



Inside SWCS

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“These are not the droids you’re looking for”



MISO Specialist Qualification Course trains next generation of ARSOF Jedi warriors

Left, a Military Information Support Operations Specialist Qualification Course student interacts with role-players, right, during the course's culmination exercise in the fictional country of Pineland at Camp Mackall in Hoffman, N.C. The course, held for Soldiers transitioning into the MISO specialty from other Army enlisted specialties, is held six times a year and lasts approximately 10 months for each class.

By Sgt. 1st Class Teresa Coble
SWCS Public Affairs Office

Six times a year, approximately 40 active-duty-enlisted Soldiers with a variety of military occupational specialties come to Fort Bragg, N.C. for 41 weeks in hopes of becoming the newest 37F, or Military Information Support Operations Specialist.

The MISO Specialist Qualification Course trains Soldiers with the grade of E-6 or below to become the ultimate tool in achieving our nation's objectives.

The course provides an introduction to public diplomacy, marketing and advertising principles, social and behavioral science as well as many other tasks a MISO Soldier must know to accomplish their job.

Instructors for the course work hard to keep their training current with today's operational environment.

“It is very difficult to try and stay relevant with what is going on downrange,” said Staff Sgt. Buyrl Ewing, one of the courses instructors. “One of the

things that we have to do is take our own time and speak to people that are back at the end user units and make sure that what we are putting out is relevant.”

Instructors study after action reports and comments from the Army Center for Lessons Learned, as well as talking to peers and friends about things they've learned when they deploy, Buyrl said.

Months worth of training comes together at the course's culmination exercise where the students are presented with mock scenarios. They must use the training they have received throughout the course to successfully accomplish a variety of missions. The students are in charge, and the instructors take a back seat to observe the students performance.

“They went to talk to the mayor of the village about a rumor of the police chief being fired, because

they are trying to run an enlistment campaign and the police chief plays a key role in enlisting people for the police forces,” Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Sierra, Chief Instructor said. “[Students] were trying to get to the real facts on the guy being fired.”

“Anyone that wants to take part in the future of what their career field is about needs to go ahead and get a job as an instructor”

Staff Sgt. Buyrl Ewing
Instructor, MISO Specialist Qualification Course

During the same engagement students tried talking to the radio station owner, and attempted to set up a contract so they can use the radio station as a platform to disseminate MISO products.

“Anyone that wants to take part in the future of what their career field is about needs to go ahead and get a job as an instructor,” Ewing said.

“It's very rewarding,” he said. “Especially when you get a call from a former student that gives you the affirmation that the things you are putting out actually mean something to them when they go down-range,” Ewing said.

Support your Army by donating blood March 8 at SWCS

By Maj. Benjamin Tipton

Commander, SWCS Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Support your Army by donating your blood. On March 8, a blood drive will be held at the Kennedy Hall Atrium from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. By donating to the Fort Bragg Blood Donor Center, you are donating to our Soldiers and their Family members here at home and around the world.



Tipton

In order to prevent long wait times, we suggest that you register and make an appointment at www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

Once there, you will click the "Give blood now!" button and asked to set up an online donation profile. Then you will be able to sign up to donate by using the blood drive code, HHCSWCS.

The entire sign-up process should take you less than five minutes.

A small number of walk-in slots will be available.

Per Army Regulation 50-2, Sec. G(1), the award of time off for "exceptional performance of duty" to military personnel who donate blood is encouraged.

In accordance with Per AFG Local 1770 Article 14/Sec. 3, civilian employees who volunteer as blood donors (which excludes donation for compensation, or for their own blood bank) and actually donate blood to the American Red Cross, military hospitals or other local blood donation facilities that service the Fort Bragg area may be authorized up to four hours excused absence for the blood donation recovery.

All personnel throughout SWCS are encouraged to donate blood on March 8. However, mission requirements take precedence, so be sure to check with your first line supervisor before making arrangements to donate. If you are not able to donate at the Kennedy Hall Atrium blood drive feel free to contact the Fort Bragg Blood Donor Center to arrange another day to donate.

I personally encourage everyone that is able to donate blood to do so. This is one of the most precious and selfless gifts that we can give to one another. I ask that you do your part, support your unit, your Army and your nation!

I will be the first in line at 9 a.m. and look forward to seeing you there with me!

For additional information, please call the Fort Bragg Blood Donor Center at (910) 396-9925.



Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Sierra evaluates Military Information Support Operations Specialist Qualification Course students as they interact with role-players in the fictional country of Pineland during the course's culmination exercise at Camp Mackall in Hoffman, N.C.

SWCS Cadre Profile

Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Sierra

Chief Instructor, MISO Specialist Qualification Course, 3rd Battalion, 1st SWTG(A)



Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Sierra is finishing his two-year tour as a military information support operations instructor in 3rd Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne), which conducts all MISO and civil affairs training for SWCS. Born in Cuba, Sierra has lived in the United States for the last 12 years, spending the last eight as a Soldier in the U.S. Army and the last five as a psychological operations Soldier. Having served in both Iraq and Afghanistan, Sierra has enjoyed sharing his experience with new MISO students.

On the Army's Military Information Support community:

I love it. It's a small community, which is good. Everybody knows everybody, but at the same time everybody helps everybody.

On the best things about being an instructor at SWCS:

The best reward here is watching these students grow from the day they get here, when they know nothing about communications or developing the MISO process, to the day they graduate or during the field problem, where they can conduct themselves in a matter that they can actually influence people and change behaviors.

On the importance of instructors and realistic training:

I think the key to having good Soldiers is to start with good instructors. This is not a position in SWCS where they send someone who they don't want anywhere else. This is a position where they send the best of the best. We are molding the future of Army special operations right here.

On his experience in the Army:

Originally when I first enlisted, I was an Infantryman. I was in the 82nd Airborne Division, and my first deployment was in Afghanistan at the beginning of the war, and then I transitioned straight to Iraq. While on those deployments, I got to work with psychological operations guys and they told me about all the different missions they do around the world. I thought that Spanish as my first language could be good for a mission in South American so I became a PSYOPer.

On training in a field environment:

For some of these Soldiers, this is the last opportunity they are going to have to train with role players before they do this in a combat environment. This is important because if they do something wrong here, they are going to have the opportunity to be told how to correct themselves. If they didn't have this opportunity, they could make those mistakes in combat.

Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	SWCS Key Leader Off-site begins	1	2	3	SWCS Key Leader Off-site ends	5
6	7	8	9	Special Forces Warrant Officer Advanced Course Graduation 11 a.m. JFK Auditorium	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	Robin Sage Begins



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