



“Connecting Airmen with their Universal Human Experience” Spring 2016

**In this issue:**

- AFCLC Director’s Commentary by Dr. David W. Ronan (p.3)
- EDITORIAL: Way Ahead for LEAP in FY2016 (p.4)
- AFCLC Introduces LEAP Levels (p.5)
- AFCLC to Host First AU LREC Symposium (p.8)
- Quick Start Guide for AFCLC’s “Culture Guides” mobile app (p.9)

**Important Dates:**

- Deadline for submission of proposals for AU LREC Symposium: 17 Feb 2016
- Spring 2016 ITC Enrollment: 1-14 Mar 2016
- Spring 2016 Intro to CCC Enrollment: 5-18 Apr 2016
- Deadline for LEAP applications for cadets: 15 March 2016
- Deadline for completed papers for AU LREC Symposium: 1 Apr 2016
- AU LREC Symposium: 21-22 Apr 2016

## AFCLC Professor Participates in Ceremony to Award Honorary Doctorate



Dr. Susan Steen, Assistant Professor of Cross-Cultural Communication at the AFCLC, prepares to take part in a ceremony to award an honorary doctorate to Mr. David McCullough, an author and multi-Pulitzer Prize winner. The ceremony, held at Polifka Auditorium, was also attended by Lt Gen Kwast, Commander, Air University. (AFCLC photo by Kimberly Nuessle)



## On the Cover



During an open house hosted by the Defense Language Institute (DLI) at its facility at Hurlburt Field, FL, a group of schoolchildren pose next to a computer monitor showing briefing slides about the AFCLC. The event, held on 5 November 2015, commemorated the facility's one-year anniversary and afforded the public an opportunity to learn about work being done by DLI and its partner organizations. (AFCLC photo by Sheila Miltersen)

## About the AFCLC

### **AFCLC VISION**

The Air Force Culture and Language Center, as the acknowledged experts, will lead the US Air Force in building a cross-culturally competent Total Force to meet the demands of the Service's dynamic global mission.

### **AFCLC MISSION**

The Air Force Culture and Language Center creates and executes language, region and cultural learning programs for Total Force Airmen, and provides the Service with the subject matter expertise required to institutionalize these efforts.

The Air Force Culture and Language Center was founded at Air University in April 2006, embracing the Air Force Chief of Staff's intention to improve Airmen's cross-cultural competence.

In April 2007, the Air Force further demonstrated its commitment to culture learning by selecting cross-cultural competence as the centerpiece of Air University's re-accreditation efforts. In December 2007, the Center was made responsible for culture and language training, as well as education, across the entire Air Force. The Carl A. Spatz Center for Officer Education at The Air University hosts the AFCLC.

600 Chennault Circle Bldg 1405

Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Phone: 334.953.7729

Fax: 334.953.1614

E-mail: [afclc.outreach@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.outreach@us.af.mil)

Follow us on Twitter @AFCLC or Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/airforcecultureandlanguagecenter>

Subscribe on DVIDS:

<http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/AFCLC/>

Public Web site:

<http://culture.af.mil/>



---

## From the Director

---

Colleagues,

With 2016 well underway, I'd like to use my first public remarks of the year to tell you about some big things we're working on at the AFCLC.

This April, AFCLC will work with several of our counterparts from within Air University to host the first annual Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (LREC) Symposium. For this first-of-its-kind event, we've invited students, faculty, and staff from around AU to share academic research proposals for individual papers, panel discussions, and multimedia presentations.

Over the course of two days, military and civilian scholars will present, critique, and refine their LREC research with resident audiences of students, professors, and AU's academic leaders. We're especially looking forward to hearing the cultural lessons learned from people who recently returned from overseas, including our own Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP) participants.

Overall, we intend to provide a convenient and open forum for everyone at AU to exchange research ideas, intercultural experiences, and share universal human perspectives that we've distilled directly from mission successes to improve our LREC curricula across the military.

To serve the Air Force's LREC education mission, LEAP has enrolled 2,263 airmen to date. Participants maintain their foreign language proficiency on a weekly basis in a live online classroom with an active instructor and a familiar cohort of classmates. Furthermore, the Defense Language Institute provides faculty for in-residence PME who deliver graduate-level foreign language instruction at AU and other Air Force educational institutions.

