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The Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) plays an important role in the national defense framework of our nation. The American tradition of military instruction on civilian college campuses began in 1819 when a former superintendent at West Point established the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy, which later became Norwich University. Military instruction soon spread to other institutions—Virginia Military Institute in 1839, the University of Tennessee in 1840, and The Citadel in 1842.

In 1862 the U.S. Congress, foreseeing the dual necessity of creating additional institutions of higher learning as well as providing a means of schooling in the military arts, passed the Morrill Land Grant Act. This act provided money from the sale of government lands to establish colleges and universities and specified that courses in the military arts should be offered at these institutions.

The University of Minnesota opened its doors in 1869 through the benefits made available by the Morrill Act. One of the original nine faculty members was the University’s first professor of military science, Major General Richard W. Johnson. For 70 years, on-campus military training and, after 1916, ROTC programs at the University prepared students to enter the Army. In 1939 a Naval ROTC unit was established, and in 1949 an Air Force ROTC program began.

For more than 150 years, on-campus military training and ROTC programs have provided intelligent, well-educated leaders for the nation’s defense. In keeping with the typical American concept of the citizen-soldier and civilian control of military forces, the programs produce military officers from all geographic and social strata whose leadership is characterized by initiative, ingenuity, and flexibility. ROTC officers may return to civilian status when they have fulfilled their military obligation or choose to serve as reserve officers. ROTC programs provide leadership resources not only for national defense but also for civilian enterprise.

**Programs**

At the University of Minnesota, ROTC programs are offered by the U.S. Army, Navy-Marine Corps, and Air Force. ROTC coursework is completed concurrently with degree work so that participants qualify for officer commissions in one of the four military services—Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force—as they complete requirements for a University degree. ROTC coursework offers students the opportunity to widen their perspective; sharpen their sense of responsibility; develop their ability to organize, motivate, and lead others; and acquire a maturity of judgment that can be a source of strength and self-confidence throughout their careers.

Four- and two-year programs are available, each offering a different approach toward earning a commission for students who meet selection requirements. Four-year programs consist of a basic course and an advanced course. The basic course is taken during the freshman and sophomore years and the advanced course normally comprises the junior and senior years. Two-year programs consist of the advanced course only. Scholarship students entering their sophomore year incur a service commitment; nonscholarship students are obligated to a service commitment once they enter the advanced course. Programs are open for undergraduate and graduate students.

**Curricula**

ROTC courses prepare students for military service as junior officers. Students learn to exercise self-discipline, organize time and effort efficiently, perform effectively under stress, analyze and react quickly and with good judgment, and consistently exhibit exemplary military bearing and appearance. Juniors and seniors are placed in positions of command and apply the leadership skills they have developed during their preceding years of ROTC training. Following the final year of practical experience, these men and women are well prepared to assume leadership responsibilities as commissioned officers.

ROTC curricula are administered by the University’s Offices of the Executive Vice President and Provost and the Departments of Military Science (Army ROTC), Naval Science (Navy-Marine ROTC), and Aerospace Studies (Air Force ROTC).

**Benefits**

ROTC scholarship programs provide up to four years (five years under specific circumstances) of subsidized education, paying all tuition costs, instructional fees, and providing a $300 per-semester allotment for textbook expenses. Additionally, scholarship students receive a subsistence allowance on an upward scale between $250 to $400 per month. Nonscholarship students in their junior and senior years receive the subsistence allowance for a maximum of 20 months. While attending summer training, all ROTC students receive approximately $700 plus housing, travel, and allowances. Students attending summer training to qualify for a two-year program receive the same pay and allowances as ROTC students (see Scholarships in this section).

