

International Student Assistance Workshop (ISAW)



Aim

The aims of the (ISAW) are to:

- a. develop an awareness of how cross-cultural difference affects the learning style of students with a language proficiency level of ADFELPS 6 or 7; and
- b. introduce instructors to a range of strategies and templates to support students at these language levels, complete the assessment requirements of their target courses.

Description

ISAW is a 3-hour workshop designed for instructors in Australian military training units who have overseas officers with an ADFELPS proficiency level 6 or 7, as part of their student cohort. The workshop draws on feedback from a cross-cultural survey of overseas students which identifies three key areas of weakness, relating to both the student's language proficiency level and cultural background. The areas of concern are critical reading (for assignment preparation, participation in syndicates and oral presentations); academic listening (note-taking & interpreting colloquial language); and syndicate work (critically evaluating ideas & arguing an independent position).

The workshop looks at a range of strategies that can be used to make course content more accessible to overseas students, within a current training programme. As well, instructors are inducted into the use of a series of templates for use in guidance (or independent) learning sessions to support students in the areas of critical reading, academic listening and syndicate participation.

Role

Following the formal adoption of Joint Directive 4/94, Defence Instruction (General) PERS 05-13 was produced to specify the DITC role, tasks and administrative procedures. DITC has been assigned the following role:

to enhance the training provided in Australia to South East Asian and South Pacific defence force and other selected overseas personnel. This is achieved by facilitating the integration of those personnel into Australian Defence Organisation (ADO) training systems, and fostering and promoting cross-cultural awareness between members of the ADO and foreign military personnel.

Location

ISAW can be conducted either at DITC or at the unit requesting training.

Course particulars

Number of students/course:

10-30

Length of course:

3 hours

Contact details

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Learning Site (VOLLS):**

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*Friendship
Through
Understanding*