



UNSOC

UNITED NATIONS STAFF OFFICER COURSE

COURSE PURPOSE

The overall purpose of the UNSOC is to support the pre-deployment training efforts of Troop Contributing Countries (TCC) by providing UNDPKO standards training and thus ensure a common military approach to work at Force- and Sector level Headquarters in UN peace keeping missions.

The course complies with the United Nations Staff Officers Special Training Materials (SO STM).

Target audience

The UNSOC is intended for military personnel selected by UN Member States to be deployed as military staff officers in a UN Peacekeeping operation (OF 2-5 or OR 6-9 with national staff training). Military staff officers are required to have completed their national basic military staff course.

Performance objectives

After the course, the student will be able to:

- Given the relevant documents and materials, as a staff officer apply the MCPP¹ in a UN Force- or Sector Headquarter under normal operating conditions.
- Given the relevant documents and materials, explain in own words the need for co-operation between the military, civilian organisations or actors and police in the mission area.
- Given the relevant documents and materials, identify the planning requirements for preparation of plans for military operations contributing to protection of civilians.

Method

UNSOC is a three week course, consisting of lectures / syndicate discussions and map exercises partly together with UNCIVSOC and UN Police role players. During a final Integrated Staff Exercise (INSTEX), coordination and cooperation among different branches within the headquarters and with other partners in a multidimensional/integrated mission will be practised by the students in a Force- or Sector Headquarters.

References

- Core Pre-deployment training materials, CPTM. (UN Peacekeeping resources hub).
- United Nations Specialised Training Materials for Staff Officers module 1-8, SO STM. (UN Peacekeeping Resource HUB).
- Protection of civilians: Implementing guidelines for military components of UN peacekeeping Missions, UN Guidelines (February 2015).

Student Assessment

The participants will be assessed based on three activities: During the course participants are required to answer "UN midterm evaluation test" covering mainly CPTM and SO STM topics. Secondly, participants are required to take active part in a syndicate seminar covering CPTM and SO STM topics. Finally participants are required to take an active part as a staff officer in the INSTEX. Based on the combined results participants are then assessed and graduated either with "Successfully completed" or "Participated". A course certificate will be presented at the end of the course.

"Take active part" means asking questions, presenting a standpoint in debates and showing a willingness to explain it to fellow students and instructors.

¹ Military Component Planning process