

# ***Resident Syllabus***

## **Day 1**

### **Lesson 1 - Course Overview**

This lesson addresses course requirements, review of student materials, practical exercises, and reference materials. Initial course questions answered. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 2 - U.S. Embassy Country Team**

This lesson summarizes the roles and responsibilities of the U.S. ambassador and the U.S. embassy "country team" that the SCO family will be supporting. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 3 - SCO Responsibilities & Relationships**

This lesson explains the roles and functions of the SCO and their family, and examines their responsibilities and working relationships with the U.S. ambassador, the geographic combatant command, various other DoD organizations, the host country, and U.S. industry representatives. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 4 - Civilian Diplomatic Attire (Online)**

This online learning guide summarizes the appropriate types of civilian dress requirements for different official functions. **1 Hour**

### **Lesson 5 - Student Introductions/Networking**

This lesson is an interactive exercise where course participants introduce themselves and identify potential concerns for their upcoming SCO assignments along with their ultimate goals for attending the course. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 6 - Cultural Competence**

This lesson defines culture shock and cultural competence and outlines ways to shape behavior to enhance the time in a host nation supporting the embassy mission. **1 Hour and 40 Minutes**

## **Day 2**

### **Lesson 7 - Living Overseas, Part I**

This lesson is designed to educate new SCO spouses about the logistics and safety aspects involved in an overseas move and move entitlements (household effects, vehicles, pets). The lesson also provides an overview of overseas housing options and considerations. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 8 - Living Overseas, Part II**

This lesson introduces students to overseas school and healthcare resources to empower SCO spouses to understand their options and be able to advocate for their families in an overseas location. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 9 - Living Overseas, Part III**

This lesson outlines important embassy agencies that assist with community and employment activities. This lesson provides specific employment guidelines to follow when seeking employment opportunities inside and outside the U.S. mission. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 10 - SCO Entitlements (Online)**

This online lesson outlines entitlements and requirements related to a SCO position. **1 Hour**

### **Lesson 11 - Overseas Finance**

This lesson outlines financial benefits and burdens while preparing students for the overseas financial transition and helping to reduce potential conflicts and compromise. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 12 - Post Info to Go/Country Reference Guide, Part I**

This lesson allows students the opportunity to apply previously-introduced concepts and resources to research his/her host country in detail. **50 Minutes**

## **Day 3**

### **Lesson 13 - Embassy & Personal Security (Guest Speaker)**

This lesson prepares participants for the unique security challenges encountered while living overseas. Participants are taught about embassy security resources and specific personal safety and security measures to employ throughout the SCO assignment.

**1 hour and 40 Minutes**

### **Lesson 14 - Counterintelligence/OPSEC (Guest Speaker)**

This lesson explains counterintelligence and operational security in an overseas environment. This lesson provides online strategies to reduce a family's social media "footprint" and provides resources for maintaining privacy overseas. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 15 - So You're an American? (Online)**

This interactive online resource developed by the Department of State's Foreign Service Institute is designed to build skills and confidence in responding to difficult questions about culture and nationality. **1 Hour**

### **Lesson 16 - Protocol Dining Practical Exercise**

This lesson is conducted as a formal dining exercise. The lesson is designed for students to practice and understand the proper etiquette/protocol associated with international dining. The lesson allows participants to gain practical insight about U.S. representational responsibilities by simulating a formal diplomatic dining setting. **3 Hours**

## **Day 4**

### **Lesson 17 - Ethics & Standards of Conduct**

This lesson explores several ethics-related topics, including the rules concerning the giving and receiving of gifts in a foreign setting, along with other potential conflicts of interest.

## **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 18 - SCO Perspective on Security Cooperation (Guest Speaker)**

This lesson features a guest speaker, typically a former active duty SCO. The lesson affords students the chance to discuss and learn about the issues, concerns, and challenges encountered in overseas SC-related field assignments and lessons learned.

**50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 19 - Quality of Life**

This lesson prepares students to make informed decisions with the unique benefits that arise from living overseas. Emphasis on ethical and safety considerations that can impact embassy success in a diplomatic environment. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 20 - Overseas Crisis Management (Online)**

This online learning guide developed by the U.S. Department of State prepares country team members (including SCO personnel, the SDO/DATT, and their dependents) for potential crises or emergency situations while on station. **1 hour**

### **Lesson 21 - Family Preparation/Third Culture Kids Panel**

This lesson presents strategies to prepare families to successfully transition overseas and ways to maintain a strong family unit. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 22 - Finding Your Strengths**

This lesson outlines ways to identify and harness personal strengths in order to better adjust to and thrive in the overseas assignment. **50 Minutes**

## **Day 5**

### **Lesson 23 - Adjustment Strategies/Resilience**

This lesson reviews the stages of adjustment associated with an overseas transition and highlights why resilience is key to thriving in an international environment. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 24 - Goal-Setting/Resource Recap**

This lesson allows students to participate in a practical goal-setting exercise to provide a positive and productive way to approach their upcoming overseas experience. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 25 - Country Reference Guide, Part II, Presentation**

Students present important findings from the completed Country Reference Guide (CRG) assignment. Students refer to course resources and share new resources/information with the class. **50 Minutes**

### **Lesson 26 - SCO Spouse Panel**

This lesson features recent SCO Spouse panelists who describe common challenges (adjustment, security, resiliency, family preparation, duties, etc.) and opportunities they have faced. Panelists also provide effective solutions and lessons learned from their previous SCO experiences. **50 Minutes**

**Lesson 27 - Case Studies**

This capstone lesson allows students the opportunity to apply previously-introduced concepts and processes to a series of case studies/scenarios derived from actual SCO experiences. **50 Minutes**