

United States Air Force Academy
Open Rank Professor of Strategic Studies
Institute for Future Conflict

This is a civilian 1099 position that works for a 501(c)3 non-profit that supports the Air Force Academy. This position does not require military service or graduation from the United States Air Force Academy.

Institute for Future Conflict

The Institute for Future Conflict (IFC) is dedicated to creating and cultivating flexible warfighters who are prepared to prevail in conflict no matter what form it may take in the future. The IFC does this by working across all three major units at the United States Air Force Academy to develop warfighters in the classroom, on the training ground, and through athletic competition.

Overview

The Institute for Future Conflict (IFC) at the United States Air Force Academy is seeking qualified candidates for the full time, on-site position of a professor of strategic studies, who will report directly to the Senior Fellow for Future Conflict and the Senior Advisor for the IFC and Executive Director of Academy Support. The position is open to assistants, associate, and full professors.

The Fellow will support and contribute to the development of IFC in three ways: teaching, research, and mission element support.

First, the professor will contribute to IFC's teaching and instruction endeavors at USAFA. The Fellow will be required to teach one section per semester at USAFA within the Future Conflict minor for a 1-1 load. Currently, this means either "Strategic Competition" or "Adversary Doctrine," both of which are existing courses at USAFA. In addition, the fellow will design and teach the fall mini-courses on research design and methods to IFC's intermediate developmental education (IDE) and intermediate level education (ILE) fellows. These are active-duty military professionals who are housed within the IFC for two years as operational research fellows. The fellow will also be responsible for mentoring the development of IDE and ILE fellow research projects throughout their time at IFC.

Second, the professor will contribute to and strengthen IFC's research portfolio. The individual will maintain an active research agenda, publishing in leading academic and policy-oriented outlets, including the IFC's website. The professor will publish 3-4 policy focused pieces, with at least one on the IFC's website, and/or one peer-reviewed academic article per year. The individual will be expected to attend and actively participate in major conferences, as well as recruit leading scholars and analysts to serve as non-resident fellows with IFC.

Third, the professor will support major efforts led by mission elements at USAFA. The individual will support exercises, training events, to integrate future conflict topics and personnel into research, teaching, and training programs across USAFA. In particular, the individual will support the development of Cadet Wing (CW) training exercises and events.

The individual will also support the Dean of Faculty (DF) by enabling continued evaluation of future conflict curriculum at USAFA to guarantee that the strategic points of emphasis provided by political and military leaders receive academic per the USAFA priorities and mission statement.

Finally, the Fellow will contribute to the development and execution of various IFC programming, as directed by leadership.

The estimated compensation for this contractor position is \$130,000 – \$150,000. Travel for conferences and meetings will be \$7,500.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Teaching

- Teach a 1-1 load of either “Strategic Competition” or “Adversary Doctrine”
- Design and teach a research methods course to IDE/ILE Fellows
- Assist in the teaching of the Problems in Strategy and Tactics course, the capstone course in the Future Conflict minor

2. Research

- Maintain an active research agenda as evidenced by publications in peer-reviewed journals and policy outlets, including IFC’s website
- Attend and present at major conferences in the fellow’s field
- Participate in IFC’s monthly research talks as both a participant and attendee

3. Mission Element Support

- Support events, exercises, and training in both the Cadet Wing and Athletic Department as directed by the Senior Fellow for Future Conflict and Senior Advisor for the

Desired Qualifications:

- Masters required, PhD preferred in a field related to the study of strategic studies broadly conceived
- Must possess or be able to obtain a security clearance
- Active research agenda on topics related to future conflict, as evidenced by publications in academic and policy-oriented outlets and conference presentations
- Undergraduate teaching experience

- Experience with course and curriculum development
- Familiarity with U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Air Force and Space Force priorities regarding future conflict

Applications Instructions:

To apply please send a résumé and cover letter to David Scott at david.scott@afacademy.af.edu and Dr. Gregory Johnsen gregory.johnsen@afacademy.af.edu no later than **August 31, 2025**.