

DANIEL K. INOUE

ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES

ADVANCED SECURITY COOPERATION (ASC) COURSE

Purpose

The Advanced Security Cooperation (ASC) course of five weeks is designed to inform mid-career and senior security practitioners from across the Asia-Pacific Region in-depth about this large, diverse and complex region, its many issues, and opportunities for advanced security cooperation.

The course also seeks to enhance the capability of every participant—or Fellow—in the areas of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and decision-making undertaken in complex and culturally-diverse environments.

The overall aim is to enable ASC Fellows to comprehend the Asia-Pacific Region’s most compelling security problems—and to empower cooperative attempts to address these.

Course Overview and Educational Approach

The Advanced Security Cooperation course comprises a mix of lectures, interactive sessions and an individual research project called “The Fellow’s Project”. Subject matter experts deliver lectures that examine the major security challenges that confront security practitioners in the Asia-Pacific Region and its various sub-regions. These lectures discuss traditional and non-traditional security issues and challenges. They also discuss the cooperative mechanisms—or lack thereof—that exist to address these complex and, in some cases, seemingly intractable, security matters.

The ASC utilizes its multi-national Fellows’ skills, experiences and analysis to enhance learning opportunities and experiential learning. Fellows engage in seminar activities to share ideas, understandings and learning. They participate in interactive exercises and simulations to develop critical-thinking skills, an ability to formulate strategies to address regional and sub-regional issues, and an understanding of the challenges of high-level negotiation.

The ASC requires each Fellow to engage in their respective Fellow’s Project that is relevant to his/her workplace. The aim is for each Fellow to devise a project that analyzes a pertinent issue and for which he/she then offers a feasible, implementable solution.

Overall, the ASC provides an international setting that strives:

- To enhance capacity to capitalize on opportunities for regional collaboration and cooperation;
- To improve international cooperation and effectiveness in relation to regional security issues, including promoting efforts to address protracted challenges associated with the (sometimes contested) global commons;
- To enhance civil-military relations and security sector cooperation and effectiveness;
- To increase capacity to improve governance and security sector integration and cooperation; and,
- To develop extensive networks and relationships amongst a community of mid- and senior-career security practitioners and aspirants.

DANIEL K. INOUE

ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES

ADVANCED SECURITY COOPERATION (ASC) COURSE

Who Would Benefit by Attending this Course

The Advanced Security Cooperation course typically attracts a broad range of participants from across the Asia-Pacific Region. The course curriculum is designed primarily for security practitioners whose current and/or future responsibilities require significant participation in, or a need to deeply understand, domestic and international security analysis, policy formulation and execution, and/or security cooperation, and who have the following backgrounds or aspirations:

- Senior civil servants, bureaucrats or representatives of government agencies and of international, regional and non-governmental organizations (NGOs);
- Officers (major to colonel) and senior civilians in military, law enforcement and intelligence organizations;
- Civilian officials (FSO-04 to FSO-01) in foreign service/foreign affairs bodies;
- In support of the U.S. State Department's Symposium on East Asia Security Fellowship Program, security affairs expert, including NGO leaders, academics, think tank experts, business people, journalists, and other private citizens;
- In support of the U.S. Government's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), the ASC especially seeks suitably qualified females for the more diverse perspectives and enhanced discussion and solution development they bring.

Educational Objectives of the ASC

1. To enhance each Fellow's knowledge on security matters and cooperation:
 - Identify key issues and trends impacting on the security environment of the Asia-Pacific Region;
 - Share best practices of governance, cooperation and security sector development;
 - Develop understanding about ways to reduce tensions and to advance cooperation internally across a nation's security sector and externally in the international community, including in the Asia-Pacific Region.
2. To develop each Fellow's effectiveness:
 - Enhance understanding and ameliorate and incorporate cultural differences and national sensitivities;
 - Enable effective communication to advocate and persuade (not just to inform);
 - Encourage contributions, cooperation and leadership within a multi-national environment;
 - Conduct problem analysis and individual project management.
3. To expand a network of practitioners within the Asia-Pacific Region security community:
 - Build relationships with practitioners from other organizations and nations—and who may have differing perspectives;
 - Develop an appreciation for a shared experience;
 - Utilize new and emerging information and communications technologies (ICTs) to maintain relationships and connectivity beyond the DKI APCSS experience.

DANIEL K. INOUE

ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES

ADVANCED SECURITY COOPERATION (ASC) COURSE

Course Curriculum

The ASC has four modules and a program of electives to inform Fellows about issues in the Asia-Pacific region and to provide them with opportunities to put their ideas into practice through experiential learning:

Module 1: Introductory Matters, Complexity, Security Analysis: Fellows participate in activities to enable them to understand the interconnectedness of phenomena in the security cooperation environment. These include activities to enhance understanding of the complexities of security cooperation and to develop critical thinking via understandings of causal relationships, issue-framing and critical problem-solving. An analytic tool will be used to evaluate a security problem.

Module 2: Major Security Issues in the Asia-Pacific Region: Through a series of lectures by subject matters experts, Fellows are informed in depth about the major issues in, and throughout, the Asia-Pacific Region and four of its sub-regions. Discussions in seminars heighten understanding of the regional security environment—and of Fellows’ experiences within this region. The Module concludes with an exercise in which Fellows examine and formulate ways to enhance sub-regional cooperation.

Module 3: Advanced Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region: Subject matter experts inform Fellows in depth about security cooperation and cooperative attempts to resolve major transnational security issues in the Asia-Pacific Region. Seminar discussions enhance understanding of such matters—and of Fellows’ concerns about them. The Module concludes with an exercise in which Fellows address a major security challenge in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Module 4: Enabling Security Cooperation: In this Module, Fellows apply the knowledge and analytical tools developed over the previous weeks to display their understanding of deepened security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region. They do so by undertaking a simulated “Inclusive Negotiations” exercise. The Module concludes with each Fellow completing their Fellow’s Project and presenting this to a relevant cohort.

Electives: The ASC will offer Fellows a number of electives that will enable them to delve deeply into other security and cooperation issues of their choice.

Other

The ASC provides a “Foundations of Fellowship” program that enables all Fellows to engage with their colleagues and relevant DKI APCSS staff via a number of social activities. Extra-curricular activities enable them to learn about, and see some of, Hawaii. On occasions, the ASC also will offer “brown bag luncheon” events to which Fellows can bring their own lunch and consume it while listening to an eminent speaker discuss a topic of relevance.

ASC Course Manager: Dr Christopher Snedden

ASC Course Coordinator: LCDR Daniel Bradshaw