CORPS OF CADETS
VIRGINIA TECH.

MAJOR GENERAL W. THOMAS RICE
CENTER FOR LEADER DEVELOPMENT

UT PROSIM
Corps of Cadets
Academics (and more)
CAPT JAMIE MCGRATH, USN(RET)
Agenda

- Corps Demographics
- Corps Academic Requirements
- Leadership Minors for cadets
- ROTC academic requirements
- Corps requirements
- The Corps and ROTC
- Common Pitfalls
But, we also had 100 cadets with a 2.0 or less last semester, and 38 placed on Academic Probation.
Corps Demographics

• Total Enrollment Fall 2021 = 1245
• Goal is 1400 for AY 24-25

Spring 2022 enrollment = 1091
By order of the Board of Visitors, all students at Virginia Tech who are enrolled in ROTC must be enrolled in the Corps of Cadets.
Cadets are enrolled in 100 different majors across all colleges. The choice of major may be constrained by the cadet’s ROTC and scholarship status.
Corps 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
• All Cadets are required to attend Corps Lab every semester
  • Thursdays 1530-1645
  • Waivers on case-by-case basis by Deputy Commandant
  • May be additional requirements to support waivers
  • No academic credit for Corps Lab (starting Fall 2022)
• Deputy Commandants as teachers of record for these accredited classes

* = FR/SO required to enroll unless class conflict. Will need to make up class another semester

New for Fall 2022
• Multiple sections being offered throughout the academic day
• No longer Thursdays at 1530
• Decoupled from Corps Lab
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
- Waivers and substitutions considered
- LMCC is optional but encouraged for all Cadets
- Starting Fall 2022, VPI cadets will take LMCC minor electives in lieu of some VPI Courses
Leadership and Service Minor

- The ROTCs offer a Leadership and Service minor through the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS)
- 21 Credits
  - 12 hours of ROTC classes
  - 9 hours of electives
- Many cadets are automatically enrolled by their ROTC
- Can earn both minors

LAS is NOT THE SAME as the LMCC
ROTC and VPI Battalion

• Required classes each semester
• Professional Lab (PROLAB) Tuesdays 1530-1645 (1720 for Army)
• Additional Requirements for specific ROTCs
  • Navy (regardless of major)
    • 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

- Uniform during the duty day and to all classes
- Morning PT
  - Run by ROTC/VPI
  - 2-5 days/week ~0530-0630 (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
New Cadet Requirements

• 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
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