

WHY CAP ?

CORPORATE LEARNING COURSE
"CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP" BLOCK
SEMINAR 2.1

SCOPE

CAP is one of the few organizations that have real and constant missions to be performed by its volunteer force; missions that benefit the members neighbors, communities, states, and nation. This seminar provides students with a basic introduction to the missions of CAP. Students will be able to describe the activities of CAP at the national level and explain how individual members' professional development is enhanced by CAP membership both at the local and national level. This seminar is designed to be an open, yet guided, discussion. Finally, the seminar concludes with a discussion about how to best present the special opportunities of CAP to prospective members.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Explain the overall mission of CAP*
- 2. Describe the activities CAP performs up to the national level*
- 3. Explain the professional development available to a CAP member outside their wing's capability.*
- 4. Explain some of the intangible benefits of CAP professional development*
- 5. Provide information on "why CAP" to prospective members*

DURATION

30 minutes

SPECIAL NOTES

The course director should coordinate with the instructor to ensure that the necessary audio-visual support will be available for viewing power point. Someone should assist the instructor by queuing any of this support as needed.

INTRODUCTION

State your topic and introduce yourself.

ATTENTION / SLIDE

Show the first slide from national headquarters web site. "Nationally, CAP performs 95 percent of continental U. S. search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 73 lives in

2005. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counter drug missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to the more than 22,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP has been performing missions for America for over 65 years.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What does CAP do that few other organizations do? Why?

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

Slide 2: CAP is one of the few organizations that have real and constant missions to be performed by its volunteer force; missions that benefit the members' neighbors, communities, states, and nation.

OVERVIEW

Outline the seminar objectives. Mention that we'll be using some Power Point slides for this seminar.

PEOPLE COME TO CAP FOR MANY REASONS

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What are some examples of the types of missions that CAP is well known for?

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

- Search and rescue missions – real and practice (some evaluated by the USAF)
- Develop our cadets into responsible citizens, and provide them with leadership opportunities
- Provide aerospace education training and opportunities for cadets and officers or adult members, as well as to persons outside CAP

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Slide 3: CAP provides all the training its volunteers require to perform their individual duties and serve as a member of the wing at all levels, as well as progress in the cadet or adult member training program. What training does CAP also provide to enable each of us to become part of the team that performs the myriad mission with which CAP members are challenged?

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

Will vary (Many attendees may be members that have been in a while, and they have probably seen or experienced the ineffective squadron/group/wing. Explore this if they want to briefly discuss being proactive with one's training)

- Specialty Track Training, mentoring, and advancement enable the individual CAP member to understand and perform their assigned duties

- Examples of other types of training which should be available locally to enable the individual member to understand and serve in other unit, group, and wing responsibilities are sessions in aerospace education, Training Leaders of Cadets, public affairs, safety, emergency services, air crew and ground team training – just to name a few

-Examples of training other than wing-level training: Region Staff College, National Staff College, Region/Wing Commanders Course, Inland SAR planner Course, Squadron Officer School, SOS, ACSC, AWC

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Slide 4: How does CAP enable its volunteers to interact meaningfully with their communities, state and nation, and especially with the US Air Force?

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

- Meetings with community and state officials for MOUs, EOC tours, USAF Liaison Region evaluations and inspections/audits

TRANSITION

WHO JOINS CAP?

Slide 5: Describe the caliber of citizen who is allowed to join CAP

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

- *Each member must be felony-free before being accepted*
- *Must meet membership requirements in CAPR 39-2, Chp. 3, para. 3-2*
- *Professional development is provided to enable the member to become more familiar with the operations and requirements of CAP*
- *Cadet or adult members must have fingerprints screened before being accepted into CAP (Remind members that joining CAP is a privilege, not a right)*
- *New members should complete Level I (Orientation, Cadet Protection Program Training, OPSEC) immediately after entering CAP to understand the CAP organization and their responsibilities regarding cadets (Note: you may want to discuss that new members that have not completed Level I, cannot be assigned a specialty track, duty position, wear USAF style uniforms and cannot be around cadets alone, must complete CPPT FIRST!*
- *Upon completion of Level I, the new member should enroll in a specialty track to enable him or her to become more useful and productive to the unit*
- *Professional development progression is important to all officer or adult member in their understanding and productive participation in CAP. Covered in CAPR 50-17*

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Slide 6: How do regulations and inspections from both CAP members and USAF members ensure that we are compliant with existing procedures and maintain standards across the nation in all CAP units?

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

Responses can vary greatly, but some samples include:

- *CAP publications governing our operations are available on-line to all members*
- *Learning CAP publications are part of our individual and collective training efforts*

- CAP and USAF require and conduct subordinate unit inspections (SUI), survey audits, and compliance inspections (CI) to ensure that our units are in compliance with national standards, and that our equipment is fully accounted for at all levels

TRANSITION

Slide 7: One of the intangibles of training in CAP during the in-residence and weekend training is we gain new friends and contacts, which may serve as a mutual benefit to us as we progress in CAP leadership and positions of greater responsibility

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Describe the progression of the professional development program for senior members.

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

- Our learning process begins with the weekend long CAP training such as Squadron Leadership School (SLS) and Corporate Learning Course (CLC) where we may have brief encounters with members from other units
- As our CAP professional development progresses, we have the opportunity to attend week-long in-residence training such as Region Staff College (RSC) and National Staff College (NSC) where we will have the opportunity to meet members ranging from within our individual region to all over the nation

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Slide 8: Our leaders and potential leaders are offered some of the best training available to enable them to give the leadership and guidance to all of us as we do our specific duties in CAP.

ANTICIPATED RESPONSE

- In addition to the training we've already discussed, some of which contains aspects of leadership and management (CAP Senior Officer Course and staff colleges), CAP provides our leaders and potential leaders the opportunity for in-depth leadership training with CAP training such as Unit Commanders Course (UCC) and Region/Wing Commanders Course.
- The following USAF non-residence leadership courses are also available: Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and Air War College.

TRANSITION

As we have discussed, there are plenty of opportunities to market the professional development opportunities available through membership in Civil Air Patrol.

CONCLUSION

Slide 9: So why CAP? We can say it is an opportunity to join a highly trained and skilled organization of dedicated volunteers in which we can serve our community, state, and nation. We must add that it is also an excellent opportunity to hone current skills, learn new skills, work with others from all walks of life, help young people become responsible citizens and possibly future leaders, learn more about aerospace and air power, and truly serve our fellow man in the performance of meaningful missions encompassed by search and rescue, disaster relief, and homeland security

Slide 10: Isn't it time for each of us to talk with prospective members and peak their interest in our organization? Let's not keep CAP a secret, but share it with others as often as possible.

Slide 11: Questions