Aerospace Studies (Air Force ROTC)

Director
• Lt. Col. Rick A. Spyker

Undergraduate minor: aerospace studies
Faculty: http://www.uiowa.edu/~afrotc/cadre.html
Web site: http://www.uiowa.edu/~afrotc/

The Aerospace Studies Program administers the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) at the University of Iowa. AFROTC prepares highly qualified undergraduate students for commissions as officers in the United States Air Force.

While AFROTC is structured primarily for students pursuing active-duty Air Force commissions, any undergraduate or graduate student may take aerospace studies courses for academic credit, with the exception of the leadership laboratories. The amount of credit that may be applied toward a degree varies from college to college at the University. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, for example, accepts a maximum of 20 s.h. of aerospace studies credit. Additionally, any undergraduate student may apply the courses toward the minor in aerospace studies.

In order to receive a commission, AFROTC cadets must complete all University of Iowa degree requirements as well as courses specified by the U.S. Air Force.

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

AFROTC offers programs lasting three or four years. Joining early gives students the opportunity to try AFROTC without obligation. It also can give them an advantage in the scholarship selection process.

The AFROTC program's three main components are the general military course (GMC), the professional officer course (POC), and field training (FT).

General Military Course

The general military course (GMC) consists of one AFROTC course (1 s.h.) and a leadership laboratory taken each semester for two years. Any student who meets AFROTC qualifications and is in good academic standing is eligible to participate in the GMC. Students normally apply for the GMC up to the time they earn 60 s.h. Students who have earned more than 60 s.h. may enroll in the GMC if they are willing to extend their academic plan by a semester or more.

Professional Officer Course

The professional officer course (POC) consists of one AFROTC course (3 s.h.) and a leadership laboratory taken each semester for two years. Students accepted into the POC make a commitment to serve a minimum of four years as U.S. Air Force officers. To enter the POC, students must be selected to attend and must successfully complete field training. Students generally take the POC during their last 60 s.h.

Field Training

All POC applicants must successfully complete field training at a U.S. Air Force base. Field training is an intensive, three-week program completed the summer after the sophomore year. It provides a first-hand look at the active duty Air Force and develops military leadership and discipline. Students participate in junior officer education, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat training, and physical fitness training, and expeditionary skills training in a simulated environment. When they complete the program, they are ready to return to school and assume leadership positions in the AFROTC program.

Activities

Students have the option to compete for acceptance to a variety of optional AFROTC summer training programs. They may shadow a junior officer in a career field of interest, or they may compete to attend the Air Force Academy's free-fall parachute, glider, or combat survival schools. Students may return to field training as cadet training assistants, go to the Pentagon to see how the Air Force operates, or travel to a foreign country for a cultural immersion program. The Air Force provides transportation, meals, lodging, and a daily expense allowance for all summer programs.

Throughout the year, students may learn more about the Air Force by choosing to participate in base visits, aircraft orientation rides, a Dining Out (a formal ball in Air Force tradition), and other activities.

The AFROTC Cadet Corps also sponsors community service projects, intramural athletics, and social events, including formal and informal dinners.

Education Delay

Cadets may request an education delay to postpone entry to active duty until after completion of an advanced degree or professional training program.

Undergraduate Program of Study

• Minor in aerospace studies

Minor

The minor in aerospace studies requires a minimum of 16 s.h. in aerospace studies program courses. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.50 in all courses for the minor and in all UI courses for the minor. Course work in the minor may not be taken pass/nonpass. In order to count course work taken at other institutions toward the minor, students must have approval from the director of aerospace studies. The minor requires the following course work.

All of these:

AERO:1100 Foundations of the U.S. Air Force I 1 s.h.
AERO:1200 Foundations of the U.S. Air Force II 1 s.h.
AERO:2100 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power I 1 s.h.
AERO:2200 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power II 1 s.h.
AERO:3100 Air Force Leadership Studies I 3 s.h.
AERO:3200 Air Force Leadership Studies II 3 s.h.
AER0:4100 National Security Affairs and Active Duty Preparation I 3 s.h.
AER0:4200 National Security Affairs and Active Duty Preparation II 3 s.h.

