



### Course **Objectives**

- Apply Sun Tzu's strategic principles to analyse complex challenges in governance and business.
- Develop effective strategies and plans by aligning organisational objectives with situational analysis tools and Sun Tzu's concepts of terrain, positioning, and manoeuvring.
- Demonstrate adaptive leadership skills grounded in empathy, communication, and discipline, to build resilient teams and foster collaboration across stakeholders.
- Employ Sun Tzu-inspired approaches to negotiation, conflict resolution, and decisionmaking, enabling participants to manage risks and seize opportunities.
- Integrate Sun Tzu's wisdom into personal leadership practice, creating actionable plans for professional growth, resilience, and longterm success.

### Course **Details**











# Course Synopsis

In today's rapidly changing environment, leaders must think strategically, adapt quickly, and act decisively. This workshop translates the timeless wisdom of Sun Tzu's Art of War into practical tools for modern governance and business.

Through case studies, strategic frameworks, and reflective exercises, participants will learn how to anticipate challenges, position their teams for success, and lead with clarity and confidence. Whether in public service or business, this course equips leaders with the foresight and resilience to win without unnecessary conflict.

By the end of the course, participants will not only gain a deeper understanding of Sun Tzu's philosophy but also develop practical tools to lead with adaptability, foresight, and confidence in an ever-changing environment.

# Course Outline

## DAY 1

Foundations of Strategy and Leadership

## Module 1: Introduction and Foundational Concepts

"Therefore, through a comparative analysis of the five fundamental factors, the nature of the situation is assessed and investigated." (故经之以五事,校之以计,而索其情。)

- Sun Tzu's life and historical context
- The Five Fundamental Factors (Moral Law, Heaven, Earth, Commander, Method & Discipline)
- The principle of "winning without fighting"

# Module 2: Strategic Thinking and Planning – Laying Plans

"Victorius warriors win first and then go to war, while defeated warriors go to war first and then seek to win." (胜兵先胜而后求战,败兵先战而后求胜。)

- Aligning vision, mission, and objectives
- Tools for situational analysis

## Module 3: Strategic Positioning – Terrain and Manoeuvring

"Know the heaven and know the earth, and you will achieve complete victory." (知天知地,胜乃可全。)

- Understanding "terrain" in modern contexts
- Positioning for advantage and leveraging timing

#### **Module 4: Manoeuvring and Deception**

"All warfare is based on deception." (兵者,诡道也。)

- Indirect approaches and flexibility in strategy
- The ethical dimension of deception in governance and business

# Course Outline

## DAY 2

Leadership, Application, and Personal Growth

#### **Module 5: Leadership Principles**

"The commander is the assisting pillar of the state. If his assistance is all-encompassing, the state will surely be strong; if defective, the state will certainly grow weak." (将者,国之辅也。辅周则国必强,辅隙则国必弱。)

- Sun Tzu on the role of the Commander
- Leadership traits: empathy, communication, discipline

## Module 6: Organisational Resilience and Team Building

"Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys." (视卒如婴儿,故可与 之赴深溪。)

- Building adaptable and motivated teams
- Partnering and collaboration for collective success.

## Module 7: Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

"To subdue the enemy without fighting is the supreme excellence." (不战而屈人之兵,善之善者也。)

- Applying Sun Tzu's concepts to conflict management
- Stakeholder engagement strategies

## Module 8: Decision-Making and Risk Management

"Order can emerge from chaos; courage can arise from fear." (乱生于治,怯生于勇。)

- Structured decision-making processes
- Balancing risks and opportunities

#### **Module 9: Personal Development**

"Know the oppositions and know yourself, and in a hundred battles you will never be in peril." (知彼知己, 百战不殆。)

- Applying Sun Tzu's wisdom to personal leadership journeys
- Reflection: Personal action plan for applying course insights at work