

## NJS Online Legal Education

Prepared by LCDR Sean M. Sullivan, JAGC, USN, Program Manager, NJS

401-841-3800 x 137, [sean.sullivan1@navy.mil](mailto:sean.sullivan1@navy.mil)

New challenges and missions face the Fleet. In order to meet those challenges, legal education and training remain critical elements to serving our clients and our mission. Nevertheless, we operate under fiscal constraints that make travel and training a secondary priority to steaming hours and flight time. Fortunately, useful technology continues to emerge to meet those changes and challenges, and your Online Legal Education Department at the Naval Justice School utilizes every means available to prepare you. We are continuing to develop and launch training opportunities while recognizing and addressing potential restraints due to bandwidth, location, and time zones.

Beginning in the fall of 2012, the Naval Justice School entered a partnership with the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School to gain access to and support services for the Blackboard learning management system. Since that time, the Online Legal Education Department at NJS has been offering opportunities via both Blackboard and Defense Connect Online (DCO). These systems are accessible 24/7 and offer on-demand training and education coupled with points of contact for feedback and instructor interaction. We are excited to offer you a multitude of opportunities through these dynamic and versatile platforms.

We continue to offer regular DCO training on a variety of topics. Announcements for upcoming DCO sessions are sent out via JAG News. The sessions are delivered live, giving viewers the opportunity to ask questions and get immediate feedback, and recordings are subsequently made available for those who cannot attend the live sessions. A catalog of recorded DCO sessions is now available on our NJS Online Legal Education Portal on Blackboard with only an AKO account, no CAC required (<https://njsonline.army.mil>).

Developing in parallel to our traditional DCO webinars, robust online courses are being developed by NJS and launched via Blackboard. More than 2000 students have completed NJS courses on Blackboard. Courses can be as short as an hour, providing a quick refresher, or span several weeks, covering more material and/or going into greater detail. They can meet broad education goals, provide job-specific training, or satisfy certification requirements. They deliver cost-effective presentations by SMEs from around the Fleet and DoD. Many of the courses in development will be open/rolling enrollment and allow users to access the material from a variety of locations, including smart phones, home computers, tablets, etc. Courses are designed with the work-load of the student in mind. They will generally require no more than four hours a week and will usually include a make-up week at the end to allow students an opportunity to catch up. The goal is to achieve education and training, not to dominate an already busy schedule. These courses are designed as specific, to-the-point references that are immediately applicable to your practice area. We have made it our mission to help you do your job more effectively and efficiently. As the year continues, expect to see more training announcements describing the opportunities and courses coming soon.

You will need an AKO account to get access to our Blackboard site. To get set up in AKO for access to our Blackboard materials, please go to AKO at <https://www.us.army.mil/> and then register for an account. You will also need to enter a sponsor. Please contact LCDR Sullivan and we will arrange for sponsorship. After accounts are approved you will get an email, and then you can go to <https://njsonline.army.mil> and log-in using your AKO account user name and password.

Upcoming opportunities, topics, and presenters are being solicited and socialized throughout the Fleet. Everyone is encouraged to offer suggestions for topics or to share their knowledge and experiences. To get started, please contact LCDR Sean M. Sullivan at NJS at 401-841-3800 x 137 or [sean.sullivan1@navy.mil](mailto:sean.sullivan1@navy.mil)