To showcase the success of AFCLC's language education and training, for the first time this year, we will be selecting 7 officers and 7 enlisted airmen to complete their PME requirements in a foreign country as resident students of a partner nation's equivalent PME program.

We are especially grateful for the support of the Air War College here at Maxwell in making this event possible, as



well as the committed leadership of our own Dr. Patricia Fogarty for spearheading the effort on behalf of AFCLC. We also couldn't have made this happen without the partnership of the Defense Language Institute, who have provided critical inputs and guidance nearly every step of the way.

Besides our in-service training, AFCLC has a number of other important activities underway. Our Language Division is preparing for the two selection boards this year, and our Culture Division has been analyzing research commissioned by Defense Language National Security Education Office (DLNSEO) one of our mission partners. AFCLC with other USAF partners lead the DoD effort to distill and define specific cultural competencies for the Air Force specifically and informing US military cultural training and education more broadly.

Along with these achievements, AFCLC has one other important event to mention. For the past several years, we've shared living space with the Fairchild Research Information Center, and we couldn't have asked for better hosts; they generously shared not just office space, but allowed us to place one of our banners in the main lobby as well. We thank them sincerely.

Recently, though, as part of Air University's expansion, the AFCLC moved from the library, to our new home in Building 500, the former Holm Center. Despite this shift in location, we remain as dedicated as ever to our singular purpose of connecting Airmen with their Universal Human Experience.

Although 2016 is just starting, we're working on a number of great initiatives, and I'm looking forward to having more to share with you as the year marches on. Until then, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter for more updates.

Very Respectfully,  
Dr. David W. Ronan  
Director, Air Force Culture and Language Center  
People Matter

## Commentary

Greetings from the Chief, Language Division, AFCLC!

FY2015 was a major year for everyone at the AFCLC, and our division was no exception. As we head towards the second part of FY 2016, I would like to look back at some of our major accomplishments and talk a little about where we plan to go from here.

First, our Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Training Detachment (DLI FLC LTD) expanded their elective courses at ACSC from a piloted German elective in the 2014-2015 Academic Year (AY) to now include Chinese, French and Spanish this current 2015-2016 AY. These elective courses have met with great success and represent the first time that language courses at Air University have been accorded elective credit. A total of 291 students at AWC and ACSC will have completed languages courses by the end of this AY, 280 in Language Familiarization courses in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian, and Spanish and 11 of them in the ACSC elective courses. Based on the popularity of these courses, our LTD plans for as many, if not more, students during the next AY.

FY2016 represents the third year that the Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP) is an Air Force Program of Record. One major accomplishment in FY2015 is that LEAP took over execution of the Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs International Airman Division's (SAF/IAPA) Regional Area Specialist Immersion (RASI) and RAS Sustainment program. Among other DoD and USAF International Affairs Specialist (IAS) requirements, RAS officers must undertake language, cultural and regional immersion training in order to become fully certified as RASs and then maintain these skills with reoccurring sustainment training throughout their careers. Since the LEAP office is uniquely positioned to provide such immersion training, and able to afford the Air Force efficiencies and synergies in doing so, LEAP began executing these RASIs and RAS Sustainment immersions in early FY2015 and will continue through FY16.

Of course, LEAP continued to provide world-class language training opportunities to a growing number of LEAP participants throughout FY2015 as well. Here is an overview of what the LEAP team accomplished in FY2015:

- Oversaw 1,865 total LEAP participants in 86 languages
- Provided 1,350 LEAP participants on-line eMentor language training
- Sent 400 LEAP participants on Language Intensive Training Events (LITES) in over 50 countries
- Executed 60 RASIs for RAS officers



- Executed 27 RAS Sustainment immersions for RAS officers
- Welcomed 404 new LEAP participants into the program through the Fall 2015 LEAP Board

Our goals for FY2016 are even bigger, and we are well on our way to accomplishing them. One of the largest advancements to the program is the soon-to-be released LEAP Levels. This concept will allow the LEAP office to better gauge participants' true language capabilities and regional skills. We will be able to determine truly

“enabled” Airmen and provide more tailored training to all LEAP participants based on their needs. Following the launch of LEAP levels, planned for February 2016, the LEAP office will then compile and update all existing LEAP policies to develop our first-ever operating instruction, for projected release in the summer 2016. Please see AFCLC's Assessment team member Mr. Bryan Holt's article in this bulletin for more information on LEAP Levels.

