

New Members Course and Degree

Come join the fun and learn about the Society you have joined!

WHAT IS THE NEW MEMBERS COURSE?



The *New Members Course* provides a structured learning opportunity for new members to learn about DAR and how they can become active members in DAR at all levels, chapter, state and national. The core of the course consists of self-directed online webinars, so that new members can fit the *New Members Course* into their busy schedule of work, family, and play.

The *New Members Course* is a State-sponsored activity that is administered at the state level and is geared to provide a year round structured educational opportunity for new members and new-members-at-heart. If your state doesn't have a *New Members Course* speak with your State Membership Chairman or contact the Membership National Vice Chairman – Member Training for more information.

KEY COMPONENTS

Although the *New Members Course* is a State-sponsored activity and might vary slightly from state to state, all *New Members Courses* share these four components:

- **Online Learning Modules**

A core curriculum of online webinars is at the heart of the *New Members Course*. The online webinars assist in expanding the new member's knowledge about DAR's history, missions and the opportunities for service within DAR. The webinars vary from learning about our beautiful buildings at our National Headquarters to understanding Generational Differences and exactly what it means to be a Junior Member. The use of the online webinars makes it possible for all new members to learn and participate in the course regardless of location or schedule.

- **Activities And Tours**

State Coordinators are encouraged to sponsor a few activities or tours for *New Members Course* participants throughout the year. Does your state have a historic site or museum? Schedule a day with a special tour for the new members. It is an excellent way to educate them about what is special about your state and to instill excitement about your state's historic properties. Other activities could include holding an informal meeting or workshop on "DAR Pins and Protocol" or "Attending your First Congress." Remember, to a new member, everything is new.



- **Independent Project**

The idea for the Independent Project is simple: to get the new member involved in DAR. Ideas for Independent Projects can range from earning Member for Member credit by assisting a prospective member with her application, to organizing BINGO or other events at your local VA Medical Facility, or entering one of the many DAR contests or volunteering for one of the many DAR Indexing Projects. A New Member's Independent Project doesn't have to be complicated or take a lot of time to complete. It is to be FUN!

- **Graduation**

All participants who complete the course curriculum will have the opportunity to take part in a special graduation ceremony, complete with a diploma, at either State Conference or at another State-sanctioned event at the State Regent's discretion. Graduation is an excellent time to welcome and recognize both the new member and the chapter for their accomplishments.



ELIGIBILITY

Any new member or new-member-at-heart who is interested in learning about DAR's rich history and how they can get involved in DAR activities at the chapter, state and national level is welcome to participate in the *New Members Course*! For new-members-at-heart, it is a wonderful way to re-engage and learn what new opportunities are available to you since joining DAR.

GETTING INVOLVED

New Member

If you are a new member or a new-member-at-heart and are interested in signing up for the *New Members Course*, please ask your chapter regent or your state Membership Chair for the name and contact information of your state's *New Members Course* coordinator. If they cannot assist you, please do not hesitate to contact the National Vice Chair of Member Training. She would be happy to assist you in getting involved.

State Coordinator

The State Coordinator of the *New Members Course* is at the discretion of the State Regent. The course does not have to be administered by the Membership Committee. In some states the *New Members Course* is administered by the State Registrar and in other states the Chapter Development and Revitalization Commission or District Directors have been charged with administering the course.

Although the *New Members Course* is a State-sponsored activity, NSDAR has all the basic tools and resources to assist in implementing a successful New Members Course in your state. If you are a *New Members Course* State Coordinator, please do not hesitate to contact the National Vice Chair of Member Training for assistance and ideas in implementing or administering your state's New Membership Course!

CONTACT

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