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NAVAL WAR COLLEGE NIGERIA



JOINING INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMAND LEVEL OFFICERS' COURSE 9

SEPTEMBER 2026

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Naval War College Nigeria (NWCN) was primarily established to train selected NN officers, officers of sister Services and friendly nations to provide effective leadership and command at the operational level of warfare. This is premised on the dynamism and increasing complexity of contemporary global security environment which dictates innovative approaches that place emphasis on the combination of sound leadership philosophy, experience and training. In addition to the main Naval Warfare Course, the College is mandated to conduct specific short duration courses including the Command Level Officers' Course (CLC).

2. The next iteration of this programme, designated as CLC 9, is scheduled to take place at the NWCN from 29 Sep - 23 Oct 26. The Course which focuses on military leadership and command, is designed to refresh participants on contemporary techniques and models for effective management of human and material resources which would be entrusted to them as commanders at the tactical level. So, permit me to on behalf of the Commandant and staff of the NWCN congratulate you on your nomination and to state that we look forward to a very rewarding experience with you.

AIM

3. The aim of these joining instructions is to provide information of general nature that would facilitate orientation and administration during the Course.

LOCATION AND CLIMATE

4. The NWCN is currently located within the premises of the Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command, Calabar, Cross River State. The location is about 15 minutes' drive from the Margaret Ekpo International Airport and the Calabar

Golf Club respectively. Calabar area has 2 climatic seasons, namely the dry and rainy seasons. The rainy season starts from around mid-March to October, during which average temperatures range from 28 °C to 30 °C. The dry season is characterized by hot sunny conditions, with intervals of windy cold days, beginning from October to March of the following year with temperatures going as high as 40 °C.

VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF NWCN

5. The NWCN has been conceived as a Centre of Excellence that would equip officers of the NN, sister Services and partner nations to function effectively at the operational level. The College also serves as a 'Think Tank' in sea power applications and maritime security at the operational level.

6. **Vision.** The vision of the NWCN is *"to be a centre of excellence on naval or joint military operations and maritime security studies in the sub-region"*.

7. **Mission.** The mission of the NWCN is *"to develop senior naval leaders and equivalents from other Services as operational level commanders with thorough appreciation of complex national security problems, who are prepared to make sound decisions in the application of maritime force as a policy option"*.

8. **Objectives.** The objectives of the NWCN are:

- a. Development of operational level competencies in maritime operations.
- b. Development of an understanding of the contemporary maritime security environment.
- c. Development of requisite strategic leadership and managerial competencies.
- d. Evaluation of the theory of war and strategy.

- e. Development of innovative skills for enhanced inter-agency cooperation.
- f. Development of competency for maritime policy making.
- g. Development of core naval competencies for enhanced inter-operability in multi-agency operations.
- h. Enhancement of competencies for character development, core values and burden sharing.

ORGANIZATION OF NAVAL WAR COLLEGE NIGERIA

9. The NWCN is headed by a Commandant of the Executive Branch with an established rank of Rear Admiral, who is responsible to the College Governing Board for the day-to-day running of the College. The Commandant is assisted by a Deputy Commandant, who doubles as the Director of Studies and oversees both the academic and administrative arms of the College. The College also has a Director of Coordination, who coordinates all academic activities of the College in liaison with the Office of the Deputy Commandant. The Director of Coordination is usually a senior Directing Staff who has completed his teaching terms at the College. Next are the Members of Faculty, also referred to as Directing Staff. As participants, you are expected to maintain direct contact with the Members of Faculty throughout the duration of the Course.

10. One of the positive peculiarities of NWCN is the cordial relationship between Members of Faculty and participants. The aim is to engender learning and improve participants' initiative. You are enjoined to make the most of this cordial relationship for self-improvement. Please note that in almost all situations, the Member of Faculty designated as the Course Officer must be your first point of contact.

