CORPS OF CADETS MAJOR GENERAL W. THOMAS RICE CENTER FOR LEADER DEVELOPMENT
Corps of Cadets
Academics (and more)
CAPT JAMIE MCGRATH, USN(RET)
Agenda

- Leader Development Concept
- Summer Orientation
- Corps Training Requirements
- Corps Academic Requirements
- Leadership Minors for Cadets
- ROTC Academic Requirements
- Corps Requirements
- The Corps and ROTC
- Common Pitfalls
Leader Development Plan

Guided by the university motto of Ut Prosim, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is a Four-year Leader Development Program designed to graduate leaders of exemplary character who are instilled with the values and skills essential for leadership success in service to the nation.

The goal is to graduate leaders of exemplary character who are instilled with the values and skills essential for leadership success in service to the nation.

Each Class Year in the Corps focuses on an element of leadership that builds toward graduating global ethical leaders of character.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Year</th>
<th>Leadership Theme</th>
<th>A Cadet is Prepared to be a:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-Year</td>
<td>Leading Self</td>
<td>Fire Team Leader</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Leading People</td>
<td>Cadet NCO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Leading Organizations</td>
<td>Cadet Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Leading for the Future</td>
<td>Junior Officer/Citizen Leader</td>
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</tbody>
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Summer Orientation

- Corps of Cadets Canvas Page
  - Paperwork for VTCC and ROTC requirements
  - Training on pre-arrival activities
- In-person Orientation – Weekdays, 08-26 July
  - One day long
  - Briefs on expectations, move-in, and things to do before arrival
  - Complete Corps and ROTC paperwork
  - Uniform fitting in the Tailor Shop
  - Meet with Corps Scholarship Office
- Working to add Corps and ROTC classes in Hokie Scheduler
  - Three groups – FTIC, Off-campus Transfers, On-campus Transfers
  - Willing to Force Add MGT 1945 if unavoidable conflict with the Thursday Lab.
  - Transfer students will be dealt with individually
- Orientation Holds
  - Share with us and we can help resolve
### Corps Training Requirements

#### Development Themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>First-year Cadets</th>
<th>Sophomores</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Semester – Experience</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadre Week (1 week)</td>
<td>Support &amp; observe Cadre</td>
<td>Prepare to train incoming New Cadets</td>
<td>RWB Leader Training</td>
<td>Lead training of Cadre</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Cadet Week (1 week)</td>
<td>Basic Military Training</td>
<td>Support New Cadet Training</td>
<td>Train New Cadets</td>
<td>Set Command vision</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Room &amp; Uniform Standards</td>
<td>Observe Cadre</td>
<td>Teach &amp; model standards</td>
<td>Train Sophomore Cadets</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Military Drill &amp; Ceremony</td>
<td></td>
<td>Develop Leadership Skills through practice</td>
<td>Lead the Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Phase (6 weeks)</td>
<td>Integrate into new company</td>
<td>Serve as Cadet NCOs</td>
<td>Implement Vision</td>
<td>Set Command vision</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Refine training as FTL</td>
<td>Train First-year Cadets</td>
<td>Train First-year Cadets</td>
<td>Lead the Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internalized standards</td>
<td>Develop Leadership Skills through practice</td>
<td>Evaluate performance of First-year Cadets</td>
<td>Plan &amp; evaluate training</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Phase (9 weeks)</td>
<td>Continue to develop personal standards</td>
<td>Assume role as FTL</td>
<td>Serve as Cadet NCOs</td>
<td>Implement Vision</td>
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<td>Sustain &amp; stabilize performance</td>
<td>Train First-year Cadets</td>
<td>Evaluate &amp; counsel subordinates</td>
<td>Serve as Cadet Officers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Expand small unit leadership skills</td>
<td>Supervise and mentor FTLs</td>
<td>Evaluate &amp; counsel subordinates</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Professional mentoring of First-Year Cadets</td>
<td>Supervise and mentor Cadre</td>
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<td>Plan &amp; evaluate training</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spring Semester – Learn</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Phase (15 weeks)</td>
<td>Serve as FTLs</td>
<td>Serve as Cadet NCOs</td>
<td>Implement Vision</td>
<td>Serve as Cadet Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Train First-year Cadets</td>
<td>Prepare to be Cadet Officers</td>
<td>Evaluate &amp; counsel subordinates</td>
<td>Evaluate &amp; counsel subordinates</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prepare to be Cadet NCOs</td>
<td>Evaluate &amp; counsel subordinates</td>
<td>Prepare SO to assume Corps NCO roles</td>
<td>Prepare juniors to assume Corps Leadership roles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prepare Freshman to assume FTL role</td>
<td>Prepare Freshman to assume FTL role</td>
<td>Professional mentoring of First-Year Cadets</td>
<td>Prepare for post-graduation goals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Annual Training Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Finish</th>
<th>Milestone Events</th>
<th>Key Events</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Semester – Experience</strong></td>
<td>~2 Weeks before Start of Classes</td>
<td>~1 Week before Start of Classes</td>
<td>New Cadet Move-in Rehearsal</td>
<td>RWB Student Leader Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadre Week (1 week)</td>
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<td>Cadre Level of Knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Cadet Week (1 week)</td>
<td>1 Week before College Orientation</td>
<td>Day prior to College Orientation</td>
<td>New Cadet Parade</td>
<td>New Cadet Move-in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Phase (6 weeks)</td>
<td>First Day of Classes Fall Semester</td>
<td>Friday Prior to Last Day to Drop Classes</td>
<td>Caldwell I Sophomore Red Phase Culminating Event</td>
<td>Transition to Academics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Phase (9 weeks)</td>
<td>Completion of Caldwell I</td>
<td>Last Day of Classes Fall Semester</td>
<td>First-year Cadet White Phase Culminating Event</td>
<td>NC Promotion to Cadet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring Semester – Learn</strong></td>
<td>First Day of Classes Spring Semester</td>
<td>Change of Command PIR</td>
<td>Caldwell II Change of Command Pass-in-Review</td>
<td>Senior Banquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Phase (15 weeks)</td>
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<td>Graduation &amp; Commissioning</td>
<td>Military Ball</td>
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<td>Ring Dance</td>
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<td>Platoon Tactical Challenge</td>
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<td>FTL Training (FR)</td>
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<td>Advanced Leader Course (SO)</td>
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<td>Cadet Officer Training (JROTC)</td>
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</table>
Corps Training Requirements

