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MARINE CORPS UNIVERSITY



The Brute Krulak Center for Innovation & Future Warfare

Quarterly Newsletter

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From the Director - Valerie Jackson

Dear Friends of the Krulak Center,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well! As you'll see in the ensuing pages, the Center and University continue to demonstrate their agility and creativity as we continue to deliver cutting-edge and responsive programming. Our largest growth area has been in the arena of Wargaming, with the hiring of Mr. Tim Barrick, Col, USMC (ret), and his massive expansion of both the depth and variety of wargaming opportunities for both students and the FMF. Our Middle East Studies team of Dr. Tarzi and Dr. Anzalone have also been incredibly productive, not only hosting a timely panel on Afghanistan, but continuing to provide lectures and writings around the world. Finally, our new scholar programs have once again highlighted the impressive intellectual talents of both our students and faculty, as they engage in these extra-curricular programs that will ultimately lead to a more holistic PME experience. I am grateful to all of the students and Fellows, and those that lead them. Their collective work will have lasting impacts.

Please continue to follow us and share with your own networks the great work these students and faculty continue to pursue!

Semper Fi,
Val

KRULAK CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

MIDDLE EAST STUDIES; WARGAMING; KRULAK CENTER SCHOLASTIC PROGRAMS; WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY; CENTER FOR REGIONAL AND SECURITY STUDIES; BRUTEMEDIA & THE LANDING

MIDDLE EAST STUDIES



MES Lecture Series

- "The U.S. in Afghanistan: Looking Back to Look Forward" Panel with MajGen Julian D. Alford, Ambassador P. Michael McKinley, and Dr. Carter Malkasian; https://youtu.be/WeNMDpFb8_Y

MES Research Talk

- "China's Afghanistan Strategy Post-U.S. Withdrawal", Yun Sun, Stimson Center's China Program Director; <https://youtu.be/QFnk4Bk9IoM>

MES Publications

- MES Insights, Volume 12; <https://www.usmcu.edu/mes/Insights/>
 - Issue 6: "Lebanon's Total Collapse: Challenges, Implications, and Recommendations for U.S. Foreign Policy" (Dr. Farah Kawtharani)
 - Issue 5: "Dangers of Afghanistan Obliviousness in U.S. Professional Military Education" (Dr. Amin Tarzi)
 - Special Series: Issues 3 and 5 on Strategic Competition with China and Russia in the Red Sea Zone and East Africa (Dr. Stig Jarle Hansen)



MIDDLE EAST STUDIES



Dr. Amin Tarzi

Panels

- "Turkish and Iranian Response to Refugees from Afghanistan", New York University;
<https://twitter.com/otsnyu/status/1445817631802421257>
- Securing the Black Sea Region; NATO Defense College
- "Afghanistan, Past, Present and Future" Podcast;
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2c9bmAza_A

PME

- "The Importance of Afghanistan in the Security of Central and South Asia"
- MCWAR and SEPME classes on Iran

Publications

- "The Life of Abdur Rahman: The Composition, Reception, and Influence on the Historiography of Afghanistan" with Dr. R. D. McChesney in *Afghanistan* (Edinburgh University Press)

Dr. Christopher Anzalone

PME

- Presentations on Iran and its regional allies and proxies to Command and Staff College

Interviews

- TRT World segment on global resurgence of Islamic State/ISIS and its regional branches;
<https://youtu.be/1yOI1IWnNPY>
- TRT World segment on the Tehrik-i Taliban Pakistan (Pakistani Taliban);
<https://youtu.be/932CHGkVqkg>

Presentations/Lectures

- Paper Presentation: "Islamizing Rebel Governance in Somalia: Al-Shabaab's Proto-State"; Middle East Studies Association conference. Duke University.
- Guest Lecture: "The Art of the Martyr and the Mujahid: Aesthetics & Narratives in Contemporary Jihadi Visual Culture". George Mason University.
<https://youtu.be/dNeiGDkxEEA>
- Guest Lecture: "Salafism, Wahhabism, and Sunni Sectarianism and Anti-Shi'ism". Duke University.



