



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE
EDUCATION COMMAND
2076 SOUTH STREET
QUANTICO, VA 22134-5129

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1524
CSC
03 Jan 23

From: Director, Command and Staff College
To: Students of the Command and Staff College Class of 2024

Subj: WELCOME ABOARD

1. Congratulations on your selection to attend Marine Corps Command and Staff College (CSC). The opportunity to attend in-resident professional military education is recognition of your past performance and future potential. Your respective service/agency/nation is making a substantive investment in your professional development by providing you with a full 10 months of service as a full-time student.
2. Our mission at CSC centers on developing critical thinkers, innovative problem solvers, and ethical leaders ready to confront future challenges in complex and uncertain security environments. This mission drives our curriculum and guides the interactions you will have with our faculty of talented military and civilian professionals. Additionally, your interaction with joint colleagues, international officers, and interagency professionals will provide unique learning opportunities that will broaden your professional aperture and expand your network.
3. While your academic schedule at CSC will be predictable, it will be demanding. All U.S. students will graduate with a Masters of Military Studies (MMS) degree and international students have the opportunity to earn a graduate degree if they meet admittance requirements. Anchored by the rigorous core curriculum, the MMS program enables you to partner with a PhD mentor and explore a research topic of your choosing. While your time at CSC will be professionally demanding, I charge each of you to consider how you will actively manage your schedule over the course of the academic year so as to make purposeful investments in yourself as well as your family and relationships outside of work.
4. Before your arrival, there are required actions you must complete to enroll in CSC and facilitate a smooth on-boarding process. Please review the Marine Corps University (MCU) website (<https://www.usmcu.edu/Students/New-Student-Check-In/>) often for guidance and complete all enrollment tasks before your arrival. For our U.S. students, I want to emphasize the opportunity to serve as a sponsor for one of our international teammates. Please give real consideration to participating in this program as it fosters rich and rewarding experiences as well as lifelong friendships for all involved.
5. Lastly, while not required, I highly encourage you to start exploring CSC's Preparatory Knowledge Program (PKP) (<https://www.usmcu.edu/Academic-Programs/CSC-Preparatory-Knowledge-Program/>). The PKP is resourced from faculty and former student recommendations and is designed to provide incoming students with introductory knowledge related to CSC's various courses and focus areas.
6. Once again congratulations. We look forward to welcoming you all and your families this summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. W. Tippet", is located below the sixth list item.

B. W. TIPPETT