Panel Discussion Topics*

1. The Fundamentals of American Civil-Military Relations
   Panel: COL Winston Williams | Dr. Marybeth Ulrich | Hon. Ryan McCarthy | Gen (Ret.) Chuck Jacoby
   During our first discussion, we will explore the traditional civil-military relations theories and seminal works; authorities of Congress, the Executive, and (by extension) the public over the military; potential remedies for breaches of law and/or norms; and the risks and tensions associated with actions taken by the military.

2. Non-Partisan vs. Apolitical
   Panel: COL Heidi Demarest | Hon. Chris Gibson | GEN (Ret.) Pete Chiarelli
   During our second discussion, we will explore the difference between partisan and political activity; officers’ necessary foundational knowledge of political decision-making; officers’ necessary foundational knowledge of military resourcing; and the impact of increased partisanship on healthy American civil-military relations.

3. Public Trust in the Military
   Panel: COL Gail Yoshitani | GEN (Ret.) Vince Brooks | GEN (Ret.) Joseph Votel | Prof. Matt Waxman
   During our third discussion, we will explore what drives the public’s confidence in the military; current state of public trust in the military; impact of communication technology changes on civil-military relations; and impact of these trends on recruitment and the sustainment of the All-Volunteer Force.

4. The West Point Way Ahead
   Discussant: Dr. Kori Schake
   During our closing session, Dr. Schake will lead the table in a discussion about developing guiding principles for the way ahead; how we adequately prepare cadets to both steward the profession as company grade officers and understand the roles and responsibilities of more senior officers; and what ways West Point can or should lead in the civil-military relations space.

* Each session will begin with a panel discussion and transition to a full-table discussion.