The Art of the Martyr and the Mujahid: Aesthetics and Narratives in Contemporary Jihadi Visual Culture
with
Dr. Christopher Anzalone

NOVEMBER 17
4:30PM ET
ONLINE

To register for this online event,
visit here: <https://duke.is/wehx9>

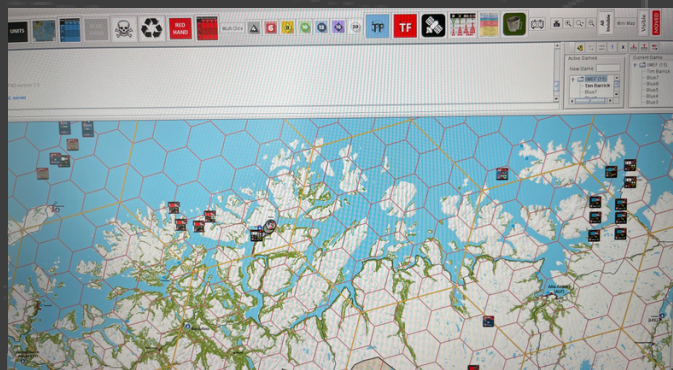
Sponsored by Duke Libraries, Duke University Middle East Studies Center, Art, Art History & Visual Studies Department, and Duke Islamic Studies Center

WARGAMING

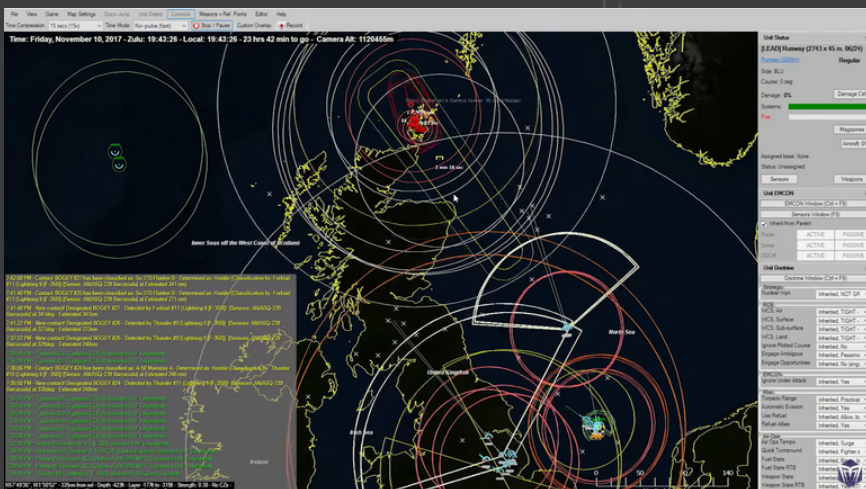
#TeamKrulak and MCU's director of wargaming, Mr. Tim Barrick, remain busy implementing the MCU Wargaming Master Plan and Commandant of the Marine's Corps guidance to use wargames to enhance training and education across the Fleet. Here's what they've been up to!



MCU Wargaming Director Mr. Tim Barrick provides an overview of the OWS "Sever" expansion to Ms. Caroline Baxter, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Education and Training



Mr. Barrick facilitating a digital play-through of the OWS using the VASSAL game system, with the Discord voice/text app allowing teams to coordinate with their various task force elements.



Wargaming and the Marine Corps Planning Process

In December, MCU Wargaming worked in partnership with II MEF and MAGTF Staff Training Program to explore how to incorporate traditional wargaming methods with the Wargaming step of the planning process. Using the Operational Wargame System, a II MEF planning team spent two days wargaming in order to evaluate a course of action and gain a deeper understanding of the critical factors of the operation, including key decision points. This experiment was successful in demonstrating the value of including traditional wargaming methods in the planning process when time is available to do so. Some key learning points centered on ensuring that game components match the order of battle and that the Synch Matrix and Decision Support Matrix are both continuously updated during wargaming.

