex, comprehensive asynchronous CCAF Advisor Course.

The asynchronous nature of the course allowed the Al Udeid team to complete the coursework remotely; but the collaborative nature of many of the assignments proved to be a challenge. The “student-centered learning” portion of the course required two group research projects consisting of groups of five team members. The Al Udeid team; however, had to complete the assignment themselves given the time difference between them and other students. CCAF instructors were able to provide near real-time feedback, despite being on the other side of the world by expanding or shifting their workday hours. As promised, all assignments were graded with detailed feedback within six hours.

CCAF would like to congratulate TSgt Casey and TSgt Non for their commitment and academic excellence. Both NCOs completed the course above a 97% academic average. As this policy of including deployed Education & Training Airmen in the CCAF Advisor Course continues, Airman can be confident that they will receive expert advice wherever in the world they are sent. Those wishing to attend the CCAF Advisor Course remotely or in-residence should contact the CCAF Education Services Flight at ccaf.edservices@us.af.mil.



CCAF Advisor Course Graduates

Mr. Donald Ellwood
Director of Education Services



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Mr Seawright

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COVID-19 Leads to Virtual Booth at 2021 AFA Aerospace Warfare Symposium

COVID-19 continued to determine the short-term way ahead for CCAF marketing events, including the 2021 Air Force Association Aerospace Warfare Symposium. This event, which is normally held in Orlando, Florida, was moved to the virtual world due to COVID-19.

CCAF was one of three Air University units to participate in virtual booths coordinated by AU LeMay Center's Outreach and Engagement office. The other two included Squadron Officer School and the AF Culture and Language Center. Working with Ms. Yuna Braswell of LeMay Center's Outreach and Engagement, we provided requirements needed to set up a virtual room using ZoomGov, which allowed participants to visit and speak to CCAF staff members. Even though visits were minimal, the site allowed us to get the CCAF marketing brand out to hundreds of potential visitors through the CCAF website, which included information on degree programs, GEM, AU-ABC, AF COOL, and even the new CCAF upcoming MTASM degree. The experience of participating in this virtual environment led to new ideas for future virtual events.

The virtual 3-day event was worked by CCAF staff members which included Lt Col Melanie Presuto, MSgt Summer Melillo, SSgt Ryan Carter, Dr. Hank Dasinger, Ms. Michelle Garten, and Mr. Benny Seawright. We hope post-COVID-19 will lead to this event being held in person in Orlando, Florida next year. If so, CCAF will be there!