Of course, we plan to continue to solicit new participants for LEAP, and will hold two LEAP boards in FY2016. A small LEAP board exclusively for senior-year cadets from the United States Air Force Academy (USAF) and the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) will convene this May and the next board for Active Duty officers and enlisted members is scheduled for this September. As a reminder, LEAP is now accepting applications year-round. A link to the LEAP application site is on the AF Portal in Education/Training/Force Development section.

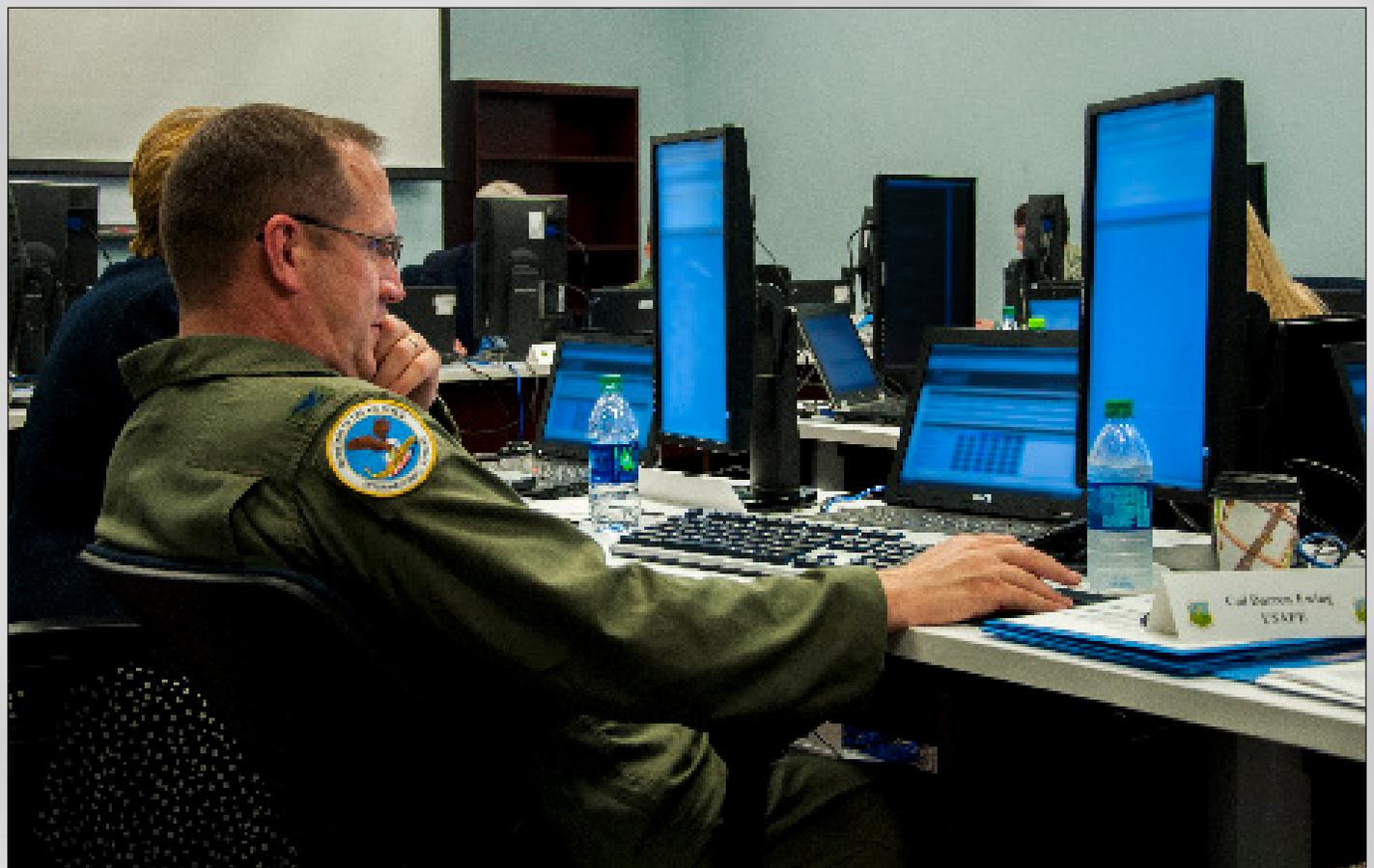
For FY2016, here are our programmed training priorities:

- Oversee 2,238 participants in 91 languages
- Provide 1,600 LEAP participants on-line eMentor language training
- Send 650 LEAP participants on Language Intensive Training Events (LITES) in over 50 countries
- Execute 60 RASIs for RAS officers
- Execute 40 RAS Sustainment immersions for RAS officers
- Welcome 400 new LEAP participants into the program through the Spring and Fall 2016 LEAP Boards

I would like to thank the DLI LTD faculty and LEAP staff for all they have accomplished this year and for all we plan to do for the rest of the FY. For information on the AFCLC Language Division and LEAP, please visit our website at <http://culture.af.mil/>

Very Respectfully,  
Lt Col Eric Graham  
Chief, AFCLC Language Division

## AFCLC Introduces LEAP Levels



During the 2015 Selection Board for the Language Enabled Airman Program, board member Col Darren Ewing reviews an application package. The Selection Board convened from 17-18 September 2015, at the Air Force Culture and Language Center (AFCLC) at Maxwell AFB, AL, and included board members from across the Department of Defense. (AFCLC photo by Brandon M. Bridges/released)

by Bryan Holt

Air Force Culture and Language Center

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – The mission of the Air Force Culture and Language Center's (AFCLC) Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP) is to create a bench of language enabled, cross culturally competent Airman in all Air Force Core Specialties, ready to meet the Air Force's language needs and requirements.

In support of that mission, the AFCLC's Language Division, which oversees LEAP, recently launched a revised LEAP Experience Questionnaire. Implemented in Fall 2015, the new questionnaire will assess LEAP participants on the "whole person" concept, to include previous experiences in language, region and culture. The Ques-

tionnaire will also be a part of a new LEAP Level tool.

Beginning in 2016, the LEAP Level tool will assess LEAP participants on their speaking, reading, listening, writing, and regional and cultural experiences. A LEAP Level, from Level 1 through Level 4, will be a composite score, and will combine participants' Defense Language Proficiency Testing (DLPT) and Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) language scores, inputs from the LEAP Experience Questionnaire, and their eMentor assessment scores.

"LEAP Levels provide a clear measurement of LEAP participants' proficiencies in all four modalities and their cultural experiences," explains Lt Col Eric Graham, Chief of the AFCLC Language Division, which oversees LEAP. "Levels 1 and 2 indicate a participant is still in a developmental

phase; Levels 3 and 4 indicate a participant has achieved the overall goal of becoming a language enabled Airman."

