Virtual Cultural Awareness Trainer (VCAT)

"Hands down, this is the best CBT I've seen so far as I've been doing my pre-deployment training. This should be mandatory. I especially like the use of real people telling their stories and sharing experiences. The scenarios are also very good to get a feel for what to expect."

U.S. Air Force Lt Col - VCAT Survey Response

VCAT courses are multi-media rich, self-paced online courses available on JKO that teach essential culture awareness and language familiarity, tailored to particular areas of operation and mission scenarios. These advanced web-based courses use a variety of learning technologies including game-based technology, storytelling and intelligent tutoring to immerse the learner in interactive scenarios specific to missions and fundamental language. VCAT courses impart culture and language competence for area and mission-specific duties. Specific VCAT courses cover regions in Africa, the Middle East, South and Central America, the Caribbean and Asia. VCAT courses are also available for Apple and Android mobile devices using the JKO Mobile app.

Mission areas are tailored for each region and include Civil Affairs, Countering Transnational Organized Crime, Theater Security Cooperation, Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster Relief, Meetings and Engagements, and others. Country and region lessons provide a foundation and context for operational culture and language and use a variety of interactive learning activities. On-camera interviews with military members, host country nationals and language experts provide a native perspective to help trainees understand the operational environment. Many VCATs include language instruction and provide trainees with the opportunity to practice key phrases using record and playback technology. Basic Language Survival Guides for the target languages are provided by the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center.

Find VCAT courses on JKO by going to https://jkodirect.jten.mil and search on VCAT in the course catalog tab. For more information contact JKO Knowledge Services Branch Chief, Mr. George (Matt) Matais at george.m.matais.civ@mail.mil.

About JKO

Joint Knowledge Online is the DoD advanced distributed learning capability for military and civilian individual and staff online training. It is the Joint Staff system of record for Joint Staff annual training requirements. Joint, Interagency, Inter-government and Multinational Stakeholders use JKO for a cost efficient, distributed learning solution to meet their online training needs. The JKO team of learning technology, instructional systems design, and training professionals develop media-rich, interactive web-based courses, small team simulation exercises, and train others to fully leverage JKO to manage their unique, online training requirements.

JKO Features

- ❑ 24/7 global distributed access on military unclassified and classified networks and mobile devices.
- ❑ Software-hardened learning content management system.
- ❑ Web-based JKO Course Builder courseware development tool with HTML5 capability.
- ❑ Roles-based access enabling segmented user views of the JKO course database.
- ❑ Level II and higher Interactive Multimedia Instruction courses.
- ❑ SCORM compliant courseware development, conversion and hosting.
- ❑ Area of operations and tailored scenario simulation immersive training applications.
- ❑ Distributed, desktop small group exercise training.
- ❑ Free JKO Mobile app for iOS and Android mobile phone and tablet users.

VCAT VIRTUAL CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINER