

# Military Science Program (MSC) (updated 01 Feb 2024)

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The Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) is an academic program which can lead to a commission as an officer in the active Army, the Army National Guard, or the U.S. Army Reserve. Instructors in the Military Science Program who administer the Reserve Officers Training Corps Program are members of the active Army, Army Reserve, Army contractors, or government civilians assigned to the two universities for this purpose. The ROTC Program is divided into a two-year basic course and a two-year advanced course. During the basic course, the freshman and sophomore years, the student incurs no military obligation. Upon entering the advanced course, the junior and senior years, a military obligation is incurred by the individual signing a contract with the Army. After commissioning, a student can either go on active duty or serve in the Reserve (Federal) or National Guard (State). Students in the advanced course are required to go to a five-week course between their junior and senior years. Students may attend during the summer months such Army schools as Airborne or Air Assault Training. They may also participate with an active-duty unit after the five-week course under the cadet troop leadership training program. In order to earn a commission, each Advanced Course cadet is also required to complete academic courses in Written Communications, American Military History, and Computer Literacy. All students participating in the ROTC program are furnished, on a loan basis, necessary textbooks and other items required in the program. Students are also provided required uniforms. Students in the basic course do not receive pay unless they contract. Contracted freshmen cadets receive \$300 a month for ten months and sophomore cadets receive \$350 a month for ten months. Students enrolled in the advanced course receive a \$450 a month for twelve months for juniors and \$500 a month for ten months for seniors. Advanced placement credit for the two-year basic course may be given for prior military service, Junior ROTC, or ROTC Leaders Training Course. Students who are active in the Army National Guard or U.S. Army Reserve may qualify for advanced course placement by participating in the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). Anyone with questions should contact the Department of Military Science at 870-230-5007.

**Requirements for a Minor in Military Science (22hrs total).**

**Mandatory courses (16 hours):**

A minor in Military Science requires completion of the university CORE, a university recognized major, and 19 hours of the following MSC courses: MSC 2032, 2042, 3053, 3063, 4073, and 4083.

**One course from this list (3 hours):**

ENG 3613 Technical Writing  
ENG 4453 Advanced Composition.

**One course from this list (3 hours):**

HIS 3083 Civil War and Reconstruction  
**MSC 3093. U. S. Military History**

In addition, a non-credit leadership lab is required in conjunction with other MSC courses. The Military Science minor recognizes the efforts of Military Science students in completion of the 19 hours of Military Science that are required to become a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. The University recognizes the past, present, and future work and dedication of the students that meet the requirements for the Military Science minor.

**MSC 1000. Leadership Lab, 2 hours (Fall, Spring) - All Students taking any MSC class register for this Lab.**

This lab focuses on the development of students interested in developing leadership skills through concrete experiences. These experiences expand on lessons from the respective military sciences courses they attend to solidify the principles required to be leaders of good moral character in the military and in their community. These principles are often directly applied across other organizations these students are members of across campus, strengthening other campus programs and improving the efficacy of student run programs.

## **Basic Courses – (Freshmen, Sophomores):**

**MSC 1011. Introduction to the Army, 1 hour (Fall) Freshmen**

MSCI 1011 focuses on introduction to the Army and basic Soldier skills. It introduces Cadets to the Army and the Profession of Arms. Students will examine the Army Profession and what it means to be a professional in the U.S. Army. The overall focus is on developing basic knowledge and comprehension of the Army Leadership Requirements Model while gaining a complete understanding of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program, its purpose in the Army, and its advantages for the student. Cadets also begin learning map reading and land navigation. Students will have initial classes on fieldcraft, first aid, individual/team movement techniques that will include a weekly lab facilitated by MS III Cadets and supervised by MS IVs and cadre.

**MSC 1021. Foundations of Leadership, 1 hour (Spring) Freshmen**

MSCI 1021 introduces Cadets to the personal challenges and competencies that are critical for effective leadership. Cadets learn the personal development of life skills such as critical thinking, time management, goal setting, and communication. Cadets learn the basics of the communications process and the importance for leaders to develop the essential skills to effectively communicate in the Army. Cadets will begin learning the basics of squad level tactics that will be reinforced during a weekly lab facilitated by MS III Cadets,

supervised by MS IVs and cadre.

