Course Descriptions - Military Science

LTC Peffers, LTC Vajner, MAJ Ikenberry, MSG Barrow

FRESHMAN YEAR • Basic Course

MS 101: Leadership and Personal Development 1R-2L-1C F Pre: None
MS 101 introduces cadets to the personal challenges and competencies that are critical for effective leadership. Cadets learn how the personal development of life skills such as critical thinking, goal setting, time management, physical fitness, and stress management relate to leadership, officership, and the Army profession. The focus is on developing basic knowledge and comprehension of Army leadership dimensions while gaining a big picture understanding of the ROTC program, its purpose in the Army, and its advantages for the student.

MS 102: Introduction to Tactical Leadership 1R-2L-1C W Pre: None
MS 102 overviews leadership fundamentals such as setting direction, problem-solving, listening, presenting briefs, providing feedback, and using effective writing skills. Cadets explore dimensions of leadership values, attributes, skills, and actions in the context of practical, hands-on, and interactive exercises. Continued emphasis is placed on recruitment and retention of cadets. Cadre role models and the building of stronger relationships among the cadets through common experience and practical interaction are critical aspects of the MS 102 experience.

MS 103: Basic Tactical Leadership 1R-2L-1C S Pre: None
MS 103 continues the exploration of leadership fundamentals and examines the leadership process as affected by individual differences and styles, group dynamics, and personality behavior of leaders. Students will experience an introduction of fundamental leadership concepts, and examine factors that influence leader and group effectiveness. Students will fully explore the basic soldier skills and squad level tactical operations. Students participate in briefings and hands-on practical exercises. Attention is devoted to development of leadership potential through practical exercises both in and out of the classroom.

SOPHOMORE YEAR • Basic Course

MS 201: Innovative Team Leadership 2R-2L-2C F Pre: None
MS 201 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. Cadets practice aspects of personal motivation and team building in the context of planning, executing, and assessing team exercises and participating in leadership labs. Focus is on continued development of the knowledge of leadership values and attributes through an understanding of Army rank, structure, and duties and basic aspects of land navigation and squad tactics. Case studies provide tangible context for learning the Soldier's Creed and Warrior Ethos as they apply in the contemporary operating environment (COE).

MS 202: Foundations of Tactical Leadership II 2R-2L-2C S Pre: None
MS 202 examines the challenges of leading tactical teams in the COE. The course highlights dimensions of terrain analysis, patrolling, and operation orders. Further study of the theoretical basis of the Army leadership framework explores the dynamics of adaptive leadership in the context of military operations. 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.

MS 203: Foundations of Tactical Leadership II 2R-2L-2C S Pre: None
MS 203 continues the examination of the challenges of leading tactical teams in the complex contemporary operational environments. Dimensions of the cross-cultural challenges of leadership in a constantly changing world are highlighted and applied to practical Army leadership tasks and situations. Cadets develop greater self-awareness as they practice communication and team building skills. Contemporary Operational Environment case studies give insight into the importance and practice of teamwork and tactics in real world scenarios.
MS 206: ROTC Leader's Training Course
Covering a training period of approximately thirty days, the Department of Military Science ROTC battalion provides travel to and from Fort Knox. Students may attend to access their desire to continue and contract into the ROTC Advanced Course. While at camp, you will meet students from all over the nation while earning $700 in pay and receive free room and board. You may apply for a two-year Full-tuition scholarship and receive up to $900 annually for books and earn a monthly stipend of over $450 per month for 10 months per year. The Leader's Training Course is a way to catch up on missed Military Science courses in order to qualify the student for progression as a contracted Advanced Course ROTC cadet.

JUNIOR YEAR - Advanced Course

MS 301: Adaptive Team Leadership 2R-2L-2C F Pre: MS 206 or completion of Basic Course requirements
MS 301 challenges cadets to study, practice, and evaluate adaptive leadership skills as they are presented with challenging scenarios related to squad tactical operations. Cadets receive systematic and specific feedback on their leadership attributes and actions. Based on such feedback, as well as their own self-evaluations, cadets continue to develop their leadership and critical thinking abilities. The focus is developing cadets' tactical leadership abilities to enable them to succeed at ROTC's summer Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC).