**Obligations**

Students who complete all requirements are commissioned as Second Lieutenants (Army, Air Force, and Marines) or ensigns (Navy). Upon commissioning, Naval ROTC scholarship students incur a four-year active duty service obligation; nonscholarship students incur a three-year active duty service obligation. Extended commitments to active duty are required for all pilots (eight years after qualification), naval flight officers (six years after qualification), and Nuclear Propulsion Program officers (five years after commissioning). Air Force pilot and navigator program students incur a commitment of 10 and 6 years, respectively, after completing their training; all other Air Force students incur a four-year active duty service commitment (students who receive five years of scholarship incur a five-year commitment). Army students selected for active duty serve for three years; Army scholarship students selected for active duty serve four years. Army students commissioned into the National Guard or Army Reserve serve on active duty for initial schooling and then assume reserve obligations of varying durations.
Admission

The three ROTC programs are open to all students. Young men and women are selected on the basis of their own merits. Certain qualifications and eligibility criteria for enrollment and commissioning must be met, as set forth in the laws and regulations that govern the programs. Students who do not meet these criteria may enroll in a course for its educational value but do not receive financial benefits or an officer’s commission. To be eligible for admission to a University ROTC program, applicants must

- be full-time college students;
- have reached their 17th birthday by June 30 of the year they plan to enroll;
- be of sound physical condition;
- show evidence of moral integrity, satisfactory scholarship and extracurricular activity, and potential officer capabilities; and
- have no moral or personal convictions that will prevent them from conscientiously bearing arms in support and defense of the U.S. Constitution.

Transfer Students—Students who have participated in ROTC training at another college or university may request transfer if they were honorably released by the first institution and are accepted by a University of Minnesota ROTC program.

Advanced Standing—Students who have participated in ROTC training at another institution may be granted advanced standing for military courses successfully completed.

Veterans—Veterans may take advantage of their military service and experience by seeking advanced placement in a ROTC program. G.I. Bill educational benefits and ROTC benefits may be received concurrently. Army students may receive advanced standing for membership in the National Guard or Army Reserve through the Simultaneous Membership Program. After commissioning, veterans can count their prior service for longevity pay and retirement.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available through national or regional selection systems. High school seniors may compete for four-year scholarships. Completed applications must be submitted no later than November 15 (Army), December 1 (Air Force), or January 1 (Navy-Marine) for enrollment the following fall semester. College freshmen and sophomores may compete for three- and two-year scholarships.

Students accepted into one of the ROTC nonscholarship programs are normally eligible to compete for the scholarship program after one or two semesters of enrollment. Aptitude for military service and academic performance are major considerations for acceptance. For more information about particular/special scholarship programs, contact the appropriate department.

Student Activities

Each ROTC department offers a wide range of activities for its students. A variety of local and nationally affiliated organizations offer interested and qualified students the opportunity to participate in activities, both on and off campus, that develop their leadership and managerial skills. Social events and athletic competitions, scheduled throughout the school year, round out the activities available.

Department of Military Science

The Department of Military Science conducts the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program to prepare men and women to serve as Second Lieutenants in the United States Army. Students serve our nation in one of the three components of the Army—Active, Reserve, National Guard—upon completion of a bachelor or graduate degree and completion of the ROTC program. Students serve in various career fields including the Nurse Corps, Aviation, Armor, Military Intelligence branches, and Signal branches to name a few. Students enrolled in Army ROTC have a wide variety of majors and attend the University of Minnesota or one of the program’s 12 partnership schools in the Twin Cities area.

The Army ROTC program focus is on management and leadership skills. The core coursework includes 16 to 26 credits in topics such as the art and science of leadership, ethics, values, integrity, honor, problem solving skills, responsibility, basic military skills, military history, physical training, and adventure training. Students register and earn academic credit for Army ROTC courses in the same manner as other elective courses in their college curriculum.

An academic minor in military science is available but is not required.

Programs

Three programs are available in the Department of Military Science for students to earn a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Four-Year Program—The four-year program is divided into two parts—the basic course and the advanced course. The basic course is typically completed in the first two years of college. Unless a cadet has accepted a scholarship, the basic course is voluntary and all students are eligible. After completing the basic course, students that meet the physical and academic standards, and have demonstrated leadership potential, contract into the advanced course. The advanced course includes four concurrent semesters of coursework and the Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC). The LDAC is a paid six-week leadership course conducted at Fort Lewis, Washington, during the summer. Typically students attend LDAC during the summer after the first year of the advance course.

Three-Year Program—The three-year program is designed for students who want to start ROTC as sophomores. Students complete the basic course in one year instead of two. This method is referred to as compression. Students completing the basic course as compression students go on to contract in the advanced course as above.

