

**ENLISTED COLLEGE OF DISTANCE
EDUCATION PROGRAM**

1-20



4 February 2020
MCAGCC Twentynine Palms

PROGRAM



Invocation

National Anthem

Introductory Remarks

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Guest Speaker

Presentation of Diplomas

Marines Hymn



Welcome! Thank you for attending the Camp Pendleton Region Academic Year 2020 Enlisted College of Distance Education Program Graduation Ceremony. The Enlisted College of Distance Education Program currently offers three programs: the Advanced School Seminar Program (ASSP), the Career School Seminar Program (CSSP), and the Sergeants School Seminar Program (SSSP). Graduating today are students from the CSSP and SSSP. These programs were developed as part of the Marine Corps University's efforts to afford every Marine a resident PME experience at each rank. The curriculum is derived from, and parallel to, the resident courses offered at the SNCO Academy. The Staff Sergeants and Sergeants graduating today completed their professional military education as an "additional requirement" outside of normal duty hours as part of the weekly seminar program. Over the past 15 weeks students dedicated four to six hours of preparation time weekly, in addition to the three hours of in-class seminar time. Weekly assignments included completing a series of assigned readings, completing an online quiz, and participating in a three hour seminar discussion facilitated by a senior SNCO. The Career School Seminar Program provides Staff Sergeants with the knowledge and skills needed to assume leadership roles of greater responsibility. Students participated in weekly seminar discussions on critical thinking, military ethics, warfighting, tactical fundamental, and leadership throughout the course. Additionally, the students were required to deliver a brief; as well as write an operation order, an award citation, and an essay on Irregular Warfare. The Career Schools Seminar Program is designed to better prepare Staff Sergeants to serve as ethical leaders, professional warfighters, and sound decision makers in your units. The Sergeants School Seminar Program provides Sergeants with the knowledge and skills necessary to assume leadership roles of greater responsibility and to successfully perform the duties of a small-unit leader with confidence and decisiveness. The instruction places emphasis on leadership, warfighting, training, and administrative and communication skills that are necessary for a sergeant to function at the squad level, lead Marines in combat, and mentor junior Marines. Our adjunct faculty deserve a special "thank you." Without their hard work and dedication it would have been impossible to accomplish the goals of the program. In addition to leading the seminars, they serve as role models and mentors. On behalf of the entire Camp Pendleton College of Distance Education and Training, I want to congratulate today's graduates on their accomplishment. It has been our pleasure assisting you!

Congratulations!
Semper Fidelis
Jeffrey R. Willis

FIRST SERGEANT GARCIA JR., A.



First Sergeant Garcia enlisted in the Marine Corps on 28 May 2001, and attended recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina. Upon graduation of Recruit Training, Private Garcia reported to the School of Infantry, Camp Geiger, North Carolina and earned the primary Military Occupational School (MOS) of 0331 (Infantry Machine Gunner) where he received the “Gung-Ho” Award.

In October of 2001, Private Garcia completed Infantry Training School at Camp Geiger, North Carolina. He received orders to 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, Alpha Company, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. While at 1/6 Alpha Company, PFC Garcia worked his way through the ranks of Private First Class, Lance Corporal, Corporal and Sergeant. Along the way becoming a gunner, team leader, squad leader, section leader and platoon sergeant. During his time in 1/6 Alpha Company, he deployed to Okinawa, Japan on the Unit Deployment Program where he served as a team leader and squad leader within the machine gun section. He then deployed on the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. BLT 1/6 operated in the Kandahar Province, Afghanistan where he served as a machine gun squad leader.

In May of 2005, Sergeant Garcia received orders to Recruiter School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California. Upon completing Recruiting School, he was assigned to Recruiting Station San Antonio, Recruiting Sub Station Austin South, as a Canvassing Recruiter and Staff Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of Recruiting Sub-Station Austin South. In September 2006 and September 2007, he was selected as the Recruiter of the year for Recruiting Station San Antonio. In January 2007, Sergeant Garcia was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant.

In March of 2009, Staff Sergeant Garcia was assigned to 2d Battalion, 2d Marines, Weapons Company, where he assumed the responsibilities as Platoon Sergeant of Combined Anti-Armor Team 2. In October of 2009, Staff Sergeant Garcia deployed in OEF with 2/2 Weapons Company to Helmand Province, Afghanistan where he served as the Combined Anti-Armor Team Platoon Sergeant.

In August of 2010, Staff Sergeant Garcia volunteered to deploy with 2d Battalion, 6th

Marines, Fox Company in OEF as a combat replacement in the Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He assumed the responsibilities as Platoon Sergeant for Fox Company, 1st Platoon. In January of 2011, Staff Sergeant was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant.

In August of 2010, Staff Sergeant Garcia volunteered to deploy with 2d Battalion, 6th Marines, Fox Company in OEF as a combat replacement in the Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He assumed the responsibilities as Platoon Sergeant for Fox Company, 1st Platoon. In January of 2011, Staff Sergeant was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant.