Financial Aid

Merit scholarships are available for two and three years of study. They provide varying awards for tuition and fees, a stipend for books, and a monthly tax-free subsistence allowance. Applicants are selected based on objective and subjective factors. Students should apply to the director of aerospace studies.

Nonscholarship cadets in the last two years of AFROTC are eligible for some financial assistance. They receive a tax-free subsistence allowance per month. Uniforms are furnished as well as all books for AFROTC classes.

Courses

Lower-Level Undergraduate

AER0:1100 Foundations of the U.S. Air Force I 1 s.h.
Introduction to U.S. Air Force: military customs and courtesies, basic oral and written communication techniques, careers available to Air Force officers. Requirements: first-year or sophomore standing.

AER0:1150 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 100-FA 1 s.h.
A progression of experiences designed to develop leadership ability; military customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, military professional development, the life and work of a junior officer; leadership skills in a practical, supervised military lab setting. Offered fall semesters. Corequisites: AER0:1100. Requirements: first-year or sophomore standing.

AER0:1200 Foundations of the U.S. Air Force II 1 s.h.
Continuation of AER0:1100; leadership theory and practice, team building, diversity in the work force. Requirements: first-year or sophomore standing.

AER0:1250 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 100-SP 1 s.h.
A progression of experiences designed to develop leadership ability; military customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, military professional development, the life and work of a junior officer; leadership skills in a practical, supervised military lab setting. Offered spring semesters. Corequisites: AER0:1200. Requirements: first-year or sophomore standing.

AER0:2100 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power I 1 s.h.
Air power from Civil War hot air balloons through World War II; emphasis on developments in U.S. Air Force.

AER0:2150 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 200-FA 1 s.h.
See AER0:1150. Offered fall semesters. Corequisites: AER0:2100.

AER0:2200 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power II 1 s.h.
Continuation of AER0:2100; air power from post-World War II to present; emphasis on developments in U.S. Air Force.

AER0:2250 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 200-SP 1 s.h.
See AER0:1150. Offered spring semesters. Corequisites: AER0:2200.

AER0:2500 Readings in Contemporary Military Issues 1-4 s.h.
Independent research on the U.S. Air Force; historical topics, current missions, future technologies, comparisons to other nations.

Upper-Level Undergraduate and Graduate

AER0:3100 Air Force Leadership Studies I 3 s.h.
Emphasis on management, leadership, communication skills required of an Air Force officer. Requirements: junior or higher standing.

AER0:3150 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 300-FA 1 s.h.
See AER0:1150. Offered fall semesters. Corequisites: AER0:3100.

AER0:3200 Air Force Leadership Studies II 3 s.h.
Continuation of AER0:3100; leadership topics in counseling, accountability, ethics. Requirements: junior or higher standing.

AER0:3250 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 300-SP 1 s.h.
See AER0:1150. Offered spring semesters. Corequisites: AER0:3200.

AER0:4100 National Security Affairs and Active Duty Preparation I 3 s.h.
America's evolving national security policy; structure of national security agencies, development of national security strategies; global regions and their historical and current importance to U.S. security policies. Requirements: junior or higher standing.

AER0:4150 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 400-FA 1 s.h.
See AER0:1150. Offered fall semesters. Corequisites: AER0:4100.

AER0:4200 National Security Affairs and Active Duty Preparation II 3 s.h.
Continuation of AER0:4100; Department of Defense structure, missions, and responsibilities, with emphasis on role of the U.S. Air Force; Air Force standards; preparation for active duty as Air Force junior officers. Requirements: junior or higher standing.

AER0:4250 AFROTC Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) AS 400-SP 1 s.h.
See AER0:1150. Offered spring semesters. Corequisites: AER0:4200.