Airman Leadership School (ALS) Distance Learning (DL) 2.0 Program Announcement

BLUF: No student will lose any credit for completed courses during this transition. All current students (ALS 1.0) will retain credit for all completed courses, but their remaining course requirements will be accomplished with ALS 2.0 courseware.

The Global College of Professional Military Education (GCPME) is pleased to announce an update to the Airman Leadership School Distance Learning experience. ALS 2.0 will launch on 17 June 2024.

A recent funding increase has enabled GCPME to significantly increase the amount of instructor-led facilitation within the program. This new facilitation will provide an opportunity for students to apply concepts in a peer-to-peer learning experience, directly engaging with classmates while receiving focused feedback from an instructor. The program adds threaded discussion questions, through which students will demonstrate their knowledge of leadership, supervision, and the military profession. Additionally, students will apply communication skills in an individual, peer-reviewed project, and focus on onboarding new supervisees. Finally, ALS 2.0 will incorporate several curriculum changes driven by stakeholder requirements. There will be no disruption in the ALS program's operation or enrollment during this launch. Current ALS students will flow into the new ALS 2.0 courses as they progress within the program on or after 17 June 2024.

FAQs

New program

- 1. What is changing with ALS with the launch of ALS 2.0?
- 2. What happens when the new program launches on 17 Jun 2024?
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Legacy Students

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New program

1. What is changing with ALS with the launch of ALS 2.0?

High-stakes testing has been removed from Self-Paced courses and will have a 90-day limit. Students cannot fail a Self-Paced course, each student is allowed to re-attempt the end-ofcourse test until a minimum passing score is achieved. Learning will be validated in the facilitated Capstone courses. The new Capstone course will increase by one week in length for a total of four weeks. All program length limits and other program policies will remain the same. Reference the EPME 2.0 student handbook.

2. What happens when the new program launches on 17 Jun 2024?

New program enrollees will enter into the ALS 2.0 program and follow the EPME 2.0 student handbook. The current students in the ALS 1.0 program will retain credit for all courses completed and be given a 90-day window to complete any Self-Paced courses that are currently in progress. Students that are currently enrolled in June or July Capstone (ALS 1.0) course will run as normal. Note: Students must have registered by 16 June 2024 for the July Capstone per the GCPME Distance Learning Capstone Schedule.

3. What is asynchronous facilitation?

Asynchronous facilitation is instructor-led discussions and student interactions that take place over a period of time rather than in a single, real-time environment. Unlike the ALS 1.0 Capstone course which has a graded group project at the end of the course, the new ALS 2.0 facilitated course will comprise weekly discussion posts/peer feedback and a final individual graded assignment.

Legacy Students

4. What happens to my current program enrollment?

Nothing. The program length remains the same, students will remain in the ALS 1.0 program but will take their remaining course(s) using the new ALS 2.0 course(s) to complete the program. There is no impact on AF records, all students (1.0 or 2.0) will receive the same ALS credit. The transcripts will reflect actual courses taken.

Table 1. Courses	
Legacy Version (ALS 1.0)	New Version (ALS 2.0)
LDR-101S (15 contact hrs)	LDR-111S (20 contact hrs)
LDR-102S (15 contact hrs)	LDR-112S (15 contact hrs)
AIR-101S (15 contact hrs)	AIR-111S (15 contact hrs)
CST-101H (15 contact hrs)	CST-111A (35 contact hrs)

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5. Can I still fail Self-Paced courses (high-stakes tests)?

No. High-stakes testing has been removed from ALS 2.0 Self-Paced courses and each student is allowed to re-attempt the end-of-course test until a minimum passing score is achieved.

6. What if I am in a Self-Paced course during the launch date, what happens?

Each ALS 1.0 Self-Paced course will be given a 90-day end date which will expire in the middle of September. Students will have the option of dropping the course at any time after 17 June with no penalty and may immediately register for the new version of the course via the registration portal. If the student can afford to wait, a valid option is to take an operational pause until the 17th of June, and register for the new course, avoiding the risk of failing a Self-Paced course. *Note: Students can continue in the old (ALS 1.0) course after 17 June, however, failing the end-of-course test twice will not trigger an UNSAT for the course.*

7. What if I am in the Capstone course during the launch date, what happens?

Nothing. The student will complete their current Capstone course as normal. If the student fails the Capstone, they will need to complete the new version (CST-111A). *Note: Failing the Capstone twice (in either version) will have the same result, requiring a letter from their commander to be reinstated back into the program.*

8. Does the new program require more work?

While the overall program increased to 85 student contact hours (vice 60), the students will not have high-stakes tests for their Self-Paced courses. The new Capstone will also provide students the opportunity to demonstrate/apply leadership, supervision, and military profession concepts in a peer-to-peer academic environment, engaging with classmates through threaded discussions, and receiving focused feedback from an instructor.

9. How have the courses within the program changed?

Self-Paced courses no longer have high-stakes testing and students will apply program concepts in the Capstone course. The Self-Paced courses now have a 90-day limit. The legacy Capstone group assignments have been replaced with weekly threaded discussions and individual assignments with full instructor facilitation.

10. Will current ALS 1.0 students move to the ALS 2.0 program?

No. ALS 1.0 student will stay in their program but will finish their remaining course(s) with applicable 2.0 course(s). *Note: All students (1.0 or 2.0) will receive the same ALS credit. The transcripts will reflect actual courses taken.*

Legacy Version (ALS 1.0)	New Version (ALS 2.0)
LDR-101S (15 contact hrs)	LDR-111S (20 contact hrs)
LDR-102S (15 contact hrs)	LDR-112S (15 contact hrs)
AIR-101S (15 contact hrs)	AIR-111S (15 contact hrs)
CST-101H (15 contact hrs)	CST-111A (35 contact hrs)

11. How long do I have to finish the ALS 1.0 program?

Program timelines remain the same for both programs, including rules for extensions. *Reference the EPME 2.0 student handbook.*

12. When will the last legacy ALS 1.0 capstone course occur?

The last legacy capstone course will be executed in July 2024.

13. What is the difference between a "course" and the "program"?

The ALS 2.0 program consists of 4 self-paced courses (Orientation plus the three core courses) and one Capstone course.

14. How long will I have to complete a course within the ALS DL 2.0 program?

The students will have 90 days to complete each course at which point the course will expire with no penalty and the student will be able to reregister for the course.

15. How will this impact my records?

There is no impact on AF records, all students (1.0 or 2.0) will receive the same ALS credit. *The transcripts will reflect actual courses taken.*

Legacy Version (ALS 1.0)	New Version (ALS 2.0)
LDR-101S (15 contact hrs)	LDR-111S (20 contact hrs)
LDR-102S (15 contact hrs)	LDR-112S (15 contact hrs)
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CST-101H (15 contact hrs)	CST-111A (35 contact hrs)

16. <u>Will this impact reserve points?</u>

While GCPME has no influence on Reserve points, the contact hours have increased from 60 to 85 contact hours. Students completing ALS 2.0 courses should be awarded points based on their courses completed (total could range from 60-85 contact hours depending on the courses taken). *Refer to Table 1. Courses.*