



WELCOME TO SOS, CLASS 25F!

You have been registered to participate in the SOS In-Residence course **25F** from **31 Jul – 5 Sep**.

***If you find this message to be an error, please contact your unit training manager (and cc the SOS Student Services org box sos.od.studentservices@us.af.mil) to be removed from the course immediately.**

This letter will outline your expectations and what you need to know to successfully complete the SOS In-Residence course. **Please read the welcome letter in its entirety for detailed instructions.**

You are expected to complete between 120 -130 hours of instruction, which includes self-paced readings and homework assignments, electives, and guest speakers.

1. To complete class assignments and participate in class discussions you will need:
 - i. Internet access (**provided by on-base lodging and SOS bldg.**)
 - ii. A personal or government laptop or computer with a webcam and microphone.
****Defense Health Agency (DHA) laptops are not compatible with the Air University WIFI****
 - iii. CAC reader
 - iv. Access to the following apps (recommend they be downloaded to your device)
 - a. Microsoft Teams
 - b. Google Calendar
 - c. Okta Verify App (if not using a government computer)
2. All SOS lesson modules and assignments are located on AU Canvas (a1-ims.okta.com) You will be able to access SOS course material starting Day 1.

3. Education Day 1

- i. Your first event will be in the SOS main building, Bldg 1403, Polifka Auditorium at **0800 CST**.
- ii. UOD:
 - a. (Military): OCPs/FDU's
 - b. (Civilian): Professional and casual business attire
- iii. **USAF & Civilian Students:** Last PFA Scoresheet showing all passing components and date current through graduation.
- iv. Air Force Reserves: Bring 2x copies of your orders.

****FAILURE TO SHOW CURRENT & PASSING PFA WILL RESULT IN BEING SENT HOME AT YOUR UNIT'S EXPENSE****

4. Your Flight Commander may contact you. If your Flight Commander decides to send an email, they will be contacting you **NET 1630 CST on 25 Jul**. Please check your **.mil** email as this is likely the only initial contact information your Flight Commander has for you.

If you want your Flt/CC to send to a different email address, please provide your secondary email contact information to SOS Student Services.

If you do not receive an initial contact from your instructor **and** have any issues, please email Student Services at sos.od.studentservices@us.af.mil.



5. If you have any issues with the Maxwell AFB University Inn, please inform your Flight Commander and **talk to the front desk**.

If you have further questions, please visit our website at <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/SOS> or contact SOS student services.

Email sos.od.studentservices@us.af.mil - DSN 493-3231 - COMM (334) 953-3231

Follow us on social media for additional messages as your class date approaches.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/squadronofficerschool>

Instagram: [Squadron Officer School \(@squadron_officer_school\)](#) • Instagram photos and videos

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/squadron-officer-school/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SOSUSAF>



Squadron Officer School Resident Program

Program Description:

The Squadron Officer School (SOS) resident program is a PME course targeting four-to-seven-year Air Force captains, select Department of the Air Force civilians of equivalent grade, and international officers. The post-baccalaureate PDE curriculum covers four core learning areas—Thinking, Warfighting, Leading and Communication. Throughout SOS, students team-build and apply theories, principles, and practices from the core learning areas through experiential exercises, written assignments, briefings, and personal and collaborative reflection culminating in a capstone event for each core learning area.

Leader Prep:

Students will accomplish the readings and other preparation requirements ahead of the associated lesson. Check Canvas daily for required readings, activities, and videos. Please be prepared each day with a laptop/personal device with video and audio ON for each virtual lesson.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Do we need to bring blues/service dress?

-No, blues or service dress are not required for SOS.

What does the average day look like at SOS?

-Students can expect to be in class from 0800-1630, with some variation depending on the events of the day. You are afforded an hour for lunch.

I'm overseas and I'm arriving [Saturday] night, will my room be available?

-Yes, please call the University Inn prior to your arrival so they can adjust your reservation. Contact your Flight Commander if there are any issues.

Will we have holidays off?

-Yes, SOS observes all Federal holidays.

Are there facilities for laundry in lodging and how much do they cost?

-Yes, there is a laundry room in each of the buildings in lodging. The machines are free, but you need to bring/purchase your own detergent and dryer sheets.

Are we allowed to travel on the weekends? How far can we travel?

-Yes, you are allowed to travel on the weekends. You will need to get all travel plans approved through your Flight Commander/Squadron Commander. Each squadron will go over their travel policy and weekend locator requirements.

I'm flying in and my unit won't issue me a rental car. Will I be able to walk to get where I need to go?

-University Inn is across the street from the SOS building, the Maxwell Fitness Center is also nearby, and the DFAC is about a third of a mile walk. The BX and commissary are about a 1-mile walk.

I'm working DTS, but I have not received my LOA, can you help me?

-**SOS does not handle the LOAs**, that is an AETC TDY-to-School function. They can be contacted DSN 487-2971/COMM 210-652-2971 or tdy.school@us.af.mil. HOWEVER, they have stipulated all service requests must go through their TTS website (see Reporting Guide). They should cross-org you the LOA a few days after you have signed and returned your RIP.

Do we book lodging through DTS?

-SOS reserves the lodging for students so you do not need to book it through DTS. **Any Non-Availability letter or notification of no lodging available received through DTS is void and should be ignored.**

If you notified and received an acknowledgment from SOS Student Services to reside off-base during your class, you should book your off-base option in DTS or provide justification in DTS for using a commercial lodging option that does not appear in DTS. You must work with your local DTS AO for any lodging concerns.

How do we get from the airport to Maxwell?

-SOS does not offer transportation services. There are several taxi companies that can get on base. Some Uber/Lyft can also get on base, but you would have to make sure the driver has access. **Uber/Lyft drivers that do not have base access will be required to drop you off at the front gate.**