Two-Year Program—The two-year program enables eligible students to contract in the advanced course at the time they are academic juniors or seniors, or graduate students with four semesters remaining before graduation. Eligible students are those with one or more of the following:

- Prior service in the military.
- Member of the National Guard or Reserve with basic training completed.
- Completion of three or more years of Junior ROTC in high school.
- Completion of the Army ROTC Leader’s Training Course.
Students that are members of the National Guard or Army Reserve can participate in the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP), which provides additional income and the opportunity to serve in a leadership position in the student’s unit of choice.

Military Science Minor—A military science minor is available through the College of Continuing Education in collaboration with the Department of Military Science. This minor provides students with basic concepts and principles of military science and the art of leadership. Areas of study include citizenship, military history, values, ethics, integrity, honor, responsibility, management, and leadership skills. Students gain practical leadership experience, develop self-discipline, gain confidence, and improve physical stamina—all of which are valuable qualities when applied to service in a military or civilian career.

The military science minor is open only to ROTC cadets pursuing a bachelor’s degree from the University and a commission in the United States Army.

To complete the minor, students must complete 20-28 credits of specialized coursework including Mil 3130, 3131, 3140, 3141, four semesters of Military Science Leadership Lab, Hist 3891—American Military History, and an approved philosophy course.

Benefits
The Department of Military Science offers many benefits to students with or without military experience.

Personal Growth—The Department of Military Science gives students the opportunity to gain confidence, improve self-discipline, and improve physical and mental toughness. The leadership experience gained by completion of the program gives students a marketable asset—leadership.

Scholarships—A wide variety of scholarships are available and application can be made at anytime during the year. Scholarships range from two to four years in duration with extensions possible for high demanding majors such as nursing or engineering. Scholarships provide up to $17,000 per year in tuition and $600 per year for textbooks. Two-year scholarships are available for members of the National Guard and Army Reserve. These scholarships feature continued reserve duty after commissioning and guaranteed branching in the student’s unit. Scholarships for two to four years are also available and include duty in the Active Army after commissioning.

Guaranteed Job after Graduation—Upon commissioning, students have a full time job in the Active Army or part time job in the National Guard or Army Reserve. The military obligation of service is eight years after commissioning (four years Active Army and four years in the reserve component, or eight years in the National Guard or Army Reserve). The type of obligation is determined at the time of contracting in the advanced course and is tied to the type of scholarship. Cadets are selected for a specific branch depending on factors such as their interest, academic major, LDAC performance rating, and the needs of the Army.

Income—All contracted cadets receive $250 to $400 per month, depending upon the class, for up to ten months of the year. Students with prior service, SMP cadets, and members of the National Guard or Army Reserve may be eligible for Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) benefits, financial assistance or reimbursement for tuition, and an additional $350 per month.

Department of Naval Science
The Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) offers the opportunity for qualified young men and women to earn commissions as Navy, Marine Corps, or Navy Nurse Corps officers as they complete requirements for a University degree. The NROTC program is the nation’s largest producer of naval officers.

During their four years of college, NROTC students (midshipmen) complete 32 credits of instruction in naval orientation, naval ship systems, seapower and maritime affairs, navigation, shipboard operations, organization, management, leadership, and ethics, plus 120 hours of professional training in military ceremonies, customs, and skills, and various hands-on training opportunities.

Upon receiving a commission, a new Navy ensign usually receives advanced specialty training and then is assigned to duty aboard a surface ship, nuclear-powered submarine, or with an aviation squadron. Newly commissioned Marine Corps second lieutenants attend The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia following graduation. They then choose from several occupational fields, such as infantry, armor, aviation, artillery, intelligence, and engineering. Nurse program graduates are commissioned as Navy Nurse Corps officers and assigned to Navy medical facilities throughout the world.

Student Categories
Students who study and train with NROTC can be classified into three categories.

Scholarship Students—NROTC offers many scholarships. Scholarship students are appointed through an annual national selection process before college admittance or through competition with their peers after entering the NROTC program. Once appointed, students are designated as midshipmen in the Naval Reserve and receive a scholarship that covers all tuition and fees, a per-semester allotment for textbooks, and a subsistence allowance of between $250 to $400 per month for up to 40 months. Upon graduation and commission into the Navy-Marine Corps Reserve, they serve a minimum active duty obligation of four years.