11. The Administrative Branch of the College comprises 4 departments as follows:

- a. **Logistics Department.** The Logistics Department is responsible

for managing the entire logistics process in accordance with the objectives of the College.

b. **Personnel Management and Administration Department.** The Personnel Management and Administration Department ensures effective planning for and utilization of manpower. The Department also coordinates the deployment of naval personnel in the College for non-academic roles.

c. **Planning and Strategy Department.** The Planning and Strategy Department functions as a coordinating body in developing and implementing strategies that satisfies the objectives of individual Departments as well as promote the attainment of the overall objectives of the College. This Department continuously interrogates the external environment for opportunities and threats in order to suggest appropriate response.

d. **College Finance Department.** The College Finance Department is responsible for financial matters of the College. It is also responsible for the production of financial statements and returns, budgeting, financial planning as well as control of expenditure.

12. The Academic Branch comprises 5 departments as follows:

a. **Strategy and Policy Department.** The Strategy and Policy Department (S&PD) teaches participants to think strategically and prepare for positions of strategic leadership. The aim of the course content is to sharpen participants' ability to assess alternative strategic courses of action. S&PD adopts an interdisciplinary approach to strategy drawing on History, Political Science, International Relations, and Economics.

b. **Joint and Maritime Operations Department.** The Joint and Maritime Operations Department focuses on joint war fighting at the

strategic- theatre and operational levels of war. The Department prepares military and civilian leaders for high-level policy, command and staff positions requiring joint planning expertise and joint war fighting skills. The curriculum here emphasizes the theory and practice of operational art as it relates to maritime and joint forces.

c. **National Security Affairs Department.** The National Security Affairs Department focuses on national and international security studies. The educational programmes are rooted in both intellectual rigour and an understanding of the need for professional relevance among the participants.

d. **Leadership and Management Studies Department.** The Leadership and Management Studies Department develops a critical understanding of the theories and practice of leadership. Additionally, participants gain a mix of theoretical and practical management skills needed to function as future naval leaders.

e. **Academic Research and Support Services.** The Academic Research and Support Services Department provides support for research activities across all disciplines in the College. This support enriches participants' educational experience and the academic growth of the College.

COMMAND LEVEL OFFICERS' COURSE CURRICULUM

13. The CLC curriculum is designed to enhance participants' capacity to exercise effective command. The objectives include drawing the lessons learnt in individual career experience as well as ability to utilize participants' critical and creative thinking capacity in addressing contemporary challenges facing the tactical commander. Other areas include leadership and application of technology in aiding participants' command capacity. The curriculum comprises select topics, exercises and relevant visits/tours. Specific topics are contained in

the Blue programme. It should be noted that except where there are requirements for late finish or early start, the day is divided into 6 periods beginning from 0900 to 1410. The duration of each period shall be 45 minutes. Course materials shall be provided as the course progresses.

14. **Learning Philosophy and Mode of Delivery.** Based on the acknowledged fluidity and individualism of adult learning as well as the need to view learning as a continuum, the curriculum was designed to be flexible and employ wide range of teaching approaches in order to facilitate learning. The Course is more of a reading than writing course, employing a blend of directed learning (pedagogy) and facilitated learning (andragogy). The Members of Faculty provide content and process resources for participants and work as co-inquirers with participants thereby catalyzing learning.

15. **Reading List.** The CLC Reading List is a collection of materials designed to prepare participants for the Course and enrich both syndicate room and Central Hall discussions. The Reading List at Enclosure 1 has been carefully compiled to provide relevant information for reading ahead of participants' arrival and commencement of the Course. The list is by no means exhaustive, and participants are encouraged to read beyond the materials provided. In addition, one of the exercises scheduled during the CLC programme is a **Book Review**, which will be conducted through a Socratic Seminar. All participants will take part in the Seminar, during which they will discuss a set of pre-planned questions based on a book ***It's Our Ship*** by Capt D Michael Abrashoff, which is included in the Reading List. Participants are therefore expected to study the book thoroughly and develop a good understanding of its contents to participate effectively in the Seminar. To provide sufficient reading time ahead of the exercise, a link to the e-version of the book is provided below for participants to access and read the book before the commencement of the Course: [E-version of *It's Our Ship*](#)

16. **Library and Internet Facilities.** The NWCN Library is available for all participants to use in line with user guidelines. The library has collections of many contemporary books. Also, internet facilities are available to aid participants' research efforts. Meanwhile, the College has some relevant e-books which can be accessed via the College website.

