SC-250 Tentative Course Outline

Prior to attending		**Preliminary homework**: Complete the self-tests in the Blackboard course site Read the scenarios about IMSO conflicts and challenges
Introduction		Course overview Course objectives
		Break
Module 1		**Elements of Culture, Part 1**
		Video: introducing the IMSOs' strategic importance Introductions Meet and greet exercise IMSO roles (small group activity) Definition of culture Sources, levels, and dimensions of culture Leadership and hierarchy Low vs. high context
Modules 2 & 3		**COCOM Priorities and Regional Considerations**
		Regional Briefings - COCOM Priorities and Great Power Competition - Main Ethnic Groups - Religious Tradition - Colonial Heritage - Longstanding Regional Conflicts - Military role in society
Module 4		**Elements of Culture: Overview and Resources, Part 2**
		Gender roles Norms, values, and ethics Customs (male/female, taboos, dress, holidays, behavior, time, food) How other cultures perceive the U.S., how we think differently and possible gaps in our approaches to work, life, relationships, time, rules Potential resources for learning about specific cultures
Module 5		**Intrapersonal Cultural Awareness: Mindfulness & Self-Management** (held same day as module 4)
		Own worldview (and how it differs from others) Self-assessments • group-level emotional intelligence • cultural intelligence • openness from Big 5

		• ethnocentrism • conflict management styles Attitudes of respect, openness, curiosity, discovery, and suspended judgment Social/cultural agility/flexibility • Social intelligence • Cultural empathy • Cultural intelligence • Emotional intelligence, • Conflict management • Social tripwires • Cultural empathy • Encourage open-mindedness • Mindfulness
Module 6		**Interpersonal Cross-Cultural Communication**
		Culture shock (stages, aspects, remedies) Cultural challenges Addressing discomfort with American culture Managing expectations, both directions U.S. and non-American Active listening Building rapport Language (linear/nonlinear, taboos) Non-verbals (paralanguage, chronemics, proxemics, etc.) Face-saving Conveying bad news Managing conflict Time management, coaching U.S. stakeholders on how to work with the guests; boundary setting
Module 7		**Building Community and Support Networks**

		Stakeholder analysis
		Others' perspectives on U.S. communication patterns
		Managing expectations
		Relationship building
		  - Among IMSs and Americans
		  - Among American support personnel
		  - Within local communities
		Consensus-building
		Multicultural meetings
		Role-plays

Module 8		**Capstone Project**
		TBD