Aerospace Warfare Symposium Homepage

Mr. Benny Seawright
Chief, Media and Distance Learning





Community College of the Air Force

Media and
Distance
Learning

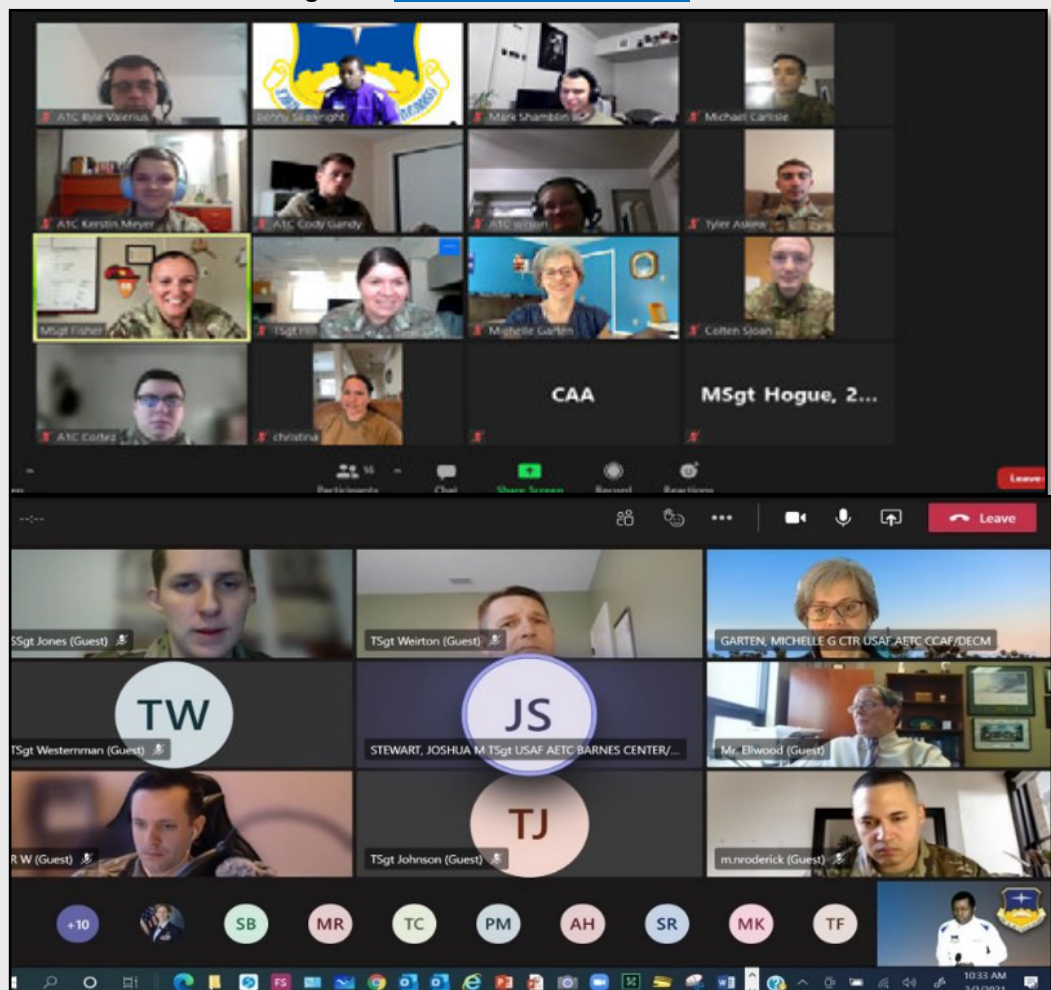
Mr Seawright

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Virtual Platforms Key for CCAF Marketing during COVID-19

The CCAF Marketing team continues to push "CCAF's Reimagined" message to the field, despite COVID-19 obstacles. Members of the team provided briefings to several groups including the AFLCMC Aviation Resource Management System Program Management Office (ARMS PMO) Airmen, the First Term Airmen Course, the Enlisted PME Instructor Course, and the Senior NCO Academy. In addition to providing background information on the history and mission of CCAF, team members also discussed many CCAF programs and processes including General Education Mobile (GEM), Air University Associate-to-Baccalaureate Cooperative (AU-ABC), Air Force Credentialing Opportunities Online (AFCOOL), CCAF Certifications, inbound and outbound transcript processing and more. For more information on these programs, visit the CCAF website at this link:

<https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF/> For additional information contact the Media and Distance flight at ccaf.decm@us.af.mil.