Operational Wargame System Update

Work continues on the 2nd edition of the "Assassin's Mace: War in the Pacific" wargame. Additionally, a new expansion will be coming out shortly called "Sever: War in the Arctic" that focuses on a conflict between NATO and Russia on NATO's Northern Flank.

Command: Professional Edition - Amphibious Planning Mod

Funded by the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab, Matrix Games delivered a new enhancement to their Command Professional Edition wargaming software that enables players to conduct detailed amphibious missions. The new mod includes a Serial Assignment Editor, a Landing Plan interface, and an Operations Manager tool. These three interfaces give players greater control over how forces are organized and employed for ship to shore movement. This new capability will be leveraged by Expeditionary Warfare School for their upcoming exercise Angkor Cross which requires students to conduct Marine Expeditionary Unit level planning and operations.

(left) screenshot from "Command: Professional Edition" digital wargame

WARGAMING

MCU Wargaming Cloud

Progress continues on the establishment of the new MCU Wargaming Cloud capability. With the start of January, we transitioned to testing the cloud environment with a limited test pool of users. Target for initial operating capability is March.

Fleet Marine Force Wargame

This wargame's expansion continues across the force with more units requesting copies for educational and training use. Designed by Sebastian Bae, this game focuses on tactical level operations centered on the Marine Littoral Regiment and explores integration of joint capabilities and how they may be employed in potential future conflicts. The scenarios for this game continue to increase in number with extensive scenario work by Maj Ian Brown.



Staff and curriculum developers at the College for Enlisted Military Education (CEME) familiarize themselves with the FMF wargame.



CEME staff and #TeamKrulak members play-test a new criminal/non-state actor mechanic for future FMF scenarios.



(left) Mr. Barrick answers questions on OWS from BGen Douglas Clark of NATO's Joint Warfare Centre



(right) new additions to #TeamKrulak's wargame library from a friend of the Center



(left) students from the Gray Scholars Program explore game design by playing "The Shores of Tripoli"



(right) #TeamKrulak conducts internal training with "Command: Professional Edition"

CENTER for REGIONAL and SECURITY STUDIES



Regional and Culture Studies Program (RCSP) Curriculum Updates Released

The Center for Regional and Security Studies serves as the content sponsor for the Regional and Culture Studies Program (RCSP) and is pleased to announce the release of recent updates to the RCSP curriculum. In November 2021, the third and fourth blocks of the four block RCSP curriculum were revised to provide updated content as well as add a new practical application exercise in which students are afforded an opportunity to integrate the impacts of cultural characteristics into mission planning.

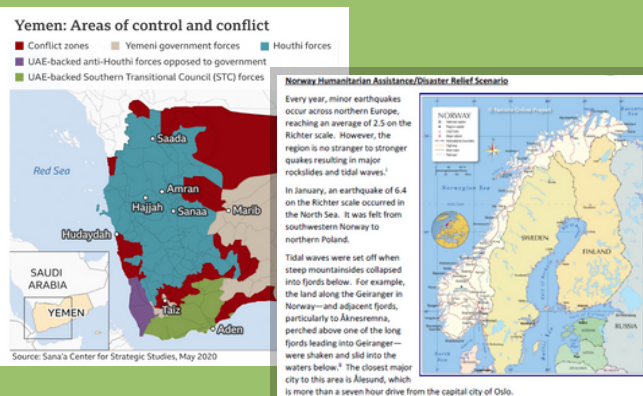


Released in 2020 as the replacement to the Regional, Culture, and Language Familiarization (RCLF) program, RCSP serves as the Marine Corps' service-wide educational enterprise aimed at providing Marines with transferable cultural concepts and skills that can be used in any operating environment and intercultural exchange. Additionally, RCSP provides focused regional and cultural content that incorporates these general concepts and skills so that Marines can apply and reflect on them in a specific context. In an era of strategic competition, RCSP directly contributes to Marines' understanding of our pacing threat while enabling increased interoperability with partners and allies.

