

Enlisted Professional Military Education



MISSION

To develop, evaluate, inspect, and manage the Program of Instruction for professional military education curriculum within our academies and reserve component. Our focus is on teaching leadership and core competencies through resident and distance education programs to prepare students for the challenges of the operational environment.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Provide the best-trained faculty advisors and staff to create an environment conducive to higher learning.
- Analyze the nature of war through the study of past battles and conflicts and apply the lessons learned to the tactics used today.
- Improve verbal and written communication skills through classes taught by college professors and also through the use of practical application.
- Provide the highest quality education, geared towards tactical thinking, leadership, and mentoring directly linked to the next higher grade.
- Continue to develop curricula to support current and future Marine Corps Doctrine.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

PME is designed to foster continual professional development of all Marines. The focus of PME is to develop professional competence in Leadership and Warfighting Skills at all levels of war and crises, ranging from humanitarian assistance to combat.

Administering nearly 10,000 students a year worldwide -- including foreign students and reserves -- the SNCOA plays a major role in shaping the future of the Marine Corps.

CURRICULUM

The Sergeants Course

Prerequisites for Sergeants Course. Nominees must be in full-duty status, possess all required uniforms, and meet Marine Corps fitness and height/weight standards. Marines must have the minimum obligated service upon completion of the Sergeants course. Completion of the Sergeants distance education program is required prior to acceptance for the resident program.

The initial increment of Enlisted Resident Professional Military Education, is the Sergeant's Course. This course focuses on enhancing the student's individual leadership qualities to discharge the duties and responsibilities of a Noncommissioned Officer in the Marine Corps. It is administered six times a year for Active Duty Marines and two times during the summer for reserve Marines. Each class is 33 training days, the reserves is 12 training days, and each student gains insight regarding military knowledge and recognition of the need for continued self-improvement. The Sergeants Course culminates with a field exercise and a student-led Mess Night. The course contains the following instructional areas:

- Combat Organization of Marine Corps.
- Leadership and Counseling.
- Military Training - Drill, Techniques of Military Instruction, Physical Training, Uniforms, Customs and Courtesies.
- Unit Training Management.
- Weapons Employment.
- Warfighting Skills and Tactics.

The Career Course

Prerequisites for Career Course. Nominees must be in full-duty status, possess all required uniforms, and meet Marine Corps fitness and height/weight standards. Marines must have the minimum obligated service upon completion of the Career course. Completion of the Career distance education program is required prior to acceptance for the resident program.

The second increment of Enlisted Resident Professional Military Education, is the Career Course. This course provides a level of professional military education for staff sergeants, or selectees, from all occupational fields. It is administered six times a year for Active Duty Marines and once each summer for reserve Marines. Each class is 33 training days (two-week course for reservists) and provides study and application of a variety of academic subjects, as well as a series of guest lectures, which allows the students an insight into current developments In reply to: concepts and equipment. Just as with the Sergeants Course, the Career Course culminates with a field exercise and a student-led Mess Night. The course focuses on enhancing the student's skills of individual leadership qualities to discharge the duties and responsibilities of a Staff Noncommissioned Officer in the Marine Corps. The student gains insight regarding military knowledge and recognition of the need for continued self-improvement.

The Career Course contains the following instructional areas:

- Military Training - Company Drill, Techniques of Military Instruction, Physical Training, Uniforms, Administration, Customs and Courtesies.
- Leadership and Counseling.
- Weapons Employment.
- Warfighting Skills and Tactics.
- Tactical Communication.
- Effective Written Communication.
- Military Justice- Law of Warfare, Lawful Search & Seizure, Preliminary Inquiries

The Advanced Course

Prerequisites for the Advanced Course. Nominee must be a Gunnery Sergeant or Gunnery Sergeant select. Nominees must be in full-duty status, possess all required uniforms, and meet Marine Corps fitness and height/weight standards. Marines must have the minimum obligated service upon completion of the Advanced Course. Completion of the Advanced Distance Education Program is required prior to acceptance for the resident program.

The final increment of Enlisted Resident Professional Military Education, the Advanced Course, provides an advanced level of professional military education for Gunnery Sergeants or selectees from all occupational fields. A course that is presented over a 33-day training schedule administered six times a year for active duty Marines, and a two-week class is conducted once during the summer for reserve Marines. They provide study in a variety of academic subjects as well as a series of guest lectures, which allows the students an insight into current developments in concepts and equipment.

The course focuses on enhancing the student's skills of individual leadership, warfighting skills, functioning as a member of the commander's staff, and effectively communicating both verbally and in writing with seniors, subordinates and peers. The student also gains insight regarding military knowledge and recognition of the need for continued self-improvement. The course contains the following instructional areas:

- Leadership and Counseling.
- Effective Communication and Military Briefs.
- Military Training - Drill, Ceremonies, Administration, Physical Training Management, Military Justice.
- Unit Training Management.
- Supporting Arms and Tactics.
- Maneuver Warfare and Battle Studies.
- Combat Service Support.
- Command Post Operations and Rear Area Security.

Students conduct three separate battle studies that are site dependent. Students also sponsor a professional dinner near the end of the course; a suit and tie or dress is required.

STUDENT EVALUATION

The SNCOA emphasizes high academic standards very much like that of the senior commissioned officer schools. All students' must maintain a GPA of 80% or risk academic disenrollment. Student's are graded by two methods: first is by the use of a comprehensive examination; secondly through performance evaluation

AWARDS

Honor Graduate. Students from the Sergeants, Career, and Advanced Course who finish with a final average of 95% or better are placed on the President, Marine Corps University's Honor roll and will Receive a letter from the President, Marine Corps University, Education Command. The number one honor graduate of each course will receive an NCO sword awarded by the Board of Governors of the Marine Corps Association.

Gung Ho Award. The students from each class nominate one of their own for this award. Nominations are based on who showed the most motivation and esprit-de-corps through the course. The award is presented by the Marine Corps Reserve Fleet Association.

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Writing Award. Each course has a writing requirement with the top essay for the Sergeant's Course, Credo for the Career Course, and Professional Article for the Advanced Course receiving a certificate from the Marine Corps Association.

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Annual Writing Award. Each course submits the top essay for the Sergeant's Course, Credo for the Career Course, and Professional Article for the Advanced Course to the Enlisted Professional Military Education Branch. The Enlisted Professional Military Education Branch convenes a board to determine the top award for each course. The winners will receive a monetary prize and certificate from the Marine Corps Association.

STUDENT BODY

The student body consists of enlisted Marines from the ranks of Sergeant through Gunnery Sergeant. The prerequisites for these courses include: quality of professional military record, must have all professional military education for their current grade completed prior to arriving, must meet Marine Corps height and weight standards and meet the Marine Corps physical fitness standards. Students are selected by their commanding officers based on school seat allocations published by Marine Corps University to attend one of the three courses.

ORGANIZATION

Enlisted Professional Military Education Branch

The Enlisted PME Curriculum Branch of the Marine Corps University is responsible for developing and maintaining course materials for the:

- Command Sponsored Corporals Course
- Resident Sergeants Course
- Resident Career Course
- Resident Advanced Course

Additionally, guidance and oversight is provided in the development of the Enlisted Distance Education Programs. Furthermore, the Enlisted PME Curriculum Branch assists in the support of the:

- First Sergeants Course
- First Sergeant/Master Sergeant Regional Seminars
- Russell Leadership Conference

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