17. **Sports.** Sports is compulsory for staff and participants in the NWCN. Participants are to come with their sportswear as there may be a need for them in line with NN training requirements. The sportswear is a combination of white coloured T-Shirt and blue or black joggers.

18. **General Conduct.** While on course, CLC participants are to take pride in their work/training and endeavour to always make themselves conversant with the expected level of discipline and general conduct. It is pertinent for participants to avoid incidents that could reflect them in bad light. To this end, participants are encouraged to keep themselves abreast with extant rules and regulations regarding general conduct expected of officers of their rank and experience in the AFN. Participants are to particularly acquaint themselves with the Naval War College Standing Operating Procedures on resumption to the College.

ACCOMMODATION, FEEDING AND DRESSING

19. **Accommodation.** Participants will be accommodated at the Participants' Quarters, inside the Headquarters Eastern Naval Command Officers' Mess. The apartments are furnished but personal efforts should be made for extra bed sheets. Participants are to inspect the allocated apartment and report any defect discovered to the Logistics Department of the College within 24 hrs. Please note that defects due to human error would be repaired at the occupant's expense.

20. **Feeding.** Feeding will be based on approved Ration Cash Allowance. Water supply to the College is from boreholes and Cross River State Water

Authority. Nevertheless, participants are at liberty to avail themselves other sources of good potable water for consumption.

21. **Dressing.** Participants are to come with the full array of military uniforms. Except where otherwise directed, participants are to dress in accordance with NN dress regulations from Monday to Friday. Accordingly, woodland camouflage is to be worn on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; bush jacket on Tuesdays; and working rig on Thursdays. Additionally, woodland Camouflage are to be worn during field trips. Notwithstanding, participants would be required to wear bush jacket for the Inauguration and graduation ceremonies for the Course.

22. **Airport Pick-Up.** Participants arriving by air who require airport pick-up are to contact the Ag MTO, SLt M Ekhalialu, on 07035336700 for airport pick-up and any other necessary assistance.

SECURITY

23. The security situation in Calabar and environs is relatively calm and peaceful. However, cases of kidnapping and violence have been recorded in the recent past. It is thus pertinent that participants are cautious and vigilant always to avert untoward experiences while on the Course. Unnecessary outing and keeping late night should be avoided always. It is important that the College Regulating Officer be called on 08066078270 to provide participants with necessary security tips to guide their movement in and out of NWCN.

CONCLUSION

24. The CLC is designed to deepen participants' understanding of the complexity of command at the tactical/operational level in the NN. The curriculum is premised on the increasing complexity of contemporary global security environment which emphasizes the combination of sound leadership philosophy, experience and training in making sound decision. It is against this backdrop, that these joining instructions have been articulated to provide

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participants with all administrative and logistics information needed to facilitate their course at NWCN. It is hoped that your valuable time and effort will be worthwhile. We wish you a safe trip to NWCN Calabar and a successful course. Fair Winds and Onward Together!



