

Critical Thinking for Intelligence Analysis

The Intelligence & Security Academy, LLC www.isallc.net



THE INTELLIGENCE &
SECURITY ACADEMY

Course Overview

This course will help Intelligence Analysts improve their critical thinking skills. It begins by reviewing the basic characteristics of quality intelligence analysis (and the challenges to producing it) and the methodology for building an analytic argument. The course continues with a discussion of the mental traits and habits that inhibit critical thinking and objectivity. Finally, the course discusses several types of structured techniques designed to inject critical thinking and analytic rigor into intelligence production.

Analytic techniques covered in the course include Structured Brainstorming, Analysis of Competing Hypotheses, Red Teaming, and Alternative Futures Analysis. This course is ideal for journeymen Intelligence Analysts working in a variety of contexts who understand the fundamentals of the intelligence process but seek to improve their skills in critical thinking and structured analysis.

Education & Training at ISA

Considered a leading provider in the national security educational space, ISA has over 20 years of experience in designing, developing, and delivering course content for federal, non-profit, and private sector clients. Our federal government clients include the Department of State (INR and OSAC), DOD, CIA, DIA, NRO, NGA, ODNI, OPM, the Military Departments, Combatant Commands, and the United States Congress.

ISA believes in a [blended approach to education](#). We vary teaching techniques, including podium presentations by subject matter experts, featured guest speakers, in-class exercises, case studies with student presentations and discussions, and the use of other media that allow students to [apply their knowledge in real-time](#).

Instructor Neil Richard Wiley



Neil Wiley has nearly 40 years of experience in the national security arena, with past experience as a naval officer and civilian intelligence professional. Mr. Wiley served in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) as Principal Executive, performing the duties and responsibilities of the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence. He also served in ODNI as Chairman of the National Intelligence Council (NIC) where he was responsible for leading NIC analysis across the Intelligence Community to inform immediate and long-term national policy deliberations.

August 23, 2024

Cost: \$600 Per Student

If you are interested reach out to an ISA employee at [703-567-7757](tel:703-567-7757) or email us at learn@isallc.net

Enroll on our website

www.isallc.net/enroll

Schedule

0800 - 0830

Introductions and Administration

0830 - 0945

Module 1: The Nature of Intelligence

0945 - 1000

Break

1000 - 1100

Module 2: Building an Analytic Conclusion through Logical Argumentation

1100 - 1230

Module 3: Mindset, Bias, and Misperception

1230 - 1330

Lunch

1330 - 1430

Module 4: Diagnostic Techniques

1430 - 1530

Module 5: Contrarian/Creative Thinking Techniques

1530 - 1545

Break

1545 - 1645

Module 6: Forecasting Techniques

1645 - 1700

Wrap-Up