- Training is conducted:
  - Weekday mornings before formation – called “Onlines”
  - Thursday afternoons during Corps Lab (see below)
  - Friday evenings – primarily Freshman Training with some Sophomore Training
  - Saturday mornings (when no football game) – primarily Freshman Training
- All Cadets are required to attend Corps Lab every semester
  - Thursdays 1530-1645
    - Part of MGT 1945/6 for First-year Cadets
    - Pre-loaded as “Free Time” for returning Cadets
  - Waivers on case-by-case basis by Deputy Commandant – Corps Lab Excusal Form
    - Please do not remove until the Cadet has approval from the Deputy Commandant
    - Advisors asked to verify that no other options available for course conflicts
    - May be additional requirements to support waivers
Corps Academic Requirements

• All Cadets required to complete 4 semesters of Corps Academic Offerings
  • *MGT 1945/6 – Fundamentals of Cadet Leadership
  • *MGT 2945/6 – Small Unit Leadership for Cadets
  • MGT 3945/6 – Cadet Organizational Leadership
  • MGT 4945/6 – Executive Leadership for Cadet
  • MGT 3804 - Topics in Cadet Global Leadership Studies
  • MGT 3964 – Field Study: Cadet Leadership

• Multiple sections being offered throughout the academic day
• Decoupled from Corps Lab

* = FR/So required to enroll unless class conflict. Will need to make up class another semester
First-year Cadet Academic Schedule

- Maximum of 17 credits (19 if in Band – they do the work regardless)
- Encourage Pathways courses first semester
- Avoid frontloading hard courses, especially multiples
- Must account for Corps and ROTC credits
Leadership Minor - Corps of Cadets

• The Corps offers a Leadership Minor through Pamplin College of Business Management Department
• 22 Credits
  • Six Corps MGT Courses
  • MGT 3304 or 3404 and PHIL 2304
  • Remaining credits from ROTC or VPI
  • Physical fitness and leadership requirement
• Waivers and substitutions considered
• LMCC is optional but encouraged for all Cadets
• Rice Center controls enrollment in minor
• Checklists completed during final semester at University
Leadership and Service/Naval Leadership Minor

- The ROTCs offer a Leadership and Service (LAS - Army/AFP) and Naval Leadership (MN - Navy) minor through CLAHS
- 21 Credits
  - 12 hours of ROTC classes
  - 9 hours of electives
- Many cadets are automatically enrolled by their ROTC
- Can earn both minors
- ROTCs control enrollment (and disenrollment)