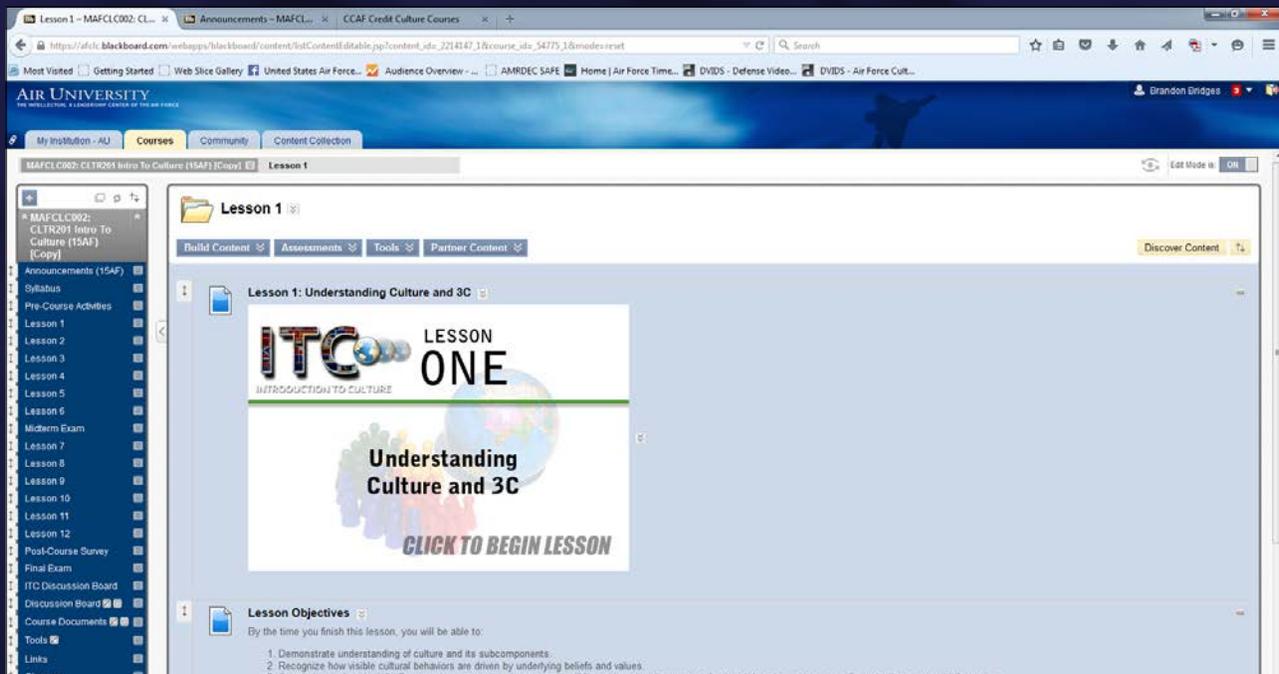
Once LEAP Levels are assigned, participants will be aligned with training plans that coincide with their Level. These training plans will then determine the type, duration, and frequency of participants' eMentor courses and Language Intensive Training Events (LITES).

"Enabled" Airmen totals will also be forwarded to HQ AF to help increase the overall Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (LREC) utilization rate.

*If you have questions regarding the new Questionnaire or LEAP Levels, please contact the AFCLC Language Division at [afclc.language@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.language@us.af.mil), or visit us on the Web at <http://culture.af.mil>*

At a glance

## CLTR201: Introduction to Culture (ITC)



**Online • Self-paced • SACS Accredited • CCAF Approved**

ITC is a lower-level college course for enlisted Airmen, that presents students with basic concepts and skills to build cross-cultural competence. The course explores the many aspects of human life influenced by culture, including family relationships, religion and belief systems, sports, health practices, history and myth, and more.

**Interested in ITC? To learn more, call (334) 953-9292 or e-mail [afclc.enroll@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.enroll@us.af.mil)**

Since its inception in 2009, ITC has received **21,313** applications. Don't miss your chance—save these dates!

**Next enrollment window:  
1-14 Mar 2016**

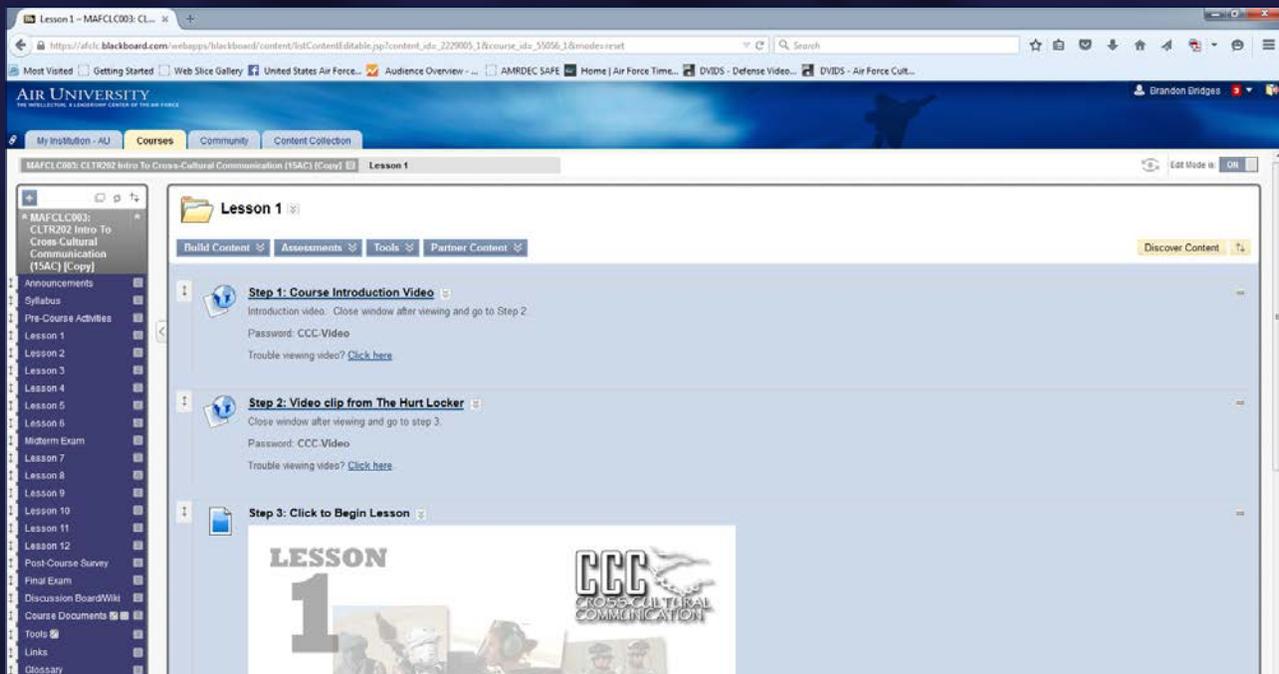
**Next course date:  
24 Mar - 29 Jun 2016**