RCSP is a voluntary Professional Military Education (PME) opportunity offering a number of incentives. Marines of all ranks are eligible to enroll in and complete any of its 17 separate micro-regionally focused curricula. Marines who complete one or more of the four RCSP blocks are eligible to receive ACE-accredited undergraduate equivalency, reserve retirement points, Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and annotations on their Master Brief Sheet.

In an era of strategic competition, RCSP directly contributes to enhanced interoperability with partners and allies by increasing Marines' cross-cultural competencies.

November 2021 updates to Block 2A and 2B of the RCSP curriculum include the addition of Language, Regional Expertise and Culture (LREC) analysis and assessment exercises providing students with an opportunity to apply course concepts to hypothetical real-world mission sets. Within the Block 2B curriculum, students currently have the option of completing the exercise based on scenarios set in Yemen or Norway, with plans for additional scenarios to be released during 2022. Reflective essay components have also been added to both blocks, affording students with an opportunity to analyze previous professional intercultural experiences through the lens of RCSP course concepts.



Screenshots from updated RCSP Blocks

All RCSP content is hosted on the Marine Net ecosystem and prospective students should visit
<https://www.usmcu.edu/CRSS/Education/RCSP/>
or email crss_admin@usmcu.edu for additional information.



Krulak Scholars AY22

The AY22 Krulak Scholars Program, facilitated by Middle East Studies (MES), is focused on studying and analyzing the political, social, economic, and military challenges to U.S. foreign policy taking place now in the Eastern Mediterranean, placing regional security issues in their broader geostrategic context. Rising intra-NATO tensions, the escalation of Iranian maritime guerilla and proxy warfare, regional instability in the Levant, continuing threats posed by non-state armed groups, and the expansion of Russian and Chinese military and economic presence in this region pose new challenges to the U.S. and its allies. During the first quarter of AY22, the Krulak Scholars have read and discussed the strategic importance of the Eastern Mediterranean to the U.S. and its allies through selected readings and presentations by SMEs, including presentations by Dr. Yuval Weber, the Krulak Center's resident SME on Russian Military and Political Strategy, and MES Director Dr. Amin Tarzi. The Krulak Scholars have and continue to consider and discuss how U.S. service members should approach the myriad foreign policy and security challenges in the Eastern Mediterranean during a time of rising strategic competition among the U.S., China, and Russia.



Syria War

- Entry into Syrian civil war a major advance in Russia's quest to be a great power
 - "A state necessary to solve international problems or set international rules"
 - Shifted international attention away from Ukraine
- As great powers can project force well beyond their own borders, Syrian intervention is evidence of Russian great power status:
 - Protects client (Bashar al-Assad) is first step towards generating own Middle East sphere of influence, and contrasts self to U.S.
 - Shapes other state or substate groups' use of power in region
 - Becomes "off-shore balancer" at expense of U.S. alters structure of international politics in region
 - Provides venue to show off military hardware and gain battlefield experience (even better when no states are shooting back)





General Robert H. Barrow Fellowship

The Barrow Fellowship is a Krulak Center program designed to increase the collective understanding of major issues in national security and strategy. This academic year, the Fellows are exploring the operational impacts of climate change on infrastructure, energy security, and evolving conflict regions across the globe. To date, the Fellows examined increasing international risks and their associated impact on defense planning, challenges to interagency collaboration, and analyzed the changing security environment from the perspective of Russia and China. At the end of the year, the Fellows will submit policy papers to their respective service or department representatives, and brief them on their current assessment of climate security and its impact on U.S. interests abroad.

