University of Scouting Arts - Class Offerings

College of Scouting Arts

Hillcourt Institute of Advanced Studies

Hillcourt Institute of Advanced Studies (HIAS) is a forum for open discussion in an intensive and interactive workshop voicing ideas on specific subjects for USA alumni. No credit toward any degree is earned during these forums.

HI1020 – ***Walk the Walk: or the #1 Rule for Real Leaders***
Leadership is the art of transforming how people think, feel, and act. Though some experts make it seem complicated, it really has only two elements: what you say and how you act.

HI1021 – ***Boys in Blue are Our Future: Can the Order of the Arrow Really Help?***
OA Service to Cub Scouting. Covers many of the opportunities an Arrowman has to ensure our future by reaching out to the youngest members of the BSA.

Bachelor (BSA) Program Class Listings – College of Scouting Arts
Program & Unit Leader Skills

B101 - ***The Advancement Program /Adult Recognition*** – (required for BSA)
An overview discussion of the role of advancement in the Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs. Particulars of each advancement program will be presented in such a way that the information benefits both Cub Scout leaders and Boy Scout leaders, who need to know and understand each other's advancement programs and how they build on one another. Also a review of adult leader recognition, including training recognition, religious emblem program, and performance recognition.

B102 - ***Recruiting, Involving and Retaining Youth & Adults*** - (required for BSA)
An in-depth look at the relationship between recruitment, involvement and retention in our programs. Examination of leadership attitudes toward new adult assistance; methods of recruiting effectively for unit/District/Council needs; ways to locate and recruit youth; importance of strong unit program in retaining youth and adult leaders; how to implement a R/I/R program that works.

B103 - ***Getting Basic Training to all Your Leaders*** – (required for BSA)
A *how-to* session, centered on the value of getting every leader through Fast Start and leader basic training; how to establish training expectations; personal coaching and its role; attending district and council training events; training the hard-to-reach or "unavailable" leader.

B105 - ***District Council Operations***- (required for BSA)
A primer for district-level Scouters, or those intending to become district-level Scouters. District structure, the Key Three; relationship of district to council; Chartered Organization Reps & Members-at-Large; operating committees & functions; district events/annual calendar; Commissioner staff purpose, function & organization; unit service principles; staffing.

B106 - ***Advanced Cub Scouting Operations*** (required for CSA)
This class goes beyond basic leader basic training materials to view what a top-notch Pack operation might look like. An "ideal situation" session which look perfection right in the eye!

B107 – ***Journey to Success*** – (required for BSA)
Centered on the Journey to Excellence program, this session stresses the measurement of a units success. Focuses on commissioner functions. Evaluating unit performance; roundtable attendance; District/Council activity participation; etc.

Masters (MSA) Program Class Listings – College of Scouting Arts
Support & Administrative Skills

M201 - ***Energizing the Unit Committee*** – (required for MSA)
A thorough discussion of the role of the unit committee in successful unit operations. Definition of the unit committee mission; key functions of the committee; itemizing all jobs which should be filled by committee personnel; recruiting to fill committee positions; orientation to assignments; recognition for individual contributions; expectations concerning total, 100% parent involvement; fulfilling the role of supporting unit program.

M202 - ***Chartered Organization Relationships*** – (required for MSA)
Re-examination of the role of the chartered organization in BSA program delivery: The Executive Officer; the Chartered Organization Representative; support from the chartered organization; unit service to the chartered organization; involving the Chartered Organization Representative in unit and district committee operations; reporting to the chartered organization; Charter Presentation ceremonies; tapping chartered organization for unit leadership

M203 - ***Unit Budgeting for Survival*** – (required for MSA)
A session built around the use of the Unit Budget Plan. Discussion will include: understanding true income and expenses of the unit; setting appropriate member dues; unit money management (bank & savings accounts/Treasurer's Records); Money-Earning Projects vs. "fund-raisers"; the not-for-profit-operation concept.

M204 - ***Scouting's Competition for Youth Involvement*** – (required for MSA)
A look at the various youth organizations & programs available to youth today: how they compare to what the BSA offers; how they compete with the BSA for a youth's time; plus & minuses of each program; what the BSA (and we) can do to ensure the BSA gets its fair share of a youth's time and interest (cooperation with competing programs/activities).

M205 – ***Funding the Council*** – (required for MSA)
A look at the various means and programs to finance the operation of the Southwest Florida Council. How and why money is used to support the BSA program.

M206 - ***Advanced Boy Scout Operations*** – (required for each CSA degree)
This session goes beyond leader basic training material to view what a top-notch Pack or Troop operation might look like. An "ideal situation" session which looks perfection right in the eye!

Post Graduate (PGSA) Studies Class Listings – College of Scouting Arts
Personal Development Skills
(For those working towards a DSA)

PG301 - ***Understanding Leadership Talents*** – (required for PGSA)
The concept and definition of leadership; persuasion vs. coercion; the role of motivation; the skills of leadership; the importance of Planning in leadership.

PG302 - ***Counseling Youth and Adults*** – (required for PGSA)
The role of communicating; how to "listen"; the "questions and facts" method; understanding "Whose problem is it, anyway?"; the difference between counseling youth and adults.