College Program Students—These students are enrolled by the professor of naval science and frequently are “walk-ons” who join the NROTC program from the regular University student population. They are provided with uniforms and naval science textbooks, but pay their own tuition and fees. The college program consists of the basic (freshman and sophomore) and advanced (junior and senior) courses. Advanced course students are selected from the ranks of basic course students. Advanced course midshipmen receive a subsistence allowance of between $350 to $400 per month for up to 20 months. Upon graduation and commission into the Navy-Marine Corps Reserve, they serve a minimum active duty obligation of three years.

College program students may apply for NROTC scholarships based on the professor of naval science’s recommendation. Special scholarship opportunities may be available for college program students at various points in the program.

Naval Science Students—Naval science students are associated with the Department of Naval Science for academic instruction only, e.g., for courses in navigation or organization and management. They register and pay fees in the same manner as for other University courses. These students do not wear uniforms, participate in summer training programs, or receive NROTC benefits. However, those who are eligible may apply for enrollment as NROTC college program or two-year scholarship program students.
Programs
The following NROTC programs and scholarship opportunities lead to rewarding careers as officers in the Navy or Marine Corps.

Four-Year Scholarship Program—This program educates and trains qualified young men and women for active duty as reserve officers in the Navy or Marine Corps.

Scholarship recipients are chosen by a national selection board and must be accepted by the University. The application deadline is January 1 for enrollment the following fall semester.

Navy option scholarship students (with the exception of Navy Nurse Corps option midshipmen) must successfully complete one year of calculus by the end of their sophomore year and one year of calculus-based physics by the end of their junior year. Marine Corps option scholarship students have a slightly different sequence of naval science courses and are not required to fulfill the calculus or physics requirements.

Scholarship students are required to complete three summer training periods, for which they receive training pay. After completing naval science requirements and earning a bachelor’s degree, students are commissioned as officers in the Navy-Marine Corps Reserve and serve on active duty for a minimum of four years.

Students already enrolled in the college program may apply for the scholarship program if nominated by the professor of naval science and selected by the chief of naval education and training.

Navy Nurse Corps Scholarship—Four-year scholarships are available to students planning to pursue the bachelor of science degree in nursing (B.S.N.). Upon graduation, these students are commissioned as reserve officers in the Navy Nurse Corps. Eligibility and selection procedures are the same as for the regular four-year NROTC scholarship program.

Four-Year College Program—This program is for students who wish to serve their country as reserve officers in the Navy or Marine Corps. Participants are University freshmen selected by the professor of naval science.

There are almost no restrictions on undergraduate academic courses students may choose provided they can be applied to a bachelor’s degree. Students must complete the basic (freshman and sophomore) and advanced (junior and senior) naval science course sequences and certain University courses before graduation. College program students are not required to fulfill the calculus and physics requirements that apply to the scholarship program. Instead, they may take any math course of college-level algebra or higher and any physical science course that includes a lab. In addition, students attend a summer training cruise between their junior and senior years.

After graduating and completing their naval science requirements, students are commissioned as ensigns in the Naval Reserve or second lieutenants in the Marine Corps Reserve and serve on active duty for a minimum of three years.

Two-Year Scholarship Program—This program provides the same NROTC benefits to college juniors and seniors as the four-year scholarship program. To qualify, applicants must have a 2.50 cumulative GPA. Navy option applicants must have successfully completed one year of calculus and must complete one year of calculus-based physics before the end of their junior year. Interested students should apply before March 1 of their sophomore year. Selected students must complete a six-week course of instruction at the Naval Science Institute (NSI) in Newport, Rhode Island. Following NSI, students enroll in the NROTC advanced course. Commissioning as a Navy ensign or Marine Corps second lieutenant follows successful completion of the program and carries an obligation to serve four years of active duty.

Two-Year College Program—Students attending or transferring to the University should apply to the two-year college program before March 1 of their sophomore year. Students selected must attend a six-week course of instruction at the Naval Science Institute (NSI) in Newport, Rhode Island.