Zoom Screen Captures

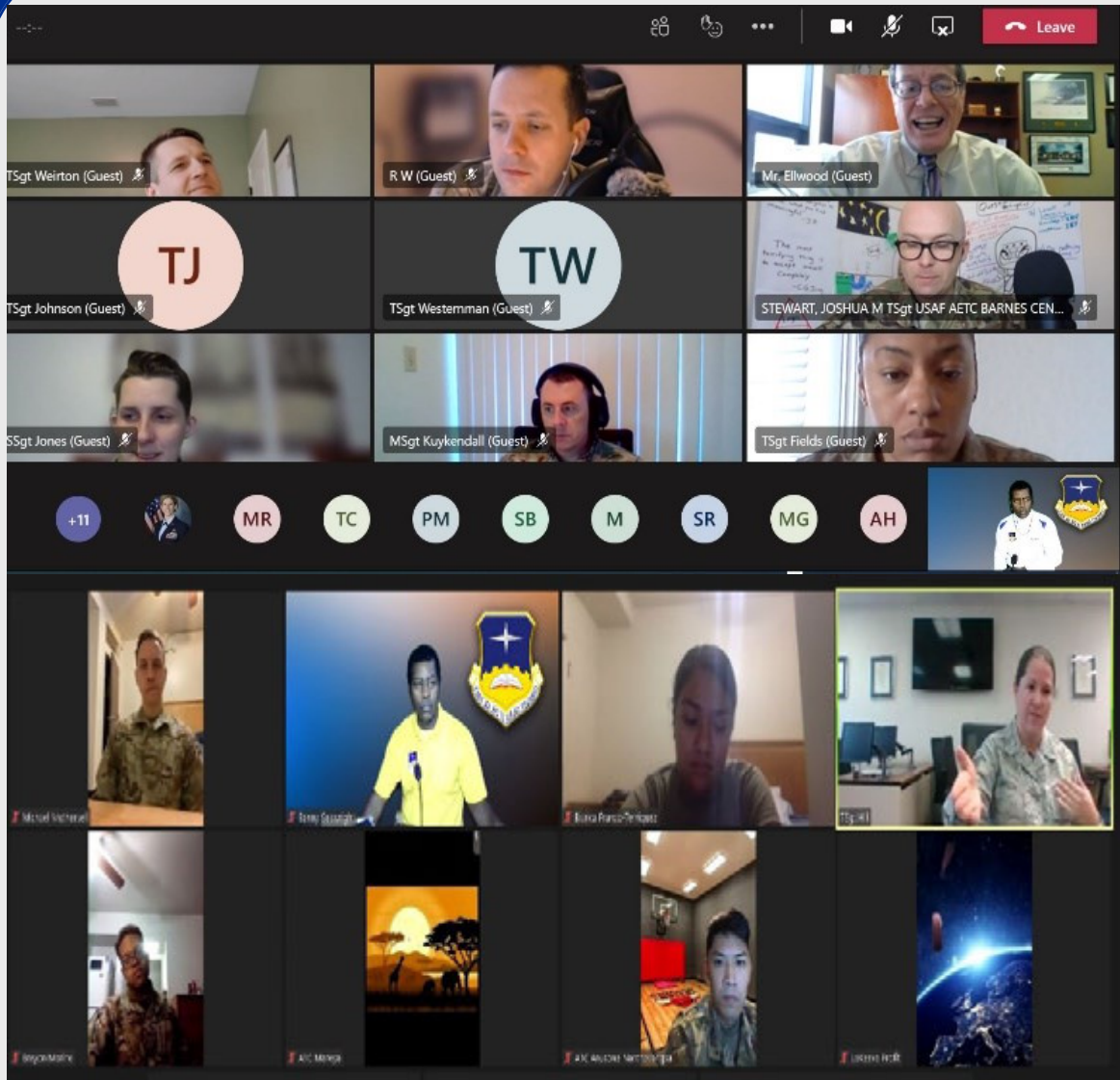


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Media and
Distance
Learning

Mr Seawright

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Zoom Screen Captures

The four screen captures highlights how CCAF Marketing uses the Microsoft Teams and ZoomGov platforms to highlight CCAF's programs and processes.

Mr. Benny Seawright
Chief of Media and Distance Learning





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Mr King

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Strategic Training Requirements Team/Utilization & Training Workshops

Training and educating Airmen is a significant part of being part of the best trained and best educated Air Force in the world. Have you ever thought about how this training and education originates? Well...it typically starts with preparations for Specialty Training Requirements Teams (STRT) and/or Utilization and Training Workshops (U&TW). STRTs and U&TWs are an integral part of enlisted Airmen training and education. The STRTs and U&TWs are chaired by the Career Field Managers (CFM), Major Command Chiefs, Functional Managers, and equivalents. There are also subject matter experts, training managers, and frontline supervisors in attendance. Another significant partner attending STRTs/U&TWs to provide the career field expertise in degree-granting opportunities is the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF). CCAF provides career field degree requirements and specifics; and, along with their enormous scope, academic policy changes and the impact of those policy changes on an Airmen's career and educational choices. Sometimes among this important information is the announce of new degree programs such as the Military Technology and Applied Sciences Management (MTASM), which is set to launch this fall!

As an instructional systems specialist, I've attended several U&TWs to brief career field communities about the Career Development Course (CDC) development process, which includes proficiency code interpretation. Proficiency codes are documented in Career Field Education and Training Plans (CFETP), specifically in Part II, Specialty Training Standards. These plans and standards are comprehensive education and training documents that identify life-cycle education and training requirements, training support resources, and minimum core task requirements for a particular specialty. Proficiency codes determine to what extent and at which level a duty or task should be trained. Thus, it is critical that specialty management personnel interpret codes as accurately as possible. Discussions about code interpretation have often generated highly-spirited debates with differing opinions, which is one reason my briefing and attendance have enabled career field personnel to fully understand the educational perspective of assigning and applying proficiency codes.