AO OBISESAN

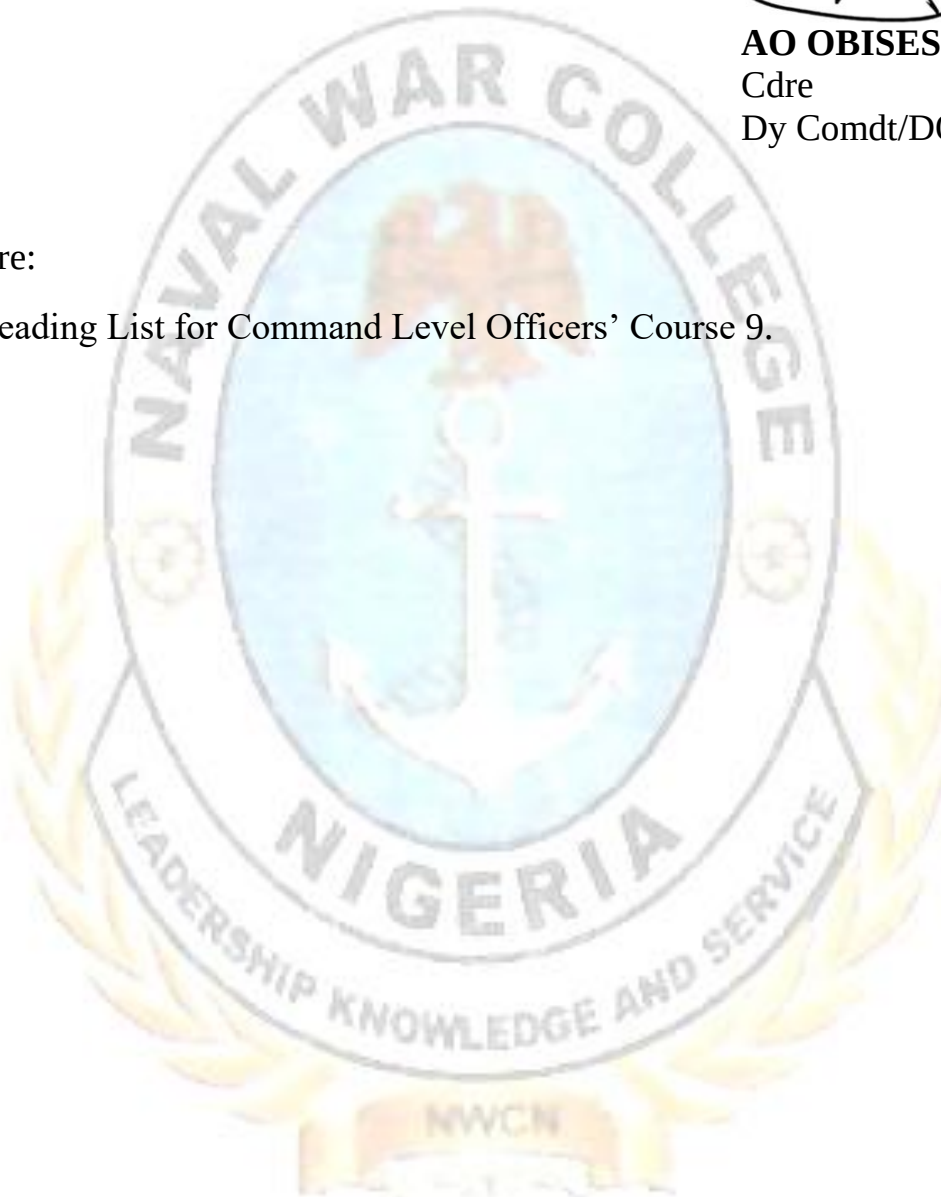
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Enclosure:

1. Reading List for Command Level Officers' Course 9.



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READING LIST FOR COMMAND LEVEL OFFICERS' COURSE 9

1. Bad Leadership: What it is, How it happens, Why it happens, Why it matters by B Kellerman.
2. CNS Strategic Directives 2023-6.
3. Exploring Leadership by Richard Bolden, Beverly Hawkins, Jonathan Gosling and Scott Taylor.
4. It's Our Ship by Capt DM Abrashoff.
5. Leadership: Leaders, Followers, Environments by Art Padilla.
6. Riding the Waves with Valour and Arms by Reginald Odeodi Adoki.
7. Victory with Honour by Olusegun Ferreira.

