Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy (SNCOA) Distance Learning (DL) 2.0 Program Announcement

BLUF: Students currently enrolled in SNCOA DL 1.0 will need to complete all Self-Paced courses and be registered for a Capstone course prior to the projected final Capstone registration date of **19 July 2026**. Students who miss this registration deadline will be removed from the SNCOA DL 1.0 program, **and no credits or progress will be transferred to the new SNCOA DL 2.0 program.** Students registering in SNCOA DL on or after **4 May 2026** will automatically be enrolled in the 2.0 program. All dates are projected. Should there be a shift in the schedule, all students will be notified.

The Air Force Global College (AFGC) is pleased to announce an update to the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy distance learning experience. SNCOA DL 2.0 is projected to launch on 4 May 2026.

We are now able to increase instructor-led facilitation within the program. This new facilitation will provide an opportunity for students to apply concepts in multiple peer-to-peer learning experiences, directly engaging with classmates while receiving focused feedback from an instructor. In addition, the program curriculum received a major overhaul, incorporating changes driven by stakeholder requirements. The program adds threaded discussion questions, through which students will demonstrate their knowledge of leading teams in a joint environment, addressing challenges brought by new dynamic threats. Additionally, students will apply communication, problem-solving, and risk mitigation skills through two group assignments and will reflect on their learning experience and personal goals in a concluding reflective assignment.

To support a smooth transition, registration for the legacy 1.0 program will end on 4 May 2026. All current 1.0 students must be completed with all Self-Paced and Capstone courses by 3 September 2026. Any student enrolling on or after the 4 May 2026 launch date will enter the new SNCOA DL 2.0 program.

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New Program

1. **What is changing with the launch of the new SNCOA 2.0 program?**

    High-stakes testing has been removed from Self-Paced courses, and students will have a 90-day limit to complete each Self-Paced course. Students will be required to complete an evaluation at the end of each lesson and a short reflective assignment at the end of each course. Students cannot fail a Self-Paced course. Each student is allowed to re-attempt the evaluation at the end of each lesson until a minimum passing score is achieved. Learning will be validated in the facilitated Capstone course. The new Capstone course will increase by one week in length for a total of four weeks. All program length limits, and other program policies will remain the same. Reference the EPME 2.0 student handbook.

2. **What happens when the new SNCOA 2.0 program launches?**

    New program enrollees will enter the SNCOA 2.0 program on 4 May 2026 and beyond will follow the EPME 2.0 student handbook. Students enrolled in the 1.0 program will be required to complete all Self-Paced courses and register for the 1.0 Capstone course no later than the August term **(registration deadline is 19 July 2026)** to receive credit for the program.

3. **What is asynchronous facilitation?**

    Asynchronous facilitation includes instructor-led discussions and student interactions that take place over time rather than in a single, real-time environment. Unlike 1.0's single group project, the 2.0 Capstone features:

    - Two group assignments
    - Three discussion prompts
    - One individual reflective assignment

Legacy 1.0 Students

1. **What happens to my current program enrollment?**

   Students will have the opportunity to complete their 1.0 program. Students must complete all Self-Paced courses and be registered for the August term Capstone course by 19 July 2026. This will be the final opportunity to complete the 1.0 Capstone.

   Any students enrolling in SNCOA DL on or after 4 May 2026 will be enrolled in the 2.0 program. All students, whether completing 1.0 or 2.0, earn identical SNCOA credit for completion; transcripts will reflect the actual courses taken. Any student enrolled in 1.0 that fails to complete the program before the final Capstone in August will be disenrolled and will need to re-apply through https://aueems.cce.af.mil/sap/bc/ui2/flp#Shell-home

   NOTE: NO PROGRESS WILL CARRY FORWARD FROM 1.0 TO 2.0.

2. **Can I still fail Self-Paced courses in the 2.0 program (high-stakes tests)?**

   No. High-stakes testing has been removed from SNCOA 2.0 Self-Paced courses, and each student is allowed to re-attempt the end-of-lesson progress checks until a minimum passing score is achieved.

3. **If I am in a Self-Paced course during the launch date, what happens?**

   All SNCOA DL 1.0 Self-Paced courses will need to be completed before registering for the August Capstone. The final registration deadline is projected for 19 July 2026 **(Do Not Miss This Deadline)**. Students will have the option of dropping the 1.0 program at any time after the 2.0 course launches. If the student can afford to wait, a valid option is to take an operational pause until the 2.0 program launch, 4 May 2026, and register for the new program, avoiding the risk of failing a Self-Paced course.

