TRAINING PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION (TPI)

FOR

DINFOS-BPJC-USAF
BASIC PHOTOJOURNALIST COURSE – U.S. AIR FORCE

Approved by:

Commandant,
The Defense Information School

BASIC PHOTOJOURNALIST COURSE – U.S. AIR FORCE

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Table of Contents

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Preface

TRAINING PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION FILE NUMBER (TPFN):
DINFOS-BPJC-USAF

TITLE: Basic Photojournalist Course – U.S. Air Force

TRAINING LOCATION: Defense Information School, Fort Meade, MD

PURPOSE: To produce basic photojournalists with the skills in the principles, concepts, and techniques of journalism, public affairs, and photography.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY: Resident

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course trains Airmen to perform as basic Public Affairs photojournalists. It provides instruction in command information, community engagement, media relations, Internet-based capabilities, news writing, and basic still photographic techniques. This course provides training in guidelines for the release of information and imagery, news reporting, and public affairs theory, concepts and principles. This course also provides training in the theory and application of photographic fundamentals, captioning, optics, light sources, camera operations for controlled and uncontrolled photography, exposing, processing, and printing color images. Training also includes electronic imaging with digital cameras, imaging and graphic software, image transmission, archiving, and editing.

SERVICE PREREQUISITES:

Service	Prerequisites:
USAF	
Enlisted	E-1 through E-7; Minimum score of 72 on general area of ASVAB; AFAQE score of 43; Must have distant visual acuity correctable to 20/20 with normal color vision
International	
Not eligible for BPJC–USAF.	
Interagency	
Not eligible for BPJC–USAF.	

CLASS SIZE:

      MAXIMUM   24

      MINIMUM   12

COURSE LENGTH: 87 days

      ACADEMIC HOURS: 673 hrs

      ADMINISTRATIVE HOURS: 23 hrs

      TOTAL COURSE HOURS: 696 hrs

TYPE/METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

1. Lecture (L)   157 hrs
2. Demonstration (D)   5 hrs
3. Performance Exercise (PE)   216 hrs
4. Exam Performance (EP)   220 hrs
5. Field Training Exercise (FTX)   68 hrs
6. Written Examination (EW)   7 hrs
7. Administrative Hours (AD)   23 hrs

COURSE MEASUREMENT PLAN: Located in the Course Training Standard.

TRAINING START DATE: 13 January 2014

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: No environmental impact.

MANPOWER: The Inter-service Training Review Organization (ITRO) formula was used to determine the number of instructors that are required.

EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES: The Course Design Resource Estimate (CDRE) for participating courses contains this information.

TRAINING DEVELOPMENT PROPONENT: Defense Information School, Office of the Provost, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755.

REFERENCES: Located in the last section of this TPI.

SAFETY FACTORS: Routine

POC: Course Development Department DINFOSDOTCourseDeveloper@DINFOS.DMA.mil, (301) 677-3266.

TRAINING OUTCOMES:

UNIT 001 Public Affairs: Students will identify the primary principles of military public affairs policy, procedures and governing directives. Students will review the function of Department of Defense public affairs and identify various Air Force public affairs concepts, processes, and products. They will discuss several topics such as command information, guidelines for release of information, community engagement, communication laws, communication theory, and ethics. Additionally, they will apply public affairs concepts to various communication products and review applicable case studies throughout the course.

UNIT 002 Newswriting: Students are introduced to the concepts of public affairs with emphasis on the functions of news and newsgathering. They will define news and how to evaluate the importance of information that could be considered news. Students will practice and apply proper grammar, word usage, and punctuation with the assistance of copy-editing modules. They will learn about writing leads and bridges, localizing a news story, developing headlines, and how to effectively write a news story. Students will also learn about the fundamentals of conducting an interview and applying proper attribution. They will apply newswriting skills to various assignments throughout the course.

UNIT 003 Photojournalism: Students will identify and apply safety and security standards, and review service-related administrative procedures and publications. They will discuss the basic theory of light and color theory in relation to photographic concepts, and familiarize themselves with basic digital camera operations. Students will learn about lenses, filters, composition, exposure, flash techniques, and identify DOD guidelines concerning ethics and copyright. They will properly caption images utilizing appropriate application software and apply effective imagery workflow file management. Students will apply photographic concepts and techniques when performing various assignments throughout the course. This functional area will culminate in an operational support exercise.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 2
MEDIA FACILITATION

TRAINING OUTCOMES:

UNIT 001 Media Facilitation: Students will identify and perform media operations and techniques, such as escorting the media, writing an accident/incident release, responding to media queries and performing on-camera interviews. They will identify and develop effective command messages and discuss their impact. Students will also identify the major functions of a media operations center, define crisis communications and discuss the importance of proactive and reactive reputation management.

UNIT 002 Photography: Students will identify and apply the various aspects of alert photography, such as procedures for handling and processing imagery, legal considerations, material deficiency reports, and the important role photography plays in documenting evidence during forensic or criminal investigations, ground accidents, or aircraft mishaps.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 3
ADVANCED PHOTOJOURNALISM

TRAINING OUTCOMES:

UNIT 001 Feature Writing: Students will identify and apply the skills and techniques that are utilized in feature writing. They will select topics, collect information, and organize, write, revise and rewrite stories using figurative language and various storytelling devices. Students will write feature leads and conclusions appropriate to story types, discuss how to prepare for an interview and identify procedures used in conducting an interview. They will use all information learned to successfully write feature stories.

UNIT 002 Photography: Students will identify and apply the skills and techniques that are required to perform duties within a photographic studio. They will perform various functions, such as establishing multiple light scenarios, using a flash meter to determine exposure and lighting ratios, and using proper posing techniques for passport, ISOPREP, and portrait images. Additionally, students will develop a scripted photo story using established visual communication techniques. This functional area will culminate in an operational support exercise.

FUNCTIONAL AREA 4
DEPLOYED OPERATIONS

TRAINING OUTCOMES:

UNIT 001 Deployed Public Affairs: Students will identify and describe public affairs programs in a deployed location and potential coordinating issues that are involved in a joint service environment. They will identify the principles of media coverage and describe the guidelines for arranging media pools and embedded media. Students will examine host nation sensitivities overseas, how these factors can affect the public affairs mission, and how to properly interact with the local U.S embassy. They will examine the unified command structure and its operational mission, and explore how the unified commands support U.S. national security goals.

UNIT 002 Internet-based Capabilities: Students will identify and apply various Web-based functions and products. They will identify and apply proper layout and design principles for online communication products. Students will discuss the importance of emerging technologies and how to best maximize their use and capabilities. They will examine several delivery platforms and identify current industry standard best practices. Students will also identify and describe the content management system currently utilized by the Air Force.

UNIT 003 Combat Camera: Students will identify and apply combat camera functions, such as low-light photography, light and noise discipline, and the appropriate characteristics of night vision devices. They will identify the principles of still combat documentation and discuss the combat documentation philosophy. Students will identify mission-specific safety considerations and limiting factors. They will identify requirements for imagery that needs approval and release for accessioning that includes describing transferring and transmission techniques. This functional area will culminate in students operating in a simulated combat environment.

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