In March of 2011, Gunnery Sergeant Garcia deployed with 2d Battalion, 2d Marines, Weapons Company, with the 22nd MEU in support of Unified Protector, where he assumed responsibilities as Platoon Sergeant for Combined Anti-Armor Team 1. While with 2/2 Weapons Company, Gunnery Sergeant Garcia served as a Platoon Sergeant, Company Operations Chief and at times acting company First Sergeant.

In July of 2012, Gunnery Sergeant Garcia received orders to Marine Corps Combat Instructor School, School of Infantry West where he was the recipient of the "Gung Ho" award while a student at Combat Instructor School. Upon completion of Combat Instructor School, Gunnery Sergeant Garcia was assigned to Marine Combat Training (MCT) Battalion, Kilo Company to serve as a Combat Instructor. During his time at SOI-West, he served as a combat instructor in MCT, Company Gunnery Sergeant at Advance Infantry Training Battalion, Chief Instructor for Combat Hunter Trainer Course, Chief Instructor for Advance Machine Gun Course, and spent his last 18 months as Chief Instructor for Combat Instructor School-West. In September 2014, Gunnery Sergeant Garcia completed his Bachelor's degree in Organization Management. In April 2014, Gunnery Sergeant Garcia was frocked to the rank of First Sergeant.

In April of 2015, First Sergeant Garcia received orders to Combat Logistics Battalion 7, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, MCAGCC Twenty-nine Palms, California where he served as the Transportation Services Company First Sergeant.

In December 2016, First Sergeant Garcia was selected to his current duty station as the Director of the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy, MCAGCC Twenty-nine Palms, California. First Sergeant Garcia complete his Master's degree in the Science of Leadership.

First Sergeant Garcia awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (one gold star in lieu of second award), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three gold stars in lieu of fourth award), Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal (four gold stars in lieu of fifth award).

First Sergeant Garcia has been married to his wife, Jeanette for 15 years. They have two sons, Jonathon and Anthony.

ADVANCE SCHOOL SEMINAR GRADUATES

MGySgt Neudauer

GySgt Fausto Aulestia, USMC

GySgt Michael Corral, USMC

GySgt Bobby Cox, USMC

GySgt Michael Else, USMC

GySgt Matthew Hedges, USMC

GySgt Amadeo Hernandez, USMC

GySgt Frankie Hines, USMC

GySgt Robert Long, USMC

GySgt Donnie Medina, USMC

GySgt Kristoffer Roberts, USMC *

GySgt Bethany Stancell, USMC

GySgt Ebony Washington, USMC

GySgt Kevin Wong, USMC



CAREER SCHOOL SEMINAR GRADUATES

Mr. Pryor

SSgt Dwight Bunting, USMC

SSgt Brian Day, USMC

SSgt James Ennis, USMC

SSgt Christopher Granados, USMC

SSgt Lennon Hobbs, USMC

SSgt Richard Holder, USMC

SSgt Dagan Inman, USMC

SSgt Latorie Maddox, USMC

SSgt Elijah Mangar, USMC

SSgt Ronoldy Melendez, USMC

SSgt Dylan Shaw, USMC

SSgt Chad Skaggs, USMC*

SSgt Christophe Sprouse, USMC

1stSgt Garcia

SSgt Steven Baez, USMC

SSgt Trenton Benjamin, USMC

SSgt Mario Castaneda, USMC

SSgt Cody Cokelet, USMC

SSgt Ashley Gardea, USMC

SSgt Gerardo Granados, USMC

SSgt Michael Moore, USMC*

SSgt Laron Murray, USMC

SSgt Justin Seebeck, USMC

SSgt Morris Young, USMC



SERGEANTS SCHOOL SEMINAR GRADUATES

GySgt Tiphany Hill

Sgt Emmanuel Arriaga, USMC

Sgt Brandon Bundy, USMC

Sgt Jacob Chase, USMC

Sgt Daniel Collins, USMC

Sgt Connor Cross, USMC

Sgt Joshua Grant, USMC

Sgt Patricia Manzueta, USMC*

Sgt Michael Martin, USMC

Sgt Jefferson Miller, USMC

Sgt Josiah Minch, USMC

Sgt Jorge Patricio, USMC

Sgt Tristen Queen, USMC

Sgt Tremone Stewart, USMC

Sgt Sean Sullivan, USMC

Sgt Juwan White, USMC

Sgt Charlie Williams, USMC



**COLLEGE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
AND TRAINING
CAMP PENDLETON REGION**

Adjunct Faculty

MGySgt William Neudauer, USMC
Mr. Scott Pryor, MSgt USMC (Ret)
1stSgt Alejandro Garcia, USMC
GySgt Tiphany Hill, USMC

Campus Staff

Mr. Jeff Willis, Regional Director
Mr. Robert Hightower, ASSP Regional Chief Instructor
Mr. Harrison Tanksley, CSSP & SSSP Regional Chief Instructor
Ms. Monica Castillo, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Kerrie Parsons, Administrative Assistant