*The AFCLC offers two distance learning courses, "Introduction to Culture" (ITC), and "Introduction to Cross-Cultural Communication" (CCC). Each course is offered twice per year, and worth three semester hours of either social science or program elective credit through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF).*

\*All statistics on this page current as of 7 Oct 2015

At a glance

## CLTR202: Introduction to Cross-Cultural Communication (CCC)



**Online • Self-paced • SACS Accredited • CCAF Approved**

CCC is the second course offered by the AFCLC. Like ITC, it helps develop cross-cultural competence among Airmen, by helping Airmen better understand the process of communicating across cultural boundaries. The course includes learning units devoted to nonverbal communication, paralanguage, cross-cultural conflict styles, active listening, interaction skills, and more.

**Interested in CCC? To learn more, call (334) 953-9292 or e-mail [afclc.enroll@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.enroll@us.af.mil)**

Since its inception in 2011, CCC has received **7,930** applications. Don't miss your chance—save these dates!

**Next enrollment window:  
5-18 Apr 2016**

**Next course date:  
28 Apr - 3 Aug 2016**

*The AFCLC offers two distance learning courses, "Introduction to Culture" (ITC), and "Introduction to Cross-Cultural Communication" (CCC). Each course is offered twice per year, and worth three semester hours of either social science or program elective credit through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF).*

\*All statistics on this page current as of 3 Nov 2015

## AFCLC to Host First Annual Air University Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture Symposium (AU LREC)



*Dr. Patricia Fogarty, Assistant Professor of Cross-Cultural Relations at the Air Force Culture and Language Center (AFCLC) gives a capabilities briefing at the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) in Fall 2015. Dr. Fogarty will serve as the AFCLC's faculty lead for the upcoming Air University Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (AU LREC) Symposium. (AFCLC photo by Brandon M. Bridges)*

by **Brandon M. Bridges and Dr. Patricia Fogarty**

Air Force Culture and Language Center

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – On 21-22 April 2016, the Air Force Culture and Language Center (AFCLC) will host the first annual Air University Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (AU LREC) Symposium. This first-of-its-kind event will be conducted jointly with the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Learning Training Detachment (DLI FLC LTD), and will provide invaluable opportunities for academic exchange between Air Force leaders, experts, and students concerning LREC in the military.

“AFCLC welcomes participation by any military or civilian members of Air University at Maxwell AFB,” said Dr. Patricia Fogarty, Assistant Professor of Cross-Cultural Relations at the AFCLC. “The event will provide excellent opportunities for both faculty and students.”

Faculty will be able to enrich their expertise in their fields, engage in an open dialogue about their experiences, and share information on curriculum, all in a convenient and open forum with their peers.

Students will be able to take part in individual paper sessions with experts, view presentations on the integration of culture and language curriculum at AU, participate in panel discussions on regional cultural issues, and see demonstrations of culture and language expertise.