PG303 - ***The Problem-Solving Process*** – (required for PGSA)
Understanding & defining a problem; facts and alternatives; multiple solutions vs. single solutions; taking action; evaluating results; how to build a "Plan B", if plan A fails.

PG304 - ***Examining Scouting Values*** – (required for PGSA)
Identifying Scouting's values; using Scouting's Methods to instill values; the role of adult leaders; looking at the values found in Scouting's aims; how to insure values are taught through unit programming.

PG305 - ***Ph.D. Project Workshop*** (required for PGSA) (double session) **1 class – two parts!**
This is a "how-to-do-it" session for those planning to earn their Doctoral degree: rules and procedures; subject/project selection; the importance of research, background and support of the project chosen; role and selection of a "Ph.D. Candidate Advisor"; work stages and timetables; how to present the finished project. The second hour time period is to begin actual work on topic selection with assistance from faculty.

PG306 - ***Endowment*** – (required for PGSA)
Identifying the benefit, need and methods of Endowing funds to the Scouting movenent. The benefits to both donor and recipient, how funds are managed and controlled.

PG-307 – ***Advanced Venture Operations*** (required for PGSA)
The basics of the older youth program explained. Find out how to involve young men and women into a scouting program that offers high adventure or a look at a potential career.

University Electives – College of Scouting Arts or College of Commissioner Science available to any registered participant

E402 - ***Advanced Boy Scout Outdoor Experiences***
An overview of the BSA High Adventure program opportunities, plus a discussion of the Order of the Arrow and it's place in strengthening Troop operation and broadening a Boy Scout's experiences. Retaining the interest and involvement of the older Scout.

E405 – ***Working with Special-Needs Youth***
Ways for Scouts and Scouters to develop Disabilities Awareness. Needs and wants of the Disabled Scout. Opportunities for the Disabled scout. Ways for Scouts and Scouters to participate with disabled Scouts

E408 – ***Using Project COPE***
This is an "appetite whetting" session, to interest and encourage Boy Scout Leadership to include the COPE program in their troop plans.

E412 – ***Effective Use of Ceremonies***
Why we use ceremonies and how to direct them. An interactive session that identifies the elements of an effective ceremony. Learn how to use props, effectively and safely.

E414 – ***Campfires***
A session designed to turn an ordinary campfire into an occasion to remember.

E417 – ***Eagle Scout Mentor***
A guide to taking the Scout through the Eagle process starting from First Class through the Eagle Project and submission of the Eagle Scout application. A comprehensive to-do list is provided.

E510 – ***Safe Scouting Practices***
A review of the procedures in the "Guide to Safe Scouting" including of some little known guidelines and procedures.

E511 – ***First Aid Special Effects***
This course is for scouters who want to add to the experience of their scouts when conducting first add classes. How to make First Aid more interesting and fun.

E513 – **Intro to *Geocache***
Geocaching is an entertaining adventure game for GPS users. Participating in a cache hunt is a good way to take advantage of the wonderful features and capability of a GPS unit. During the hour participants will learn the basics of the sport as well as receive a quick introduction in the use of a GPS unit. Time permitting participants will use their knowledge to seek out a cache located on the camp property.

E514 – *Firearms Instruction, Resource Responsibility, and Safey Training (FIRST)*
This class is in response to the BSA leaders need for a shooting sports orientation program at a basic level to ensure education in safe and proper use of firearms to youth within the Southwest Florida Council. This class will discuss the safe and proper use of three firearms, the Bow, the BB gun and the small bore Rifle. This class will teach the most basic shooting education, teach participants how to access resources within the Council for additional and specific shooting sports training and instruct adults how to ensure safe firearm handling while engaged with youth activity including shooting sports. This course does not replace the need to attend the BSA certification classes.

E601 – *Preventing Volunteer Burnout*
Understanding the symptoms of burnout and what causes it: the "one-person, one-job" concept; specific recruiting; time-limits on service and assignments; task rotation; ensuring adequate numbers of adult volunteers; bringing new Scouters into established groups.

E604 - *Issues in Youth Discipline*
Investigating BSA disciplinary guidelines; setting up fair limits for behavior; facing up to the Bully; the Whiner; the Disrupter; the Liar, the Hyperactive, the Thief, - even the Unmotivated Cynic.

EX27 – *Running Multi-Unit Events*

Advanced Field Operations Courses

AF1201 – *Backpacking & Hiking* (3 period course)
Learn about the gear, and how proper planning can make your next backpacking trip a great success

AF1202 – Pioneering (3 period course)
A hands-on class on the art of pioneering. Learn how to make it fun for you and the boys.

Instructor Qualification Courses

IQ1101 – *Role and Function of the USA Instructor*
The expectations of the USA Instructor.

IQ1110 – *Presentations – Part 1*
The selection of topics for the practical exercise.

IQ1111 – *Tools of the Trainer*
A review of the tools and methods of training.

IQ1112 – ***Syllabus and Lesson Plan***
Creating the course.

IQ1113 – ***The Edge Training Model***
A review of the model and how to apply it.

