



# Military Science

## Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)

The Department of Military Science, through the Army's Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC), offers students an opportunity to receive an officer's commission and serve as a leader in the Regular Army, Army Reserve, or Army National Guard. Upon completion of the ROTC program, the student will have acquired skills in leadership, management, problem solving, and decision-making that prepares students to serve both as an officer in the military and in civilian leadership positions. Courses and training are conducted on the campus, in the local area, or at military training facilities. The ROTC program is divided into basic and advanced courses, as outlined below.

### Undergraduate Program

**Army ROTC Basic Course:** (no service obligation incurred): The Army ROTC Basic Course consists of two freshman-level courses (MSL 101-102) and two sophomore-level courses (MSL 201-202). The freshman year focuses on an introduction to the Army profession and officership. The sophomore year focuses on the experiential examination of leadership, decision-making, and group dynamics. By the end of the Army ROTC Basic course, students will possess a basic understanding of the unique aspects of the officer corps, fundamentals of leadership and decision-making, Army's institutional values, and principles of individual fitness and healthy lifestyles. These courses emphasize practical exercises, inspire intellectual curiosity, and stimulate self-study.

**Army ROTC Advanced Course:** The Army ROTC Advanced Course consists of three distinct components: the leadership and decision-making training of the MS 301 and 302 courses, the Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC); and the MS 401 and 403 courses that guide a student in a transition from Cadet to Army Officer during their final year in the program.

Completion of the ROTC Basic Course is a prerequisite for entrance into the ROTC Advanced Course. Students may fulfill the Basic Course requirement by attending a five-week

ROTC summer internship known as the Leadership Training Course (LTC). Additionally, basic course requirements are automatically met by veterans, Army Reservists, and National Guardsmen now enrolled in school that possess a minimum of 30 credit hours and have graduated from a basic training course from any of the armed forces.

#### Minor:

- Military Science and Leadership

The Military Science and Leadership minor is available to all students; being a contracted cadet in ROTC is not required. Required courses include MS 301, 302, 401, 402, MS 403, EFN 347 and WS 255. Students must also select at least two elective courses from ANT 352, GEO 307, POL 234, and EFN 447. Students must complete the LDAC (no credit) or a three-credit community leadership internship (CEI 450).

### Program Features

The ROTC program is not an academic major, but is designed to be taken in conjunction with the regular academic subjects required for an undergraduate degree. ROTC provides students with training in both leadership and management to develop their abilities through practical experience. The Military Science Department's purpose and objective is to develop college educated men and women to serve in positions of responsibility in the Active Army, Reserve, or Army National Guard.

Cadets are encouraged to take part in extracurricular activities including Color Guard and Ranger Challenge, as well as other typical extracurricular activities. There are additional U.S. Army training programs open to cadets seeking additional challenges. Airborne School, Air Assault School and Cadet Troop Leader Training are the most common.

ROTC courses are open to all undergraduates. Joining ROTC is simply a matter of registering for one of the Military Science classes. Students do not incur any military obligation during the first two years of ROTC (except scholarship students). Students attending Viterbo University (in La Crosse), Winona State University and St. Mary's University (the latter two, both in Winona, MN) are also eligible to take all UW-L Military Science Classes. Classes are held at Viterbo and Winona in addition to UW-L.

#### Scholarships

Army ROTC scholarships are merit-based and provide financial assistance to outstanding individuals. Scholarships are allocated annually to the UW-L ROTC program, which conducts selection boards and awards scholarships to the most qualified individuals. Each scholarship pays full tuition, fees, and certain other costs. Scholarship students also receive \$1,200 annually for purchase of textbooks. Four-year scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis to students entering college for the first time. Three-year and two-year scholarships are awarded to students already enrolled in college.

Applications and deadlines are available at the ROTC scholarship web site or at the Department of Military Science in the Whitney Center.

### **Financial Assistance**

In addition to the scholarship program, all students who are contracted ROTC cadets receive a monthly stipend of up to \$500 a month during the academic year. Additional benefits (allowances through the Montgomery GI Bill and tuition assistance/reimbursement) are available to students who are members of the Army Reserve or National Guard while in ROTC.

## **Career Opportunities**

College graduates of the Army ROTC program are commissioned second lieutenants in the Army, Army Reserve, or Army National Guard and serve in officer positions with immediate managerial/leadership responsibilities.

## **Occupational Outlook**

The Army offers outstanding opportunities for promotion and advancement in all career fields. Officers are given ample leadership experience and increasing levels of responsibility. Worldwide assignment opportunities and continually changing challenges are integral to a military career.

Additional opportunities are available to officers selected to attend graduate school. These include training in specialized health fields as well as general advanced degree programs. All officers who serve on active duty will also be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which offers significant educational benefits. Officers enjoy opportunities for special skill training such as an Army parachutist, or elite training as an Army Ranger. As a graduate of

Army ROTC and as a commissioned officer, students will have the leadership and management skills necessary for success in both military and civilian endeavors.

## **Professional Associations**

AUSA – Association of the United States Army

ROA – Reserve Officers Association

### Informational Web Sites:

Eagle Battalion Home Page:  
[www.uwlax.edu/rotc](http://www.uwlax.edu/rotc)

Army ROTC Scholarships:  
[www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships.jsp](http://www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships.jsp)

Army ROTC:  
<http://armyrotc.com/edu/univwilacrosse/index.htm>

Call: (608) 785-8404 to receive more information

**Military Science Department**  
**58 Whitney Center (Lower Level)**  
**(608) 785-8404**  
[www.uwlax.edu/rotc/](http://www.uwlax.edu/rotc/)