



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY
DEFENSE INFORMATION SCHOOL
6500 MAPES ROAD
FORT MEADE, MD 20755-5620

Welcome to the Intermediate Photojournalism Course

DESCRIPTION

Welcome to the Intermediate Photojournalism Course (IPC). The course educates photographers and journalists in established communication theories and provides training in current best practices of photojournalism, so that graduates will be effective multi-platform communicators for their commands. Areas of instruction include visual and written communication theory, writing and photography interrelationships, news and feature writing, design principles, and intermediate photographic equipment and techniques to include electronic imaging, desktop publishing, digital cameras, image transmission, and archiving.

IPC is a content-heavy course that requires students to maintain a high level of focus for 40 training days. Much of your time out of class will be spent gathering content and completing assignments. A typical day of classroom training begins at 0855 and concludes at 1630, with assignments to be completed after the training day concludes. The days are long but the products created in this course are on par with content being produced by our civilian counterparts.

Students will create multimedia products that incorporate design, photo, audio and video elements. Graduates will be able to effectively combine the understanding of theory with practical application. While the main emphasis of the course is on learning to be an effective storyteller, students in this class will also be given the tools to become better editors and leaders in an ever-changing career field.

KEY COURSE EVENTS

The first portion of IPC will focus on providing necessary instruction to assist students' capability to tell effective, memorable stories via photography, multimedia and written techniques. Students will also complete multiple assignments to ensure they have a firm understanding of the basic technical skills required to complete future assignments. The second portion of the course consists of four multimedia story packages, including human-interest, personality, news/event and a capstone piece to measure their ability to be effective multi-platform communicators.

This course requires you to research and coordinate content on your own. Subjects are not given to you, you must go out and find them. We encourage you to explore the Baltimore- Washington area for your assignments. We want you--our advanced students--to find subjects off post to challenge yourselves. There are hundreds of DINFOS basic course students who are required to stay on base for their assignments, which saturates the community with requests for interviews and makes finding a subject on post very difficult. Much of your time is spent gathering content and working under intense deadlines--often demanding that you return to a subject several times in order to tell an in-depth story.

An informal graduation takes place on the final training day. Do not schedule flights departing from Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport prior to 1800 on the final training day. You will not be released early.

ITEMS TO CONSIDER

IPC classroom instruction includes training in both written and visual communication. Prior to attending the course, you are expected to be proficient in PA basics; if not, you will find it more challenging to perform well during this course. It is also beneficial for students to have a working understanding of Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Pro.

EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Students will be provided with two DSLR cameras and a video editing laptop. They will also be provided with a tripod and audio recording equipment, including recorders, shotgun microphones, and wireless lavalier microphones.

You are not required to bring a computer, but it is encouraged if you have one at your disposal. **You will be provided a DINFOS-issued laptop on Day 1.** Wi-Fi will be available inside of DINFOS. If you do bring a computer, it should be loaded with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and a web browser (preferably Google Chrome).

Students who have not used Google apps, such as Google email, Classroom, Hangouts, documents, etc., please watch the first four minutes of this [introductory video](#). Students will receive an @dinfos.edu email address, which will provide access to these Google apps during the course.

Students must have completed their annual Cyber Security Awareness Challenge in order to access DINFOS computer systems. Please have both a hard copy and access to an electronic copy available on Training Day One.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

If you require reasonable accommodations, please inform the Registrar (dma.meade.dinfos.list.registrar@mail.mil) as soon as possible so the office can work with the training department and logistics to provide needed resources on training day one.

UNIFORM AND CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

DINFOS military students are expected to maintain their personal appearance in accordance with applicable service regulations. Civilians are expected to be professional in appearance.

For Daily Wear:

- All Services: Current Duty Uniform. Flight suits are not an authorized uniform at DINFOS. See service specific guidelines at: [uniform policies](#)
- Students are required to wear dress uniforms (without service coat) on the last Friday of the month.
- Civilians: Business casual. No jeans.

Off Base and on Filming Location

- Business casual clothing (collared shirts, slacks or jeans) that presents a professional image is worn during off-post shoots. Remember you are representing both your service and DINFOS to the local community.

LATE ARRIVALS

Students arriving late risk losing their course reservation to a person on the "standby" list. If you are going to be late, contact the DINFOS Registrar's Office at (301) 677-4343.

ABSENCE POLICY

Absences for non-emergency, personal reasons are not normally approved. Clear your schedule now. Absence requests will be reviewed individually and granted for emergencies only.

QUESTIONS

For questions regarding orders, billeting, lodging, student det in-processing, rental cars, healthcare, dining facility, pay, etc., please work with your training POC in your organization. You can also contact the DINFOS Registrar at dma.meade.dinfos.list.registrar@mail.mil to provide further guidance.

Strength Through Truth