Although proficiency codes are a huge part of discussions at a STRT/U&TW, my role as an education subject matter expert is to advise the career field on all educational matters relative to upgrade training, especially those dealing with CDC matters, the distance learning aspect. reached and the workshop is productive. I guess one can say that I've had to "mediate" many "robust debates!"

(Continued on page 10)





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As the workshop comes to a close, there is one other critical CDC-related task that must be hashed out: the CDC need date. When the CDC is needed in the field—and ensuring it is available at that very specific time—is a complicated matter that is determined like a complex math equation. Complicated because of input from several people and agencies in getting the course written, reviewed, and submitted for publication; and mathematically complex because of publication processes, timelines, and deadlines that must be met to ensure the course is available when the Airman needs it. Needless to say, this date may not be finalized until after the STRT/U&TW has ended.

Let me end with what I think is one of my funnier memories of attending a STRT/U&TW. It was a two-week workshop; seating is usually prearranged with subject matter experts seated around the wall and voting representatives at the main table. At this particular workshop; however, my coworker and I were treated to a place of prestige—we were seated on either side of the CFM, who is always at the head of the table. The CFM was new in the position and wanted our organization's valued expertise nearby. Well, normally, my coworker and I would have been intimately involved, having lots of input. For this workshop, we only had to give minimal advice and the workshop was conducted brilliantly by the CFM. This just goes to show that "positioning" does matter!

Dexter L. King
Instructional Systems Specialist





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SSgt Tran

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Staff Sergeant Tien Tran

SSgt Tien Tran is a Degree Program Manager for the Avionic Systems Technology degree program at the Community College of the Air Force. In this capacity, he methodically processed 520 education action requests which resulted in 395 semester hours of credit being applied to student records and 61 students being nominated to graduate in the April 2021 class. In addition, SSgt Tran assisted the Enlisted Heritage Research Institute and the City of Montgomery with its annual five kilometer and half marathon run fundraiser. During the event, he assembled runner's kits and oversaw registration for 1,200 participants. The event resulted in \$20,000 being raised to promote education and inspire enlisted leaders about enlisted history and heritage, and the resulting contribution to air and space power. For these reasons and more, SSgt Tran is the CCAF Warrior in the Spotlight for January–March 2021.





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Websites for Additional Information

AFCOOL Credentials on AFVEC: <https://afvec.us.af.mil/afvec/af-cool/welcome>

AFCOOL Page: <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afvec/Public/COOL>

AFCOOL Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/USAF.AFCOOL>

AU-ABC Degrees on AFVEC: <https://afvec.us.af.mil/afvec/au-abc/welcome>
(Note: Latest list of AU-ABC schools available on CCAF public website)

CCAF 2017-2021 Catalog: https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Portals/10/CCAF/documents/2017_2021_CCAF_General_Catalog_Ch-3_9_Dec_20.pdf

CCAF AU-ABC Program: <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF/Display/Article/1819887/air-university-associate-to-baccalaureate-cooperative-au-abc/>

CCAF Certifications Page: <http://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF/Display/Article/803252/>

CCAF Public Website: <http://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF/>

CCAF Portal Website:
https://www.my.af.mil/USAF/site/AETC/AETC_AU/BARNES_CTR/CCAF

CCAF Transcript Page: <http://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF/Display/Article/803247/>

CCAF GEM Program: <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/CCAF/Display/Article/803250/general-education-mobile-gem/>

GEM Schools and Courses on AFVEC: <https://afvec.us.af.mil/afvec/gem/welcome>
(Note: Latest list of GEM schools available on CCAF public website)

For questions or comments, send an email to: ccaf.decm@us.af.mil



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3N1X1 3N2X1 3N3X1	Regional Band Premier Band – USAF Band Premier Band – USAFA Band	Music (Closed)	0 0 0	25 156 18
1N7X1 9L000	Human Intelligence Specialist Interpreter & Translator	Intelligence Studies & Technology	4 0	83 67
8F000	First Sergeant	Human Resource Management	6	2,395
3D0X1 8P100	Knowledge Operations Management Defense Attaché	Business Administration	4 0	1,503 162
1C5X1	Command & Control Battle Management Ops	Air and Space Operations Technology	6	2,287
3E851	Explosive Ordnance Disposal	Explosive Ordnance Disposal	6	1,412
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