Additionally, we are once again very fortunate to have three excellent mentors from across the Department of the Navy's education enterprise and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Mentors:

Kristen Fletcher - Faculty Associate-Research Energy Academic Group, NPS Climate & Security Network, Naval Postgraduate School

Eric Y. Shibuya, Ph.D. - Professor of Strategic Studies, Command and Staff College, Marine Corps University

Rebecca R. White - Senior Policy Advisor, USAID Office of Civilian-Military Cooperation (CMC), Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS)

The Intersection of Climate Security, Energy & Resilience

November 2021

Kristen M Fletcher

Barrow Fellows Presentation



ENERGY ACADEMIC GROUP
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL



WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY SCHOLARS

What is being done at MCU for WPS?

The WPS team at MCU (assisted by RAND) is dedicated to integrating, not just accommodating, gender in Marine Corps training and education. We have initiated a comprehensive review of OPME and EPME for all seven Marine Corps schools and colleges with the MCU WPS SME and RAND team, with the intention of updating and diversifying the resources, scenarios, and discussion questions, among other course components, from the Lance Corporal on up, as well as developing two online courses on WPS. Further, WPS Scholars sessions are held monthly with various WPS practitioners and guest speakers, centering on topics such as fitness standards and gender integration, to perceptions of the different roles men and women play in combat. The WPS program at MCU is also organizing a WPS window display outside the Gray Research Center, which will be open for viewing by the end of the academic year.



AY22 WPS Scholar sessions



The Women, Peace, and Security Act was passed in 2017, based on UNSCR 1325, the first global recognition of the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and girls and their necessary role in preventing and resolving it. The WPS Act is implemented by four agencies (DOD, DOS, DHS, and USAID). Core WPS principles include the meaningful participation of women in peace and security; the protection of women and girls from violence; inclusion of women in conflict prevention; equal access to relief and recovery before, during, and after conflict and crisis; protection of human rights; equal application of the rule of law; and incorporation of a gender perspective into peace and security efforts. The DOD's WPS Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan (SFIP) (2020) lists 3 overarching, long-term Defense Objectives for the strategic direction of Joint Force implementation of WPS. These objectives are: 1) DOD exemplifies a diverse organization that allows for women's meaningful participation across the development, management, and employment of the Joint Force; 2) Women in partner nations meaningfully participate and serve at all ranks and in all occupations in defense and security sectors; and 3) Partner nation defense and security sectors ensure women and girls are safe and secure and that their human rights are protected, especially during conflict and crisis.

WPS provides a broader perspective to more fully understand the drivers of conflict and promote lasting security. WPS can be misleading, as it does not necessarily only have to do with women and girls, but includes men and boys. In a presentation to Command and Staff College (CSC) in September 2021, Dr. Jeannette Haynie stated that, "WPS is a framework that helps security practitioners understand that conflict is broader than individuals. Seeing security through a gendered lens means centering security around the experiences and perspectives of women and girls wherever they are. If 'male' is standard and 'female' is other, what are the effects on security?" The participation of women in all aspects of peacebuilding has a tangible positive impact on human security and intrinsically involves operational effectiveness. In short, WPS can help build a more effective, lethal Marine Corps as gender inequality deeply shapes war and state security on a large scale. WPS recognizes the important role women play in the planning, conduct, and aftermath of war. Having an operational focus will allow us to address the particular needs of women and girls not only while deployed abroad, but also during home station activities.



#BRUTEMEDIA



2021 was a great year for #TeamKrulak's digital outreach efforts! We produced 31 new #BruteCast episodes, featuring Non-Resident Fellows and distinguished guests from our community of interest; had our first YouTube video with 1K likes, and our first article with over 1.5K views! 2022 already has some great content lined up, but if you missed any of our top offerings from last year, check them out below!