Upon return to the University, they enroll in the college program advanced course. After graduation and commissioning, students incur a three-year active duty obligation. Any student finishing near the top of the NSI class may be offered a two-year NROTC scholarship. This includes full tuition plus the other scholarship program benefits, and also incurs a four-year active duty obligation.

Naval Science Institute (NSI)—Students selected for either of the two-year programs attend the Naval Science Institute (NSI) in Newport, Rhode Island, following their sophomore year. NSI provides a six-week course of instruction in naval science and professional training. While at NSI, students receive pay, uniforms, room and board, and transportation. Successful completion of NSI qualifies students to enroll in the NROTC advanced course.

Summer Training—NROTC offers exciting training opportunities. Each summer, NROTC midshipmen train around the world at Navy and Marine Corps bases and aboard U.S. Navy and allied foreign navy vessels of all types. Scholarship students participate in four to six weeks of training each summer following their freshman year while college program students attend training during the summer between their junior and senior years.

Cross-Town Agreements—Students who attend the University of St. Thomas or Macalester College are eligible to participate in any of the University of Minnesota NROTC programs and earn commissions as Navy or Marine Corps officers.
Curriculum
The naval science curriculum covers basic seamanship to fleet operations and provides intensive education in the art and science of being a naval officer. All midshipmen learn about the background and meaning of our national and naval traditions and the importance of professional and ethical performance. This awareness, combined with the opportunity to develop and practice basic leadership principles, affords them the inner confidence necessary to effectively lead others and assume the responsibilities of a Navy or Marine Corps officer.

Midshipmen take the course sequence described below. During the second and third years, they take either the Navy or Marine Corps sequence. In addition to the specified courses, students attend NROTC professional training for three hours each week. During the junior and senior years, these sessions emphasize command and leadership skills. NROTC students must also take certain University courses specified by the Navy.

Navy Sequence—First Year
Nav 1000—Professional Training in Naval Science
Nav 1101—Introduction to Naval Science
Nav 1102—Seapower and Maritime Affairs

Navy Sequence—Second Year
Nav 2000—Professional Training in Naval Science
Nav 2201—Ship Systems I (Naval Engineering)
Nav 4401—Leadership and Management I

Navy Sequence—Third Year
Nav 3000—Professional Training in Naval Science
Nav 3301—Navigation I (Piloting and Celestial Navigation)
Nav 3302—Navigation II (Seamanship and Ship Operations)

Navy Sequence—Fourth Year
Nav 4000—Professional Training in Naval Science
Nav 2202—Ship Systems II (Weapons)
Nav 4402—Leadership, Management, and Ethics II

Marine Option—Second Year
Nav 2000—Professional Training in Naval Science
Nav 3310—Evolution of Warfare (can also be taken in third year)

Marine Option—Third Year
Nav 3000—Professional Training in Naval Science
Nav 4410—Amphibious Warfare (can also be taken in fourth year)

Students register for NROTC courses in the same manner as for other courses in their academic programs. These courses carry academic credit and may be used to fulfill University degree requirements. Students who are not in the NROTC program may enroll in a naval science course as an elective with the instructor’s consent.

Department of Aerospace Studies
The Air Force ROTC (AFROTC) program enables qualified men and women to work toward commissions as officers in the Air Force while completing requirements for a University degree. Students are commissioned as second lieutenants upon graduation.

The AFROTC curriculum emphasizes development of leadership and communication skills. Students learn ways in which the Air Force supports national policy. Leadership theory and its practical application in directing personnel and programs are emphasized.

AFROTC courses are offered by the Department of Aerospace Studies. Students register for these courses in the same manner as for other University courses.

Programs
AFROTC programs and associated scholarships vary from one to four years in length. The length of the program and scholarship is based on the number of years the student has left until graduation. For example, a high school senior who earns a four-year scholarship joins the four-year program during their freshman year at the University and activates a four-year scholarship. Alternatively, a college senior would join the one-year program and, if qualified, activate a one-year scholarship. Students can join AFROTC at any time throughout the year; typically scholarship activation occurs during the fall term.

ROTC scholarship programs provide up to four years of subsidized education, paying all tuition costs and instructional fees, and providing a per-semester allotment for textbook expenses.

