Educating Arctic-minded leaders at the U.S. National War College

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Disclaimer: The views in this presentation are those of the author and not of the National War College, the Department of Defense, or any other entity of the US government.
Focus: Security Strategy for the Arctic

Review Background Assumptions
• Regional characteristics and sub-regional differences
• Ramification of climate change
• Perception/bias for regional cooperation, competition, conflict

Conduct Assessments
• Regional trends and entities
• Great power strategies, capabilities and actions
• Smaller power maneuvering within region

Learn by Doing
• Write alternative strategies
• Exercises/simulations on today’s Arctic challenges
Three Examples

**Arctic Strategy Development** (AY 2012-13)
- Clean-sheet Arctic strategy at request of J-5 staff
- Seven month effort by Joint and Interagency student group
- Informed some DOD inputs into Obama’s 2013 Arctic Strategy
- Briefed to then-Senator Mark Begich

**Arctic Security in European-Atlantic Theater** (Spring 2017)
- Sub-regional focus
- Assessment of A-8 strategies, regional flashpoints
- Deliverable: Short exercises with policy recommendations

**Geopolitical Competition in the Arctic** (Spring 2020)
- Focus on U.S., Russia, China
- Exercises: NSR, Chinese investment, Svalbard contestation, Cruise Missiles
- Deliverable: Writing alternative strategies