



# ARCTIC FOUNDATIONS COURSE

NAVIGATING A UNIQUELY CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Arctic Strategic Foundations Course explores the Arctic's strategic significance through the interconnected lenses of governance, environment, Indigenous perspectives, infrastructure, and security. Participants will investigate how the region functions as a complex system and why understanding these interconnections is essential for strategic decision-making. The course is self-paced and designed to be completed over 10 days, but the flexible structure allows you to engage with the content on your schedule. Whether you move through the material steadily or in concentrated sessions, the course accommodates a variety of learning preferences and time commitments.

## Course Objectives

Participants will gain critical knowledge and skills to:

- Recognize the Arctic as a system of interconnected domains with global implications.
- Describe the strategic interests of the U.S., allies, partners, and competitors in the region.
- Explain how environmental, geopolitical, legal, and societal systems interact to shape Arctic security dynamics.



## Learning Experience

This virtual course features:

- Learn at your own pace through a flexible 10-day structure (10-12 hours) designed to fit a variety of schedules and professional commitments.
- Gain a systems-level understanding of the Arctic's evolving strategic importance across environmental, geopolitical, and governance domains.
- Explore the roles and interests of Arctic and non-Arctic actors through interactive tools and case-based analysis.



## Who Should Attend:

- Security and defense professionals seeking to understand Arctic operational and strategic dynamics.

## WHY IT MATTERS

The Arctic is no longer a distant or isolated region; it is now central to global conversations about security, environmental change, economic opportunity, and international cooperation. As ice recedes and access expands, so too does competition, creating new challenges and uncertainties that transcend traditional boundaries. Understanding the Arctic's evolving landscape is essential for those making decisions that influence policy, operations, and long-term strategic outcomes. This course equips participants with the knowledge and perspective to engage meaningfully with Arctic issues, navigate emerging complexities, and contribute to shaping a more stable, informed, and inclusive future in the region.