Military Science

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The Department of Military Science, an instructional department that reports to the senior vice president and provost, offers four years of military science courses, lower and upper division. The 300- and 400-level courses are restricted to contracted Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets pursuing commissions as officers in the United States Army. The 100- and 200-level courses are open to interested students.

Curriculum

The curriculum is an interdisciplinary course of study designed to meet the following objectives:

1. Provide opportunities to learn and practice leadership styles, dimensions, and techniques
2. Provide an understanding of the historical role of the US Army and how that role supports the goals and objectives of national policy
3. Develop and improve communication skills using practical oral and written exercises
4. Develop an understanding of the professional military ethic
5. Provide general knowledge of the structure of the US Army, its organization, and how its various components work together
6. Provide an understanding of American military history and the leadership principles that cause military leaders to succeed or fail

Lower Division

Lower-division (100- and 200-level) courses are offered for 1 or 2 credits each. The 100-level courses are offered to freshmen; the 200-level courses are offered to sophomores and upperclassmen. These courses provide the basic framework of knowledge and emphasize basic military terms, leadership, organization, and military history.

Upper Division

Upper-division (300- and 400-level) courses primarily are offered for 4 credits each. These courses are offered only to contracted cadets, or those in the process of contracting, who have satisfactorily completed the two three-course sequences Military Science I (MIL 121–123) and Military Science II (MIL 221–223). They provide the advanced leadership, decision-making, communication, ethics, and tactical education to prepare the student to become a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army.

Extracurricular Activities

The department supports a variety of events including ranger challenge (a club sport), intramural football, basketball, softball, and color guard for all home football games and UO Commencement.

About ROTC

The US Army supports ROTC programs at colleges and universities throughout the United States. Students who take military science courses may also participate, by contractual arrangement with the Department of the Army, in the process that leads to a commission. Each cadet must take, in addition to military science courses, a course in military history and in written communication. Most of these courses count toward general-education group requirements for a bachelor's degree.

The US Army sponsors two-, three-, and four-year federal scholarships, awarded competitively by the Army to students who seek a commission. It is possible for undergraduate students to obtain a commission through either a two-, three-, or four-year program of instruction. Graduate students who meet age requirements and have two academic years remaining at the UO may also pursue a commission through ROTC. Students interested in pursuing a commission, a scholarship, or both should contact the department.