The Symposium will highlight two key methods used by AFCLC to guide culture and language learning in the Air Force. One is through the Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP), which selects officers and enlisted Airmen from all Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs)—along with a limited number of cadets—to sustain, enhance, and utilize existing language skills. Participation in LEAP affords selectees many opportunities to

broaden their knowledge, and apply those lessons throughout their military careers, examples of which will be provided by LEAP representatives.

Besides LEAP, AFCLC also impacts learning through partnerships with Professional Military Education (PME) schools throughout the Air Force, supporting culture curriculum development. Faculty from both the CLC and the Defense Language Institute (DLI) provide direct instruction at the graduate level, at many Air Force educational institutions; for this Symposium, students from around Air University will be invited to present their original culture and/or language research.

All submissions are due by Friday, 15 February 2016, to [af.clc@us.af.mil](mailto:af.clc@us.af.mil). Entries submitted after this date will not be considered.

*For further details, including proposal requirements and a promotional brochure, please visit us on the Web: <http://culture.af.mil/>*

# Have you tried the AFCLC's Culture Guide App?

## Download the app.

On an Apple or Android device, visit your app marketplace and search "culture guides." In the search results, look for the Air Force wings.



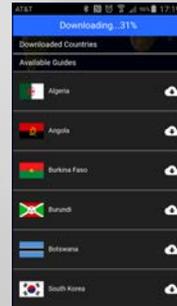
## Select desired guides.

Using the interactive map, locate and tap the country whose guide you want. Countries with available guides are marked with location icons.



## Download content.

Tap the cloud icon next to the country name to download that country's field guide. (Download speeds will vary by network and by device.)



## Open guide.

To open a downloaded guide, tap the country name under "Downloaded Countries." Tap a tile to access related content.



## 1. Information



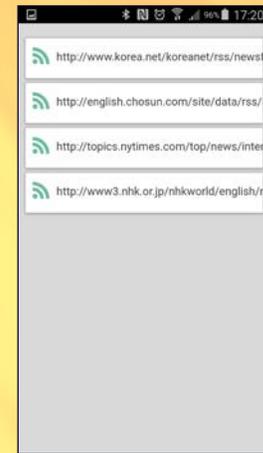
The complete culture field guide for the selected country, featuring content identical to the print versions available from the AFCLC. Tap a cultural domain to expand.

## 2. Map



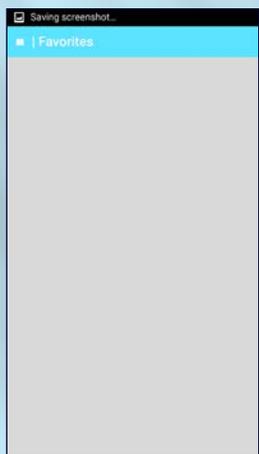
Complete maps of the selected country, provided by Google Maps (Android) or Apple Maps (iOS). Maps can be magnified using swipe gestures.

## 3. News



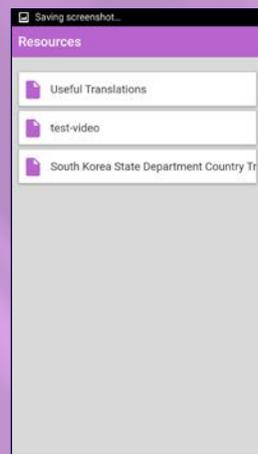
Provides current events, streaming radio stations, and another relevant content via dedicated RSS feeds.

## 4. Favorites



Allows for fast access to portions of the field guide selected by the user. Tap the star icons in each field guide section to add it to Favorites.

## 5. Resources



Provides supplemental documents and media. These assets are governed by a dedicated Content Management System (CMS) and will be updated regularly.

## 6. Workspace



Provides a convenient location for photos, videos, and notes related to the country.

\*The visuals presented on this page depict the Android version only, and were generated from an early version of the app. Actual experience may vary depending upon your device and operating system.