IQ1114 – ***Managing the Classroom Environment***
Tools and techniques used to manage the classroom.

IQ1115 – ***Presentations – Part 2***
The practical exercises selected in Part 1 are presented demonstrating the participants presentation skills.

IQ1116 – ***Feedback***
How to give and use feedback to your advantage.

College of Commissioner Science

Bachelor (BCS) Program Class Listings – College of Commissioner Science
Unit Commissioner Skills

BCS101/110 – ***The Commissioner Concept & Style***
An overview of commissioner service and focus on the concept of exceptional service.

BCS102/106 – ***A Commissioner's Priorities & Unit Charter Renewal***
Review plans for; Quality Unit Award success, rechartering Scouting units on-time, retention of youth and leaders, the Webelos-to-Scout transition, and handling unit problems.

BCS103/114 – ***The Commissioner and the District/Council***
How maximizing these special partnerships can be at the core of Scouting success for your units/district. Includes understanding the district and council operations.

BCS105/112 – ***Practical Solutions to Unit Needs/What Would You Do***
A keystone course for the Bachelor Degree. Problem Solving methods and the "lifesaving team" approach are discussed. Case studies are then used to explore the practical implementation of knowledge gained through various Bachelor Degree courses.

BCS108/109 – ***Effective Roundtables I & II***
How roundtable commissioners can best plan, promote, and encourage participation and what commissioners can do to help units to fully utilize this resource.

BCS116/117 – ***Using Unit Self-Assessment Tools/Selecting Quality Leaders***

How to conduct an action planning meeting with a unit using the unit self-assessment tools and the guidelines for the action planning process. The process the commissioner uses to help the unit select the best possible leadership.

BCS119 –***Webelos to Scout Transition***
Participants of this course will become familiar with the timetable of events that should occur and the responsibilities of the participants (Packs, Troops, District, and Commissioners).

BCS128 – ***Venturing Monthly Program***
Examine the basic elements of the Venturing program forum, who attends, and what constitutes a successful forum.

Masters (MCS) Program Class Listings – College of Commissioner Science
Commissioner & ADC Skills

MCS301 – *No-Lapse/No-Drop Commitment*
The group will explore; why units lapse or drop and how to prevent it, how to develop a no-lapse/no-drop plan, and why this is so important.

MCS303/304 – *Commissioner Lifesaving*
This session sets the stage for saving a unit and reviews the basic unit lifesaving steps.

MCS306/317 – *Counseling Skills/How to Remove A Volunteer*
Covers many elements of good counseling, thought-provoking tips, and also provides a variety of practical guidelines on how to remove a volunteer.

MCS309/318 – *Good Commissioners Need Head & Heart/Top 10 Ways For Good Service*
Includes great reflections for experienced commissioners. Take home thought-provoking tips and anecdotes. Join the discussion as we explore a top 10 list to help support excellent commissioner service.

MCS312/313 – *Recruiting/Orienting/Training Commissioners*
Discussed during this session will be; recruiting techniques, orientation programs, online and other training, as well as an in-depth discussion of commissioner responsibilities.

MCS315/316 – *Unit Service in Low Income and Rural Areas*
Practical methods for recruiting local unit adults, as well as helping with special financial needs in low income and rural areas.

MCS324 - *Preventing Commissioner Burnout*
Covers types of burnout and how to prevent or correct it to maximize effective commissioner tenure. Includes valuable tips on time management and "commissioner wellness."

MCS325 - *Consider Your Spouse and Family*
Suggests ways to enhance family relations and resolve family conflicts regarding Scouting. Discusses how commissioners' spouses can receive recognition from Scouting.

Post Graduate (PGCS) Studies Class Listings – College of Commissioner Science
Personal Development Skills

(For those working towards a DCS)

DCS501/502 - *Selecting a Thesis/Research Project Topic*
This session introduces the participants to the thesis project, discusses what constitutes a good thesis or research topic, and helps them select their general thesis topic. Participants receive help in reducing the thesis topic/outline to a workable size.

DCS503/504 - *Developing and Writing the Thesis/Outline/Report*
This session further covers the thesis outline and provides help for completing the outline and report for the thesis/project.

DCS505 –*Being A Thesis/Project Adviser*
Prepares a person holding a DCS to become a thesis/project advisor. Provides specific procedures and techniques to make the task easier. Helps provide common standards for the acceptance of a DCS thesis/project.

DCS508 - *Advanced Commissioner Lifesaving*
Administrative commissioners are taught to give leadership to a commissioner lifesaving concept. It also guides selected districts in setting-up the lifesaving team approach.

DCS520 – *Assessing District Health*
Learn about the resources necessary to assess a district's ability to provide quality unit service. Learn how to use the resources available to the commissioner that can assist in identifying strengths and bring improvements to weaknesses found in the district.

DCS515 – *District Journey to Excellence*
Learn about the elements of District Journey to Excellence and what it takes to ensure success in every area.

DCS514 –*The Commissioner and Professional*
Learn more about the relationship between the commissioner and the professional. How can the two work closely together to reach a common goal of providing quality service to units.