



UNCIVSOC

UNITED NATIONS CIVILIAN STAFF OFFICER COURSE

COURSE PURPOSE

The overall purpose of the UNCIVSOC is to prepare civilian staff officers for postings to a UN-led peace support operation. The course provides insights into how a modern United Nations mission is built and how it coordinates its actions with the humanitarian and developmental parts of the UN presence in a conflict area. Focus is on understanding what the multidimensional and integrated concepts mean so that the student will be able to effectively contribute to the United Nations' operational programmes. The course is based on United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Field Support (DPO/DFS) policy documents, training modules and directives.

Target audience

The UNCIVSOC targets UN civilian, police and military personnel working in a peacekeeping mission, special political mission as well as UN personnel serving in agencies, funds and programmes. It is designed with participants in mind who are looking to improve their understanding of the UN's approach to integrated assessment and planning, and increase their ability to work effectively and constructively with a wide range of UN actors on the ground.

Performance objectives

After a completed course students will be able to:

- Analyse a comprehensive conflict scenario with its different components.
- Explain how a modern multidimensional integrated UN field mission is organised.
- Explain the civilian, military and police components' roles and functions in a multidimensional integrated UN field mission.
- Explain the UN country teams' function and how they integrate into a multidimensional UN field mission.
- Explain how a UN field mission implements a mandate given by the UN Security Council.
- Discuss individual contribution to a more effective coordination and collaboration in an integrated context.

Method

The UNCIVSOC is a two-week course that comprises lectures/briefings together with the United Nations Staff Officer Course (UNSOC) and the United Nations Police Integrated Mission Training (UNPIMT) course. The main effort lies in the concept of a UN Integrated Mission. During a final Integrated Staff Exercise (INSTEX), students will practice coordination and cooperation among different branches within the Mission headquarters, the military Force and Sector headquarters and other partners in a multidimensional integrated mission.

References

The course is based on United Nations Department of Peace Operations' steering policy documents, training modules and directives.

Student Assessment

The participants will be assessed based on three activities. During the course students are required to individually conduct an UNCIVSOC Evaluation Test. Secondly, participants are required to take active part in a syndicate seminar, and finally participants are required to take active part 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. Taking active part means asking questions, presenting a stand point in debates and showing a willingness to explain it to fellow students and instructors.