

Military Science

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A unit of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps was established at The College of William and Mary on July 1, 1947, with an assigned mission to qualify students for positions of leadership and management in the United States Army and the civilian sector. By participating in the ROTC program a student may earn a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Active Army, the United States Army Reserve or the Army National Guard, while pursuing an academic degree. The program offers a general military science and leadership curriculum which enables a cadet to qualify for assignment into any one of the 16 branches of the Army. The Military Science and Leadership Department is a joint program with Christopher Newport University. Classroom courses are taught at the College of William and Mary, with field leadership training conducted at sites such as Ft. Eustis, the Mariner's Museum, and in Matoaka Woods at the College of William and Mary. Participation includes:

1. \$4,500-\$5,000 subsistence allowance during junior and senior years; some books and all uniforms are furnished by the Department of Military Science.
2. An opportunity to participate in leadership and confidence-building activities as land navigation, adventure training, marksmanship, field training exercises, and physical training. The leadership and management skills development program includes education, training and experience that prepare a student for leadership in military service and civilian life.
3. An opportunity to earn a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army and a job opportunity in a leadership position with a starting salary and allowances of \$39,000 per year, increasing to \$73,700 in four years, or an opportunity to serve in the Army Reserve or National Guard.
4. Newly commissioned officers may request an educational delay in their entry on active duty in order to pursue graduate studies in medicine, law or divinity.

Scholarships

Four-, three- and two-year scholarships are available. Students compete for several thousand scholarships nationwide. Freshmen and sophomores may apply for the three- and two-year scholarships, respectively. These scholarships pay for:

1. Tuition & Mandatory Fees (fully funded)
2. Books (up to \$1200 annually)
3. Expense stipend (\$300-\$500 tax free per month)

Requirements for Enrollment

Any full-time freshman or sophomore student who is physically qualified and not already holding a commission in any armed forces may enroll in the Basic Military Science and Leadership program. Those meeting these qualifications, but who have had prior military experience in the armed forces; ROTC in another college; or in junior ROTC in high school, should consult the Department of Military Science & Leadership. Entrance into the Advanced Course (300- and 400-level) is based upon the following:

- Satisfactory completion of the Basic Course, Leader Training Course, advanced placement due to prior military service, or three years of JROTC;
- Successful completion of an Army physical examination;
- Execution of appropriate loyalty statements and contractual agreements;
- Satisfactory completion of the appropriate screening tests; and
- Selection by the Professor of Military Science.

Requirements for Commissioning

The department of Military Science and Leadership offers two, three, and four year programs that will qualify students for commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. General Requirements for commissioning include:

- 1) Completion of the Military Science and Leadership Basic Course.
 - a) Four-Year Program. Complete MLSC 101/103, 102/103, 201/203, 202/203 during the freshman and sophomore years.
 - b) Three-Year Program. Students who have less than four years to graduate and are accepted into the Military Science and Leadership program after their first term can complete the MLSC 100-level courses simultaneously with the MLSC 200-level courses as determined by the Professor of Military Science & Leadership.
 - c) Two-Year Program. Either prior military service, three years of Junior ROTC or attendance to the four-week ROTC Leader Training Course during the summer (between the sophomore and junior years) will provide placement credit for the ROTC Military Science and Leadership Basic Course.
- 2) Completion of the Military Science and Leadership Advanced Course:
 - a) Complete MLSC 301/303 and MLSC 302/303 during the junior year.
 - b) Attend a 33 day ROTC Leadership Development and Assessment Course during the summer between the junior and senior years or following the senior year.
 - c) Complete MLSC 401/403 and MLSC 402/403 during the senior year.
- 3) Completion of HIST 428, US Military History. This course is taught by the University's Department of History.

Obligations

A non-scholarship student incurs no obligation to the military by participating in freshman or sophomore Military Science and Leadership courses (MLSC 100 and 200-level courses). These courses offer a student the opportunity to evaluate the prospect of military service and to qualify for the Advanced Course beginning in the junior year. When a cadet enters the Advanced Course, he or she contracts and is obligated to accept a commission, if offered, as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army upon graduation.

Career Placement: Active Duty and Reserve Forces Duty

All commissioned officers incur an initial eight-year obligation. ROTC cadets have a choice of requesting Active Duty or Reserve Forces Duty. The difference between the two options is listed below:

1. Active Duty. The first three to four years are served on active duty, with the remaining four to five years served in the Reserves.
2. Reserve Forces Duty (Army National Guard or U.S. Army Reserve). Newly commissioned officers may enter active duty for approximately 90 days to attend a branch-specific Officer Basic Course and serve out the remainder of their eight year obligation in the Reserves while pursuing a civilian career. Cadets may choose to guarantee this option prior to entrance into the junior year.

Description of Courses

Note: No more than eight of the Military Science credits count toward the 120 credits needed for graduation. The remaining four credits will appear on the student's official transcripts.

Basic Courses

The following Military Science Basic Courses are designed for freshmen and sophomores: MLSC 101, 102, 201 and 202. The Basic Courses introduce freshmen and sophomores to the fundamentals of leadership and management while they learn about the opportunities and prospects of ROTC and commissioned service. Students complete these courses without service obligation (except Army scholarship students) while qualifying for the Advanced Program. All students must participate in the Leadership Laboratory (MLSC 103 and 203) in the Basic Courses.

101. Leadership and Personal Development.

Fall (1) Staff.

Introduces students to issues and competencies that are central to a commissioned officer's responsibilities. These initial lessons establish a framework for understanding officership, leadership, and Army values. Additionally, the semester addresses life skills' including fitness and time management. The MLSC 101 course is designed to support recruiting and retention of cadets by giving them accurate insight into the Army Profession and the officer's role in the Army.

102. Introduction to Tactical Leadership.

Spring (1) Staff.