LAS is NOT THE SAME as the LMCC
ROTC and Citizen Leader Track

• Required classes each semester
• Professional Lab (PROLAB) Tuesdays 1530-1645 (1720 for Army)
• Additional Requirements for specific ROTCs
  • Navy (regardless of major)
    • MN 1014 Navy Fitness
    • One year of calculus by end of sophomore year
    • One year of calculus-based physics by end of junior year
    • One year of English grammar and composition
    • One year of National Security Policy/American Military Affairs
    • One semester of world culture and regional studies
  • Marines
    • Same as Navy minus Calculus and Physics
  • Air Force
    • AF 2934 Air Force Fitness
  • Army (one of the following)
    • HIST 1115 History of the United States
    • HIST 1116 History of the United States
    • HIST 3014 American Revolution
    • HIST 3054 The American Civil War
    • HIST 3254 The Vietnam War
    • HIST 3534 Modern Military History
    • HIST 3544 World War II
Cadet Requirements/Expectations

- Uniform during the duty day and to all classes
- Morning PT
  - Run by ROTC/VPI
  - 2-5 days/week ~0530-0630 (Navy & Air Force 0800-0900)
- Morning Formation
  - Every weekday at 0730
  - “Onlines” (training and inspections) 30 minutes prior to formation
- Room cleanliness standards and inspections
- Evening Call to Quarters (ECQ) – 1900-2200 Sunday to Thursday
  - Quiet hours enforced in the Cadet Residence Halls
  - Freshman and Sophomores required to be rooms unless excused
- Weekend Training – closed weekends
  - Special events (Caldwell March, D-Day Memorial, Platoon Tac)
  - ROTC training events
  - Football games
  - Freshman training
New Cadet Requirements/Expectations

- All the cadet requirements plus:
  - Dragging
    - Marching 120 steps per minute and squaring corners
    - In the cadet residence halls and on Upper Quad
  - Sounding Off
  - Uniform required at all times
  - Stricter room cleanliness standards and more frequent inspections
  - Privileges granted and taken away
  - Freshman Training
    - Friday evenings 1800-2200 (and some Saturdays)
    - You may hear it called U-Pass (a term we are phasing out but persists)
The Corps and ROTC

While the Corps and ROTC share a goal to train future leaders, they are not synonymous

- Two separate cadet chains of command – cadets often have roles in both
- ROTC Commanders do not report to the Commandant of Cadets
  - The Corps falls under Student Affairs but effectively operates as a Residential College – Commandant reports to VPSA
  - ROTCs fall under CLAHS – Report to Dean of CLAHS and their respective military chain of command
  - Depend on cooperation and coordination
- Slightly different, but complementary missions
  - ROTC mission is to commission officers into the US Military – must meet DoD standards
  - Corps mission is to develop global, ethical leaders – may or may not meet DoD standards
**Degree Plan Requirements**

- ROTC & VPI require cadets complete an academic degree plan
- Timing, frequency, and details very
- Forms
  - Air Force – Form 48
  - Army – Form 145-4
  - Navy/Marines – Degree Completion Plan
  - VPI – any approved college advising team plan
- Responsibility is on the Cadet – not the academic advisor
Pitfalls

• “Cadet speak” confusing to outsiders
• Conflating the Corps and ROTC
• Cadets taking advantage of the conflating of Corps and ROTC
• Assuming Cadets understand difference between Corps and ROTC
• Assuming Corps and ROTC understand each other’s requirements
• Assuming communication with Corps or ROTC will reach the other organization
• While we work to minimize all of these pitfalls, the bottom line is that while the uniforms look similar, and cadets are both members of the Corps and the ROTCs, they are not one single organization
VTCC Wellbeing Initiatives

Collaboration with Hokie Wellness, Cook Counseling, and Residential Wellbeing

- Hokies on Track Sessions during NCW
- Wellbeing and Mental Health awareness in MGT 1945
- RWB SLs receive Mental Health First Aid certification
- Expanding to other elements of the Corps Training calendar
Point of Contact

• If you have ANY questions, I can be your one stop shop for contacting the Corps or ROTCs.
• If I do not know the answer, I will find out or connect you with the person who will
• Jamie McGrath
  • jpm997@vt.edu
  • 231-9455
Questions