



ARCTIC WARFARE HISTORY COURSE (AWHC)

LEARNING FROM HISTORY, PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Arctic Warfare History Course explores the history and enduring lessons of Arctic warfare through World War II case studies and modern strategic reflections. From perilous convoys across the Arctic Ocean to small-unit combat in frozen forests and amphibious campaigns in the Aleutians, participants will examine how environment, logistics, and human resilience shape outcomes in extreme conditions. Learners will connect these historical insights to today's evolving Arctic security challenges, where the past continues to inform the present.

Course Objectives

Learners will gain critical knowledge and skills to:

- Analyze historical Arctic campaigns and their strategic and operational implications.
- Identify environmental and logistical challenges unique to Arctic warfare.
- Assess the role of human performance and morale in extreme conditions.
- Compare past and present Arctic military operations to understand continuity and change.
- Apply lessons learned to contemporary Arctic security scenarios.



Learning Experience

This virtual course features:

- Two weeks (15-20 hours) with asynchronous modules and two live sessions.
- Tactical analyses and planning exercises linking history to today.
- Capstone synthesis applying WWII lessons to modern Arctic security.



Who Should Attend:

- Security and defense professionals.
- Military planners and strategists.
- Policy makers, analysts, and educators.
- Interagency and international partners.

WHY IT MATTERS

The Arctic remains one of the most unforgiving environments for human conflict. Its history demonstrates that success or failure often depends less on firepower than on adaptation, logistics, and human endurance. As great power competition and environmental change reshape the Arctic, understanding these lessons is vital for preparing future leaders and decision-makers to operate in this challenging theater.

- Understanding past operations prepares leaders to anticipate modern challenges in mobility, sustainment, and joint coordination.
- Lessons from Arctic history help shape resilient strategies for defense, cooperation, and crisis response in the Arctic.