---

### **1. 2016 Cadet Selection Board**

**The AFCLC plans to convene two Selection Boards for LEAP in 2016. The first will be for cadets only, and will take place in May. Only officer candidates with commission dates scheduled for the current year will be considered eligible for this board. The final day for cadet application packages and/or endorsements will be Tuesday, 15 March 2016.**

*\* AFROTC applicants should contact their Detachment Commander for application and endorsement forms; completed application packages should be sent through their Detachment Commanders via encrypted e-mail to [afclc.language@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.language@us.af.mil)*

*\*\* All cadet applicants will need to include their DLPT score report as part of their application package.*

---

### **2. 2016 Active Duty Selection Board**

**The AFCLC plans to convene two Selection Boards for LEAP in 2016. The second will be for active-duty Airmen, and will take place in September. The final day for cadet application packages will be 1 August 2016.**

*Applications submitted after the established deadlines will be considered during the next FY selection cycle. Selected candidates, their commanders, and supervisors will be notified individually approximately 60 days after the selection board concludes.*

---

**Questions? E-mail: [afclc.language@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.language@us.af.mil)**

## Going abroad? Don't leave home without a guide!



AFCLC maintains a collection of culture field guides spanning a total of 33 countries, with more on the way! Each guide is a pocket-sized cultural sourcebook designed to help familiarize you with the culture, history, and geography of a specific country, with content broken down along the USAF's 12 cultural domains.

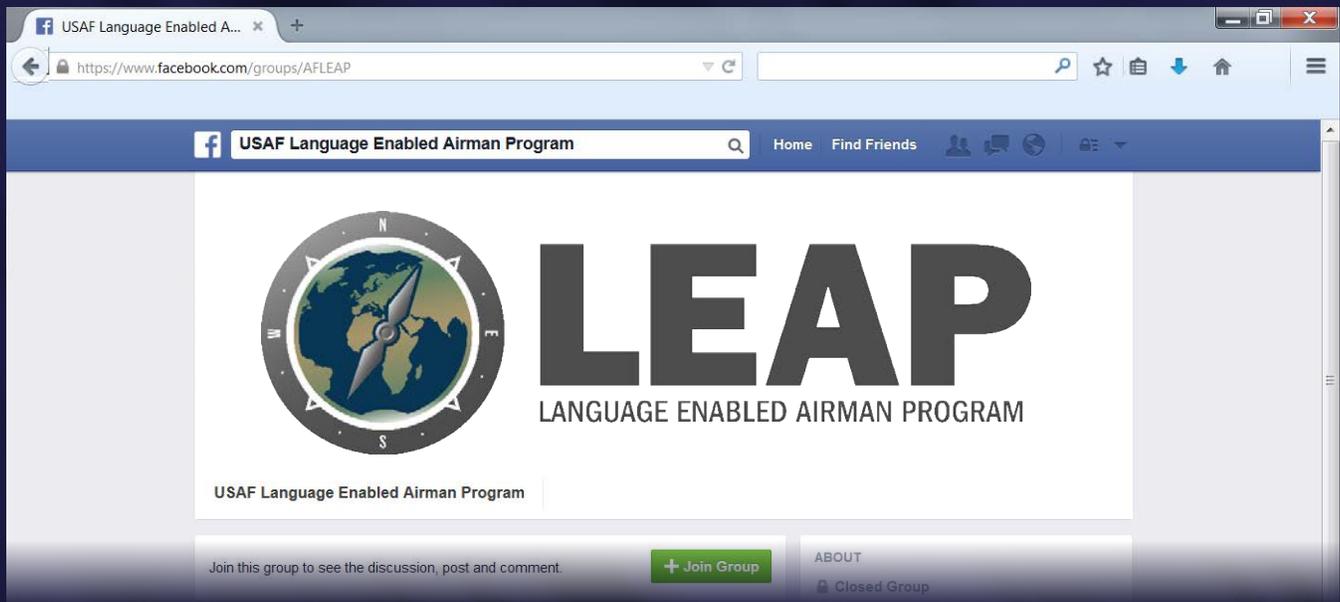
So before you travel, visit:

<http://culture.af.mil/>

and see if we have a guide for you!

*\*All of our culture guides are now also available via the AFCLC's new Culture Guides mobile app; search the iOS store or on Google Play and look for the Air Force wings for your copy!*

## Are you in LEAP? Are you on Facebook?



Be sure to join\* our Facebook group! Learn about all things LEAP, share your experiences, connect with your fellow group members, ask questions and get answers.

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/AFLEAP/>

\*Closed group; memberships are subject to verification by LEAP staff.



 *"Connecting Airmen with their Universal Human Experience"*

*How can AFCLC  
add value to your  
mission?*