



Integrated Training Solutions  
(Global)



A COHORT PLC COMPANY

# INTRODUCTION TO JOINT OPERATIONS PLANNING



## Aim

***The aim of this online course is to develop participants' understanding of the UK Operational Level Planning Process. This course is intended for military staff as well as staff from other government departments and agencies, including the Police.***

The course is intended as a practical guide and draws heavily on current doctrine, UK and NATO procedures, and the considerable experience of the training team behind its design. Through a series of course modules, it introduces aspects of modern operational planning and in particular explains the principles of Joint Operations at the Operational Level, Operational Art and the use of the Planning Tool Kits (Campaign Planning Concepts and Operations Planning, or Estimate, Process).

The course is designed as an introduction to Operational Planning and provides participants with the tools to participate, as part of a team, in the planning process. Further study, practice and experience will still be needed to equip individuals to play a more leading role in the planning process (such as leading a planning team or performing the command function).

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## Format

The course consists of nine online modules covering the following areas:

- Operational Level Planning Process and Operational Art
- Tool Kit 1: Campaign Planning Concepts
- Centre of Gravity Analysis
- Tool Kit 2: Operations Planning Process
- Case Study Analysis

During each module participants undertake both self-guided study and private research. A prescribed set of reading material is supplied with the course, including a course handbook which supplements all of the core presentations and provides a useful guide to conducting the planning process.

Planning in the human domain is a complex and often challenging experience; this course requires participants to approach the subject with an open and enquiring mind. It calls for a degree of self-discipline and self-directed learning in order to attain the maximum benefits.

The course can be completed in five days of full-time study or undertaken over a number of weeks. Participants have registered access to the course for 60 days and all modules must be finished within that period.

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## Training team

The training team is primarily drawn from Integrated Training Solutions (Global) who are widely considered the UK's leading experts in this field. The team, collectively, has over 80 years' experience within the planning field as practitioners, tutors, mentors and influencers of future doctrine. Their personal experiences and expert knowledge of their subject come through in all elements of this course.

## Bespoke option

For an enhanced learning package, there is an additional 'blended learning' version of the course, during which the training team will be available to provide direct support using 'live' group sessions and workshops as well as online forum discussions. There is flexibility with this option to deliver the course in line with customers' specific scheduling requirements.

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# The course explains....

## Campaign planning concepts

the operational level commander designs the plan around a number of building blocks, which help to visualise how the campaign will unfold. These building blocks provide a framework for thinking at the operational level. They are also referred to as 'Campaign Planning Tools'.

## Operations planning process

the sequence of planning activities provides a proven process to organize the work of the commander, staff, subordinate commanders, and other partners, to develop plans that will appropriately address the problem to be solved.

## Operational art

the orchestration of all military activity involved in converting strategic objectives in to tactical actions... the essence of command at the operational level.

## Centre of gravity

the primary source of power that provides an actor its strength, freedom of action, or will to fight.

**This course has been designed by MASS and ITS and is not affiliated with the UK MOD**

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To register for this course, visit our website at [mass.co.uk/what-we-do/mass-online-training](https://mass.co.uk/what-we-do/mass-online-training).

To talk to someone about the online course or a blended learning version, contact: [dforsythe@mass.co.uk](mailto:dforsythe@mass.co.uk) or [admin@I-T-S.org.uk](mailto:admin@I-T-S.org.uk). More details about the training team can be found at [www.i-t-s.org.uk](https://www.i-t-s.org.uk).



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