MLSC 102 overviews leadership fundamentals such as setting direction, problem-solving, listening, presenting briefs, providing feedback, and using effective writing skills. You will explore dimensions of leadership values, attributes, skills, and actions in the context of practical, hands-on, and interactive exercises.

103. MS I Leadership Laboratory.

Fall/Spring (0) Staff.

Taken with Military Science 101 and 102. Presents basic leadership skills in practical situations. Introduces standard Army equipment, marksmanship, orienteering, and small unit tactics, and functioning as a member of a team or squad.

201. Innovative Team Leadership.

Fall (1) Staff.

This course explores the dimensions of creative and innovative tactical leadership strategies and styles by examining team dynamics and two historical leadership theories that form the basis of the Army leadership framework. Aspects of personal motivation and team building are practiced planning, executing and assessing team exercises and participating in leadership labs. The focus continues to build on developing knowledge of the leadership values and attributes through understanding Army rank, structure, and duties as well as broadening knowledge of land navigation and squad tactics. Case studies will provide a tangible context for learning the Soldier's Creed and Warrior Ethos as they apply in the contemporary operating environment.

202. Foundations of Tactical Leadership.

Spring (1) Staff.

This course examines the challenges of leading tactical teams in the complex contemporary operating environment (COE). This course highlights dimensions of terrain analysis, patrolling, and operation orders. Continued study of the theoretical basis of the Army leadership framework explores the dynamics of adaptive leadership in the context of military operations. MLSC 202 provides a smooth transition into MLSC 301. Cadets develop greater self awareness as they assess their own leadership styles and practice communication and team building skills. COE case studies give insight into the importance and practice of teamwork and tactics in real-world scenarios.

203. MS II Leadership Laboratory.

Fall/Spring (0) Staff.

Taken with Military Science 201 and 202. Develops intermediate leadership skills by placing cadets in small unit leadership roles in practical situations. Emphasizes acquisition of intermediate individual soldier skills and tactical theory.

Advanced Courses

These courses are designed to prepare juniors and seniors who have agreed to seek a commission as officers in the United States Army. Freshmen and sophomores may not take the Advanced Courses.

301. Adaptive Team Leadership.

Fall (2) Staff. Prerequisites: MLSC 101, MLSC 102, MLSC 201, MLSC 202 or equivalent, and contract status in ROTC.

You are challenged to study, practice, and evaluate adaptive team leadership skills as you are presented with the demands of the ROTC Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC). Challenging scenarios related to small unit tactical operations are used to develop self awareness and critical thinking skills. You will receive systematic and specific feedback on their leadership abilities.

302. Leadership in Changing Environments.

Spring (2) Staff. Prerequisites: MLSC 301 or consent of department and contract status in ROTC.

You will be challenged to study, practice, and evaluate adaptive leadership skills as you are presented with the demands of the ROTC Leader Development Assessment Course (LDAC). Challenging scenarios related to small unit tactical operations are used to develop self awareness and critical thinking skills. You will receive systematic and specific feedback on your leadership abilities. Leadership Lab concentrates on general military subjects directed toward the reinforcement of military skills and the development of new skills required for the ROTC Leader Development Assessment Course (LDAC).

303. MS III Leadership Laboratory.

Fall/Spring (0) Staff.

Taken with Military Science 301 and 302. Develops advanced leadership skills by requiring cadets to train and lead units of 10 to 40 fellow cadets. Includes intensive study of Army equipment, techniques and operational doctrine to achieve advanced proficiency and preparation for attending the Leader Development and Assessment Course.

401. Developing Adaptive Leaders.

Fall (2) Staff. Prerequisite: MLSC 302.

MLSC 401 develops student proficiency in planning, executing, and assessing complex operations, functioning as a member of a staff, and providing performance feedback to subordinates. You are given situational opportunities to assess risk, make ethical decisions, and lead fellow ROTC cadets. Lessons on military justice and personnel processes prepare you to make the transition to becoming an Army officer. During your MSL IV year, you will lead cadets at lower levels. Both your classroom and battalion leadership experiences are designed to prepare you for your first unit of assignment. You will identify responsibilities of key staff, coordinate staff roles, and use battalion operations situations to each, train, and develop subordinates.

402. Leadership in a Complex World.

Spring (2) Staff. Prerequisite: MLSC 302.

MLSC 402 explores the dynamics of leading in the complex situations of current military operations in the contemporary operating environment (COE). You will examine differences in customs and courtesies, military law, principles of war, and rules of engagement in the face of international terrorism. You also explore aspects of interacting with non-government organizations, civilians on the battlefield, and host nation support.

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The course places significant emphasis on preparing you for BOLC II and III, and your first unit of assignment. It uses case studies, scenarios, and “What Now, Lieutenant?” exercises to prepare you to face the complex ethical and practical demands of leading as a commissioned officer in the United States Army. This semester you will:

- Explore Military Professional Ethics and ethical decision making facing an Officer
- Gain practical experience in Cadet Battalion Leadership roles
- Demonstrate personal skills in operations and communications
- Evaluate and develop MSL III small unit leaders and examine issues of force protection in the COE
- Prepare for the transition to a career as an Army Officer.

403. MS IV Leadership Laboratory.

Fall/Spring (0) Staff.

Taken with Military Science 401 and 402. Develops advanced leadership and management expertise in the evaluation of subordinates, performance counseling, mentoring and development of programs of training for units of 100 or more members.

404. Independent Study in Military Science.

Fall or Spring (1) Staff.

This course provides ROTC cadets who have completed their Advance Course program the opportunity to conduct detailed research and independent study on a current problem or topic associated with the military. Program of study will be arranged individually with a faculty advisor; admission by consent of the chair of the department. This course may be repeated as there is no duplication of topic.