Scholarship boards are held several times a year. The application deadlines for scholarships are:

- High school student application deadline for a four-year scholarship—December 1 of senior year
- College student application deadline for one- to three-year scholarships—January 15 for the primary board; June 1 for a supplemental board

Students do not need to be members of AFROTC to compete and apply for an in-college scholarship, however, they must become members to activate any scholarship. Students must enroll in aerospace studies classes every semester regardless of the length of the program. In addition, all students must successfully complete a summer field-training encampment prior to commissioning. This training typically takes place during the summer between the students’ sophomore and junior years.

NOTE: The one-year program is not offered every year and is based on the needs of the Air Force. Contact the University AFROTC to find out more about program availability.

Time requirements for AFROTC students vary by year. Freshmen and sophomores typically spend from three to five hours per week performing ROTC duties, and juniors and seniors typically spend from five to ten hours per week. Duties include attending mandatory classes and maintaining physical fitness.

The vast breadth of the Air Force and its operations is difficult to portray in the classroom; so Air Force cadets have the opportunity to visit bases for firsthand observation of how the Air Force operates. These trips are frequently made on weekends or scheduled to coincide with school vacation periods. Cadets may be flown by military aircraft to an Air Force base to tour facilities, receive mission briefings, and inspect aircraft and other technical equipment. There are many other opportunities available to cadets that range from free fall parachuting, to piloting a glider aircraft, to visiting Air Force installations in other countries.

Curriculum
Aerospace studies classes provide students with the tools required to become effective leaders in the Air Force. Freshmen and sophomores take a 1-credit survey course each semester to learn the basics of the Air Force and AFROTC (Air 1104 and 1105) and Air Force history (Air 1204 and 1205). Juniors and seniors take a 3-credit survey course each semester to study the traits and characteristics of effective leaders and managers (Air 3301 and 3302) and to examine national security policy and professionalism (Air 3401 and 3402). In addition, all AFROTC
students must enroll in the Leadership Laboratory where class lessons are employed by running a cadet organizational structure (Air 1000).

Students taking aerospace studies courses for academic credit only and not enrolled in AFROTC are exempt from the Leadership Laboratory requirement.

Admission
Entry into the last two years of the AFROTC program is competitive. Candidates must

• pass the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT).
• pass an Air Force medical examination.
• have a GPA of 2.00 or higher.
• pass a physical fitness test and meet weight standards.
• complete field training.
• graduate and commission before the age of 35.

Scholarship Age Limit—Students must be under the age of 31 on December 31st of the commissioning year to be eligible for a scholarship. Otherwise, cadets must be commissioned and enter active duty before reaching age 35. Students not eligible for a scholarship due to age restrictions are eligible for a financial incentive.

Benefits
AFROTC offers students a challenging position in the Air Force immediately after graduation in a variety of career fields. All cadets receive uniforms and AFROTC textbooks free throughout the program. All scholarship recipients and all cadets in their last two years of AFROTC receive between $250 and $400 per academic month and may travel on any military aircraft (space-available status). All cadets also have the opportunity for orientation flights aboard Air Force aircraft and visits to Air Force bases.

Active Duty Requirements
Students not programmed for pilot and/or navigator training incur a four-year active duty commitment. Those programmed for pilot and navigator programs incur a commitment of ten and six years active duty, respectively, after completing their training.

Scholarship Programs
AFROTC offers many scholarships. These scholarships may cover full tuition, fees, and books plus a nontaxable monthly allowance of $250 to $400 paid directly to the student. Some scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis while others are awarded on a fully qualified basis. Most three- and four-year scholarships are offered on a best-qualified basis. The one- and two-year scholarships are typically offered on a fully qualified basis.

Four-year scholarships are available on a competitive basis to high school seniors. Applications are usually available early each summer, with a deadline of December 1 for enrollment the following fall semester.

Scholarship entitlements and types of scholarships offered vary according to the needs of the Air Force. Students should contact the University AFROTC office to find out if they qualify for a competitive or fully qualified scholarship. More information and scholarship applications are available online at www.afrotc.com and www.afrotc.umn.edu.