**MSC 2032. Military Leadership and Ethics, 2 hours (Fall) Sophomores**

MSCI 2032 focuses on leadership and ethics. The course adds depth to the Cadets knowledge of the different leadership styles. Cadets will conduct a leadership analysis of famous leaders and self-assessment of their own leadership style. The Army Profession is also stressed through understanding values, ethics and how to apply both to different situations they may encounter as a leader. Army Values and Ethics and their relationship to the Law of Land Warfare and philosophy of military service are also stressed. Students are then required to apply their knowledge outside the classroom in a hands-on performance-oriented environment during a weekly lab facilitated by MS III Cadets, supervised by MS IVs and cadre.

**MSC 2042. Army Doctrine and Decision Making, 2 hours (Spring) Sophomores**

MSCI 2042 focuses on Army doctrine and decision making. The course begins with analytical techniques, creative thinking skills and the Army problem solving process as related to situations faced by leaders when making decisions. TLPs and OPORD will lead Cadets to an understanding of Army Doctrine and Symbolology. Squad tactics will be covered in classes on Unified Land Operations, Offensive Operations and Defensive Operations. Students are then required to apply their knowledge outside the classroom in a hands-performance-oriented environment during a weekly lab facilitated by MS III Cadets and supervised by cadre.

**Advanced Courses – (Juniors, Seniors – Military Contracted Only):**

**MSC 3053. Training Management and the Warfighting Functions, 3 hours (Fall) Juniors**

MSCI 3053 focuses on training management and the warfighting functions. It is an academically challenging course where you will study, practice, and apply the fundamentals of Training Management and how the Army operates through the Warfighting functions. At the conclusion of this course, you will be capable of planning, preparing, and executing training for a squad conducting small unit tactics. Includes a lab per week using peer facilitation overseen by MSL IVs, supervised by ROTC Cadre.

**MSC 3063. Applied Leadership in Small Unit Operations, 3 hours (Spring) Juniors**

MSCI 3063 focuses on applied leadership in small unit operations. It is an academically challenging course where you will study, practice, and apply the fundamentals of direct level leadership and small unit tactics at the platoon level. At the conclusion of this course, you will be capable of planning, coordinating, navigating, motivating and leading a platoon in the execution of a mission. Includes a lab per week using peer facilitation overseen by MSL IVs, supervised by ROTC Cadre. Successful completion of this course will help prepare you for the Cadet Summer Training Advance Camp, which you will attend in the summer at Fort Knox, KY.

**MSC 3093. U. S. Military History, 3 hours (Fall, Spring) Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors**

This MS II level course students will study and apply the history of the American military. This course builds an understanding of and integrates the principles and practices of changing economic, society and world events on military operations and American culture throughout the history of the United States. At the Conclusion of this course, students will have knowledge of the American Military history and the effects of a changing society and world economy on the American military.

**MSC 4073. The Army Officer, 3 hours (Fall) Seniors**

MSCI 4073 focuses on development of the Army Officer. It is an academically challenging course where you will develop knowledge, skills, and abilities to plan, resource, and assess training at the small unit level. You will also learn about Army programs that support counseling subordinates and evaluating performance, values and ethics, career planning, and legal responsibilities. At the conclusion of this course, you will be familiar with how to plan, prepare, execute, and continuously assess the conduct of training at the company or field grade officer level. Includes a lab per week overseeing MSL III lesson facilitation and supervised by ROTC Cadre.

**MSC 4083. Company Grade Leadership, 3 hours (Spring) Seniors**

MSCI 4083 is an academically challenging course where you will develop knowledge, skills, and abilities required of junior officers pertaining to the Army in Unified Land Operations and Company Grade Officer roles and responsibilities. This course includes reading assignments, homework assignments, small group assignments, briefings, case studies, practical exercises, a midterm exam, and an Oral Practicum as the final exam. The Oral Practicum explores your knowledge of how you will be prepared for the Army Warfighting Challenges (AWFC) covered throughout the ROTC Advanced Course. Successful completion of this course will assist in preparing you for your BOLC B course and is a mandatory requirement for commissioning. Includes a lab per week overseeing MSL III lesson facilitation and supervised by ROTC Cadre.

**MSC 4123. Independent Study in Leadership, (Fall, Spring) Seniors – MS5 Status Only**

The ROTC program APMS will conduct leadership classes with students and assign additional coursework as needed to develop the student into a successful Army officer.