Aerospace Studies

**AIR FORCE RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (AFROTC)**

**Professor:** Lim (Chair)

**Assistant Professors:** Vallera

**Objectives**
The AFROTC objectives are to:

- Recruit, select, and retain officer candidates until they are commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force;
- Provide college-level education that qualifies cadets for commissioning in the U.S. Air Force; and
- Develop each cadet's sense of personal integrity, honor, and individual responsibility; enhance knowledge of how the U.S. Air Force serves the national interest; increase understanding of officer professionalism in the U.S. Air Force; and develop potential as a leader and manager.

**Program**
The Department of Aerospace Studies offers three-year, and four-year curricula leading to a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. In the four-year curriculum, a student takes AER 101 and 201 courses during the freshman and sophomore years, attends a four-week summer training program, and then takes the AER 301 and 401 in the junior and senior years. In the three-year curriculum, a student completes AER 101 and 201 during the sophomore year, attends a four-week summer training program, and then takes the AER 301 and 401 in the junior and senior years. A student is under no contractual obligation to the Air Force until completing the summer training program or accepting an Air Force scholarship. The subject matter of the freshman and sophomore years is developed from a historical perspective and focuses on the scope, structure, and history of military power with the emphasis on the development of air power and its relationship to current events. During the junior and senior years the curriculum concentrates on the concepts and practices of leadership and management, and the role of national security forces in contemporary American society.

In addition to the academic portion of the curricula, each student participates in a two-hour Leadership Laboratory (AER 200) each week. During this period, the day-to-day skills and working environment of the Air Force are discussed and explained. Leadership Lab utilizes a student organization designed for the practice of leadership and management techniques.

Air Force ROTC offers scholarships for two, three, and four years on a competitive basis to qualified applicants. All scholarships are applied to tuition and lab fees, and include a textbook allowance, plus a tax-free monthly stipend which varies from $250 to $400, depending on graduation date.

**Minor in Aerospace Studies**
A minor in Aerospace Studies is available to any student completing the courses of study listed below. Students must receive approval of the Professor of Aerospace Studies. Students desiring a minor in Aerospace Studies must declare this choice no later than the add/drop period of their seventh semester. Students successfully completing the following requirements will have a minor in Aerospace Studies transcribed on their student record:

- AER 301 Air Force Leadership Studies
- AER 401 National Security Affairs and Preparation for Active Duty
- ENG Composition-oriented course
- Upper Level Non-Native Language course
- Specific English and Non-Native Language courses must receive approval by the Professor of Aerospace Studies to qualify.

**Aerospace Studies Courses**

**AER 101/102 The Foundation of the United States Air Force (2 credits)**
A survey course designed to introduce students to the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. Featured topics include: mission and organization of the Air Force, officerhip and professionalism, military customs and courtesies, Air Force officer opportunities, group leadership problems, and an introduction to communication skills. Leadership Laboratory (AER 200) is mandatory for Air Force ROTC cadets, and it complements this course by providing cadets with followership experiences.

**AER 201/202 The Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power (2 credits)**
A survey course designed to facilitate the transition from Air Force ROTC cadet to Air Force ROTC candidate. Featured topics include: Air Force heritage, Air Force leaders, an introduction to ethics and values, introduction to leadership, group leadership problems, and continuing application of communication skills. Leadership Laboratory (AER 200) is mandatory for Air Force ROTC cadets, and it complements this course by providing cadets with their first opportunity to apply leadership experiences discussed in class.

**AER 301/302 Air Force Leadership Studies (6 credits)**
This course is a study of the leadership and quality management fundamentals, professional knowledge, Air Force doctrine, leadership ethics, and communication skills.
required of an Air Force junior officer. Case studies are used to examine Air Force leadership and management situations as a means of demonstrating and exercising practical application of the concepts being studied. Leadership Laboratory (AER 200) is mandatory for Air Force ROTC cadets, and it complements this course by providing advanced leadership experiences, giving students the opportunity to apply leadership and management principles.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Air Force ROTC Field Training

**AER 401/402 National Security Affairs and Preparation for Active Duty (6 credits)**

This course examines the national security process, regional studies, advanced leadership ethics, Air Force doctrine. Special topics of interest focus on the military as a profession, officership, military justice, civilian control of the military, preparation for active duty, and current issues affecting military professionalism. Within this structure, continued emphasis is given to refining communication skills. Leadership Laboratory (AER 200) is mandatory for Air Force ROTC cadets, and it complements this course by providing advanced leadership experiences, giving students the opportunity to apply the leadership and management principles.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Air Force ROTC Field Training