Top 10 YouTube Videos of 2021

10. [Capt Valerie Krygier, USMC, "Social Media Prospecting Playbook"](#)
9. [Olivia Garard, "An Annotated Guide to Tactics: Carl von Clausewitz's Theory of the Combat"](#)
8. [Maj Alea Nadeem, USAF, and Maj Sharon Sisbarro, USMC, "Get Stuff Done: Lessons from the USAF Barrier Analysis Model"](#)
7. [LtGen Mike Dana, USMC \(Ret.\), "Warfare in the Fourth Industrial Revolution"](#)
6. [Sebastian Bae, "Fleet Marine Force: Designing an Educational Wargame"](#)
5. [Col Wendell Leimbach, USMC, "Intermediate Force Capabilities"](#)
4. [Dr. Lesley Wilhelm, Bich Tran, Dr. Carlyle Thayer, Drake Long, and Greg Poling, "Turning on a DIME: Taking Back the Strategic Initiative in the South China Sea"](#)
3. [Maj Ian Brown, USMC, "John Boyd, the U.S. Marines, and Maneuver Warfare"](#)
2. [Erik Limpacher, Benjamin Richardson, and James Caley, "Operational Energy in Support of Deterrence"](#)
1. [Col Art Corbett, USMC \(Ret.\), "The Military Innovator's Dilemma"](#)

Top 10 Podcast Episodes of 2021

10. Col Wendell Leimbach, USMC, "Intermediate Force Capabilities" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
9. Dr. Nina Kollars and Benjamin Schechter, "Coffee Theft, Power Grids, and JADC2: It's All Cyber Shenanigans" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
8. Ms. Yun Sun, "China's Afghanistan Strategy Post-U.S. Withdrawal" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
7. Capt Walker Mills, USMC, "Professional Writing for Junior Officers - Or Anybody!" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
6. Sebastian Bae, "Fleet Marine Force: Designing an Educational Wargame" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
5. Col Sonke Marahrens, "Why the German Armed Forces Are The Way They Are" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
4. Dan Sheehan, "After Action: The True Story of a Cobra Pilot's Journey" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
3. Olivia Garard, "An Annotated Guide to Tactics: Carl von Clausewitz's Theory of the Combat" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
2. Dr. Amin Tarzi on the Islamic State - Khurasan Province ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))
1. Dr. James Holmes, "Chinese Sea Power in Ten Minutes" ([Spotify](#) / [Apple](#))

Top 5 Articles from The Landing

5. [Presentation to the Swedish Defence University, "Boyd, Air Power, and the Small State"](#)
4. [Maj Ian Brown, USMC, and Capt Benjamin Herbold, USMC, "Make It Stick: Institutionalizing Wargaming at EDCOM"](#)
3. [Krulak Center 2021 Holiday Reading List](#)
2. [Capt Richard Protzmann, USMCR, "Title X and the Gray Zone" \(AY21 Civil-Military Affairs Creative Writing Contest - 1st Place winner\)](#)
1. [Col Sonke Marahrens, "Mission Command"](#)

Coming Soon

February 2022

- TBD - MES Research Talk with Dr. Stig Jarle Hansen
- 4 Feb - Georgetown University Wargaming Society game demonstrations
- 9 Feb - FMF wargame demonstration for CEME leadership
- 22 Feb - WPS Scholars with Dr. Jeanette Haynie

March 2022

- TBD - MES Talk at George Mason University: "Islamizing Rebel Governance: Jihadi Insurgencies and Symbolic Power"
- 1 Mar - I MEF Wargame Support
- 14 Mar - RCSP Brief to TBS G Co
- 21 Mar - MCU Fight Club Tournament - Round 1

April 2022

- 25/26 Apr - Innovation Summit '22



The Brute Krulak Center
Alfred M. Gray Marine Corps Research Center
2040 Broadway Street
Quantico, VA 22134



Contact the Krulak Center at
The_Krulak_Center@usmcu.edu
with questions or newsletter articles.

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