NWSI
Critical Thinking for Strategic Leadership

The increasing uncertainty and ambiguity in the strategic environment means an increasing need to not just fire effectively first, but also to think effectively first. Thinking is key to competitive advantages in the cognitive age and can be useful, not only for the individual but also for organizations and for leading strategic change.

This course focuses on developing the thinking foundations for strategic leadership in the Cognitive Age.

In this course, we will focus on:

♦ How to cultivate strategic, innovative, and critical thinking and how to develop cognitive and dispositional skills useful for warfighters and for leading warfighting organizations

♦ Tools for thinking critically, managing, and leading in situations with ill-structured and wicked problems

♦ Understanding and applying principles, ideas, and frameworks for leading agile organizations

♦ Synthesizing and integrating ideas, perspectives, and examples from national security and business contexts and applying them to our own organization and to our current strategic competitors

♦ Examining and learning from cases, critical thinkers, and strategic leaders (such as John Boyd, Andrew Marshall, Steve Jobs, Wayne Hughes, and Al Gray) and ways to use critical thinking to be a more effective strategic leader of warfighting organizations

The course is taught by warrior-scholar team and recognizes that active minds are best built through active learning which embrace through discussions, cases and exercises. No death by Power Point!

NWSI Critical Thinking and Judgment Branch
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