

Air Force Aerospace Studies

Undergraduate Study

The objectives of the Department of Air Force Aerospace Studies (AFAS) are to provide qualified students the opportunity to earn a commission as an active duty officer in the United States Air Force (USAF) and to build better citizens for those not interested in serving in the USAF. Entry into the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) program is not dependent on departmental major or year in the university, and is open to all qualified students.

The curriculum is divided into two basic phases: the general military course (GMC) and the professional officer course (POC). The GMC is introductory and consists of four consecutive one-hour courses normally taken during the freshman and sophomore years.

Selection for the POC is on a competitive basis, and cadets enrolling in this course must meet certain academic, mental, physical, and moral standards.

Students who have completed the GMC will compete for an enrollment allocation to participate in Field Training, a four-week summer program which provides a concentrated experience in the Air Force environment. The training program includes officer training, career orientation, expeditionary training, an introduction to typical base functions, and physical training. Prior to entry into the POC, students must successfully complete Field Training.

Upon enrollment and acceptance into the POC, all cadets are required to complete a contractual agreement with the Air Force, which obligates them to a minimum of four years of active duty as an USAF officer. Qualified cadets may compete for selection for rated duty as a pilot, combat systems operator (CSO), remotely-piloted aircraft (RPA) operator, and air battle manager (ABM). Rated duty officers receive additional specialized instruction, requiring an active duty commitment of six years for CSO, RPA, and ABM operators and 10 years for pilots.

AFROTC scholarships are available and provide payment of full tuition and fees. In addition, scholarship cadets receive a \$250-\$400 monthly subsistence allowance and \$600 per year book allowance. Scholarships can be awarded for periods of two, three, or four years, with up to one additional year for qualified applicants in selected majors. Upon acceptance of a scholarship, the student executes a contract with the USAF, and students who fail to observe the contract terms may be called to active duty in an enlisted grade or be required to repay monies received from the Air Force. To determine eligibility and initiate application procedures for the scholarship program, interested students should contact the AFAS department.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers a minor in military studies. Requirements for the minor include taking a minimum of 15 credits of ROTC instruction, which may be taken from one or more of the ROTC programs. At least six credits must be in courses numbered 300 or above.