   Note: For students in the 1.0 program, failing the end-of-course test twice will result in a single course failure and the student may re-register without penalty. However, they will not be able to re-register in the same calendar month as their initial course registration and previous work will not carry forward into the new registration. If a student accumulates another course failure, they will be dropped from the 1.0 program and enrolled in the 2.0 program. If students in the 1.0 program fail a single end-of-course test four times, they have two options:

   - Students that fail a Self-Paced course may continue in the 1.0 program; however, time constraints should be considered before continuing in 1.0.
   - At any time after 4 May, students may request to disenroll from 1.0 and be enrolled in the 2.0 program.

4. **What happens if I need to enroll in the 1.0 Capstone after the 2.0 launch date?**
   Students can continue to register for the 1.0 Capstone until 19 July 2026. **The August 2026 Capstone is projected to be the last 1.0 Capstone.** If a student misses the 19 July registration deadline, they will not be added to the August 2026 Capstone and will need to register for the 2.0 program. If the student fails the August 2026 Capstone, they will need to complete the full 2.0 program. *Note: Failing the Capstone twice (in either version of the program) will have the same result, requiring a letter from their CC to be reinstated back into the program*.

5. **Does the new program require more work?**
   While the overall program increased to 110 student contact hours (vice 65), the students will not have high-stakes tests for their Self-Paced courses. The new Capstone will give students the opportunity to demonstrate leadership, strategic thinking, and joint warfighting concepts in a peer-to-peer academic setting. They will engage with classmates through threaded discussions and group assignments and reflect individually through a written assignment.

6. **How have the courses within the 2.0 program changed?**
   - Self-Paced courses no longer have high stakes testing at the end of each course. Instead, there will be an evaluation at the end of each lesson that students will attempt until a passing score is achieved
   - Students will complete a background paper at the end of each Self-Paced course. These papers will be graded in the Capstone course
   - Each Self-Paced course will now have a 90-day time limit to complete.
   - The legacy 1.0 Capstone group assignments have been replaced with threaded discussion questions, two group assignments, and one individual reflective assignment
   - The Capstone course will have full asynchronous instructor facilitation

7. **Will current SNCOA 1.0 students move to the SNCOA 2.0 program?**
   No. SNCOA 1.0 students will stay in their program until after the final capstone concludes. Note: All students (1.0 or 2.0) will receive the same SNCOA credit for completion. The transcripts will reflect actual courses taken. At any time after 4 May, 1.0 students may request disenrollment in SNCOA 1.0 via the Canvas help desk or email Au.support@asu.edu and re-apply immediately at https://aueems.cce.af.mil/sap/bc/ui2/flp#Shell-home to the new 2.0 program with no transfer credits.

8. **How long do I have to finish the SNCOA 1.0 program?**
   Students will be required to complete all Self-Paced courses and register for the Capstone by 19 July 2026.

9. When will the last legacy SNCOA 1.0 capstone course occur?

The last SNCOA 1.0 Capstone course is projected to be executed in August 2026 (registration deadline 19 July 2026).

10. What is the difference between a "course" and the "program"?

The SNCOA 2.0 program consists of four Self-Paced courses (Orientation plus the three core courses) and one facilitated Capstone course.

11. How long will I have to complete a course within the SNCOA DL 2.0 program?

The students will have 90 days to complete each Self-Paced course, at which point the course will expire with no penalty and the student will be able to re-register for the course. Note: course progress may be lost if the course expires,

12. How will this impact my records?

There is no impact on AF records, all students (1.0 or 2.0) will receive the same SNCOA credit for completion. *The transcripts will reflect actual courses taken*.

Legacy Version (SNCOA 1.0)	New Version (2.0)
LDR-301S (10 contact hours)	LDR-311S (15 contact hours)
LDR-302S (15 contact hours)	JNT-311S (35 contact hours)
LDR-303S (10 contact hours)	JNT-312S (25 contact hours)
JNT-301S (15 contact hours)	CST-311A (35 contact hours)
CST-301H (15 contact hours)	

13. Will this impact reserve points?

While AFGC has no influence on Reserve points, the contact hours have increased from 65 to 110 contact hours. The Total Force Service Center is your point of contact for all Reserve point issues.