

## Resident Faculty

**Arabinda Acharya, PhD, Deakin University.** Regionalism, Human Security, Political Violence & Terrorism

**Christopher Bassford, PhD, Purdue University.** Military History, History, Clausewitz

**RE Burnett, PhD, University of Missouri.** Science, technology, & International Affairs, Emerging technologies, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Geostrategy, Intelligence.

**Carolyn Davidson, MA, Cambridge University. LL.M, MA, M.Phil, Yale.** Transatlantic relations, Cold War history, grand strategy, & the evolution of the European Union

**Spencer Meredith, PhD, University of Virginia.** Conflict Resolution, Democratization, Religion & Politics, Just War/Peace Theory, Former Soviet & Middle Eastern Area Studies

**Tony Rivera, PhD, University of Delaware.** Iranian Foreign Policy, Middle East Strategic & Security Studies, International Relations Theory, Complex Adaptive Systems Theory, Phenomenology, & Computational Social Science

**David Walton, MA Webster University.** Strategic Leadership, Counter-Terrorism, Latin America

CISA's faculty offer a wide range of expertise to the Special Operation Forces community. If you would like to invite one of our faculty to speak in a class or at an upcoming event, please contact Christina Loreda.

## Admissions and Application Information

The Special Warfare Education Group at USAJFKSWCS manages the selection and accession for students applying for the CISA MA in the Strategic Security Studies Program.

### Packet Requirements

1. Application form
2. Complete academic transcript(s) from degree granting institution(s)
3. Officer Record Brief/Enlisted Record Brief
4. Last three Evaluation Reports
5. Statement of Purpose (250-500 words)
6. DA 1618

*Applications for AY 2015-2016 will be reviewed Fall of 2015*

For More Information:

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Program Coordinator  
(910)-396-5139  
Christina.loredo@gc.ndu.edu

<http://www.ndu.edu/cisa>

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY

College of International  
Security Affairs.

Joint Special Operations Master  
of Arts Program

Fort Bragg, NC



# CISA's MASSS Program

# Curriculum

The College of International Security Affairs (CISA) is one of the National Defense University's five colleges and the Department of Defense flagship school for education and the building of partnership capacity in combating terrorism and irregular warfare at the strategic level. CISA prepares students for high-level policy and command and staff responsibilities through a graduate education program. CISA has two locations: the main campus at the National Defense University located at Ft. Lesley J. McNair in Washington, DC; and an additional location at the US Army JFK Special Warfare Center and School's Colonel Aaron Bank Hall.

**CISAs Master of Arts in Strategic Security Studies is a 10-month, 36-credit hour graduate program.** Our outstanding faculty approach the field of security studies by balancing theory with practical application. CISA's curriculum focuses on the contemporary international security environment emphasizing the proliferation of security actors, complex threats and dimensions, the unprecedented scope and speed of information, a full spectrum of conflict and war, and new dynamic elements of security, as well as classical concepts.

**The Masters Program is delivered at the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School to Joint Special Operations Forces personnel.** Students attend classes full-time for 10 months, taking six to seven graduate classes each semester. Each course draws upon the diverse experience base of its participants in an interactive seminar setting. The courses emphasize leadership, logical analysis, and making effective arguments, presentations, and decisions. Through active seminar participation, independent study, and the research and writing of a thesis, the Joint Special Operations Master of Arts (JSOMA) Program assists students in developing an enhanced capacity to think critically at the strategic level of analysis.

**The curriculum\* offered in the JSOMA program at USAJFKSWCS Program gives students a deeper understanding of the following strategic issues:**

- theory to practice
- instruments of national power
- key international actors
- global security environment
- historical context
- theoretical and academic foundations

**The curriculum is comprised of:**

- **Strategic Thought:** Foundations of modern strategy
- **Geostrategy:** Contemporary security environment analysis
- **Power, Ideology, and Legitimacy:** A political theory primer
- **Origins of Conflict and War:** Historical theoretical international security
- **American Foreign Relations:** From colony to superpower
- **Warriors of the Mind: Strategic Influence in the 21st Century**
- **The Information and Cyber Revolutions**
- **International Political Economics:** Communication & Influence in Complex Systems
- **Conflict Resolution Strategies:** Conflict causes & solutions
- **Comparative Political Analysis:** Government principles & practices
- **Strategic Leadership and Ethics:** Building strategic advisors
- **Strategic Influence:** Communication & influence in complex systems
- **NATO and European Security**

**Research and Thesis Requirements**

- **Methods of Analysis and Argumentation:** Foundations of analytical training
- **Thesis (50-75 pages)**

Topics address a wide range of contemporary security challenges:

- Focus on particular countries or regions
- Broader topics that analyze global trends or threats

**Sample Electives**

- **Armed Groups and Irregular Warfare**
- **Political Islam: Origins, Threats, and Counterstrategies**
- **Organizing for Success in IW: Interagency Teams**
- **Terrorism and Crime:** Nexus between Terrorism/insurgency & crime
- **Strategy: Brand X**
- **Ethnic & Religious Conflict in Asia:** Persistent & Intractable Conflicts in Asia
- **Science, Technology, & War:** Analysis of science and engineering in war

CISA's curriculum covers strategic security studies from a variety of perspectives. If you are interested in seeing a schedule for any of the courses listed above, or would like to observe any of the classes in session, please contact Christina Loredo.

\*Curriculum is subject to change