MS 302: Leadership under Fire 2R-2L-2C W Pre: MS 301
MS 302 uses increasingly intense situational leadership challenges to build cadet awareness and skills in leading small units. Skills in decision-making, persuading and motivating team members when under fire are explored, evaluated, and developed. Aspects of military operations are reviewed as a means of preparing for the ROTC Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC). Cadets are expected to apply basic principles of the Law of Land Warfare, Army training, and motivation to troop leading procedures. Emphasis is also placed on conducting military briefings and developing proficiency in garrison operation orders. Cadets are evaluated on what they know and do as leaders.

MS 303: Leadership under Fire II 2R-2L-2C S Pre: MS 302
MS 303 continues development in decision making, persuading, and motivating team members in operational situations are explored, evaluated and developed. Aspects of military operations are reviewed as a means of preparing for LDAC. Cadets are expected to apply basic principles of Law of the Land Warfare, Army training, and motivation to troop leading procedures. Emphasis is also placed on conducting military briefings and developing proficiency in garrison operations orders. Cadets are evaluated on what they know and do as leaders.

Overview of LDAC: Leader Development and Assessment Course
Summer Term Only

LDAC/Warrior Forge is the crucible of the Army ROTC Program. As such, Cadet Command must provide the best professional training and evaluation possible for all cadets. The primary focus at LDAC is to evaluate each cadet's officer potential in a collective environment. The secondary purpose of LDAC is to validate specific skills taught on campus and to impart selective individual and collective common skills. LDAC represents the only opportunity for this command to assemble cadets from disparate schools into an environment with common operational conditions.

SENIOR YEAR - Advanced Course

MS 401: Developing Adaptive Leaders 2R-2L-2C F Pre: MS 303
MS 401 develops cadet proficiency in planning, executing, and assessing complex operations, functioning as a member of a staff, and providing performance feedback to subordinates. Cadets assess risk, make ethical decisions, and lead fellow ROTC cadets. Lessons on military justice and personnel processes prepare cadets to make the transition to Army officers. Cadets analyze, evaluate, and instruct cadets at lower levels. Both their classroom and battalion leadership experiences are designed to prepare cadets for their first unit of assignment. They identify responsibilities of key staff, coordinate staff roles, and use situational opportunities to teach, train, and develop subordinates.

MSL 402: Leadership in a Complex World 2R-2L-2C W Pre: MS 401
MS 402 explores the dynamics of leading in the complex situations of current military operations in the COE. Cadets examine differences in customs and courtesies, military law, principles of war, and rules of engagement in the face of international terrorism. They also explore aspects of interacting with nongovernmental organizations, civilians on
the battlefield, and host nation support. The course places significant emphasis on preparing cadets for their first unit of assignment. It uses case studies, scenarios, and "What Now, Lieutenant?" exercises to prepare cadets to face the complex ethical and practical demands of leading as commissioned officers in the United States Army.

**MS 403: Leadership in a Complex World II** 2R-2L-2C  S Pre: MS 402
MS 403 continues the exploration of the dynamics of leading in the complex situations of current military operations from MS 402. Cadets examine differences in customs and courtesies, military law, principles of war, and rules of engagement in the face of international terrorism. Aspects of interacting with non-government organizations, civilians on the battlefield, and host nation support are examined and evaluated. Significant emphasis is placed on preparing cadets for their first unit of assignment as Second Lieutenants.

**Academic Electives**

Cadets in the Military Science program must take and successfully complete one college undergraduate course to satisfy the Professional Military Education (PME) requirement for American Military History. This should be taken during the course of the student’s four years of academic studies and completed prior to graduation and commissioning. A complete listing of all applicable PME courses is available through the ROTC department.