



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL JEFFREY W. DONNITHORNE

Colonel Jeffrey Donnithorne is the Commandant and Dean of the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS), Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL. SAASS is a selective one-year graduate school with 16 terminally credentialed faculty members and 44 Air Force, Department of Defense, and international students. The mission of SAASS is to educate strategists for the Air Force and nation.

Colonel Donnithorne is a graduate of Duke University and was commissioned through Air Force ROTC in May 1997. He flew two operational tours in the F-15E, first in the 391st Fighter Squadron at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, and then in the 90th Fighter Squadron at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. He served as a T-1 flight instructor at NAS Pensacola, Florida, followed by attendance at SAASS. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Government from Georgetown University, and joined the faculty of Air University in 2013. Col Donnithorne commanded the 31st Student Squadron Bulls at Squadron Officer School, followed by an assignment at the Center for Strategy and Technology where he led the Blue Horizons research program. Before his current assignment to SAASS, he served for two years as Air University's chief academic officer.



EDUCATION

- 1997 Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2003 Squadron Officer School (in residence), Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 2005 Master of Arts in Organizational Science, George Washington University, Washington, DC
- 2005 Air Force Intern (IDE in residence), Washington, DC
- 2007 Air Command and Staff College (correspondence), Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 2010 Master of Science in Military Strategy, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 2012 Master of Arts in Government, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
- 2013 Doctor of Philosophy in Government, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 1997 – May 1999, Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training Flight Student, NAS Pensacola, FL.
2. August 1999 – June 2000, F-15E Student Weapons System Officer, F-15E Basic Course, 334th Fighter Squadron, Seymour Johnson AFB, NC.

3. June 2000 – July 2003, F-15E Evaluator Weapons System Officer, Chief of Stan/Eval, 391st Fighter Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, ID.
4. July 2003 – July 2005, Air Force Intern, Pentagon, Washington, DC.
5. August 2005 – June 2007, F-15E Instructor Weapons System Officer, Flight Commander, 90th Fighter Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, AK.
6. June 2007– July 2009, Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training Instructor (T-1/T-39/T-6), Wing Standardization Officer, TRAWING-6, NAS Pensacola, FL.
7. July 2009 – June 2010, Student at School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, AL.
8. July 2010 – May 2013, PhD Candidate, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.
9. June 2013 – February 2015, Commander, 31st Student Squadron, Squadron Officer College, Maxwell AFB, AL.
10. February 2015 – July 2017, Director, Center for Strategy and Technology, Maxwell AFB, AL.
11. July 2017 – July 2019, Chief Academic Officer, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL.
12. July 2019 – July 2020, Professor of Strategy and Security Studies, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL.
13. July 2020 -- present, Commandant and Dean, School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Senior Navigator

Hours: 1800, including over 300 combat hours in Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, SOUTHERN WATCH, and IRAQI FREEDOM.

Aircraft flown: F-15E, T-1, T-6, T-34, T-38, T-39

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Distinguished Flying Cross
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters
Navy Commendation Medal
Joint Service Achievement Medal
Air Force Combat Action Medal

PUBLICATIONS

Four Guardians: A Principled Agent View of American Civil-Military Relations (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018).

"Principled Agents: A Four-Service View of American Civil-Military Relations," *Orbis* 61, no. 4, (2017): 506-526.

Culture Wars: Air Force Culture and Civil-Military Relations. Drew Paper No. 10. Maxwell AFB, AL: Air University Press, 2013.

"Tinted Blue: Air Force Culture and American Civil-Military Relations," *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, Winter 2010: 101-133.

"Building a Potemkin Village: A Taliban Strategy to Reclaim the Homeland," *Joint Force Quarterly* 59, no. 4 (2010): 108-109.

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	July 11, 1997
First Lieutenant	July 11, 1999
Captain	July 11, 2001
Major	April 1, 2007
Lieutenant Colonel	December 1, 2010
Colonel	May 1, 2016

(Current as of July 2020)