

AEROSPACE STUDIES

Department Website (<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/aero/>)

Stewart Newton, *Chair*

The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) Program offered by the Department of Aerospace Studies is conducted pursuant to provisions of the ROTC Vitalization Act of 1964. AFROTC is a leadership program for college students interested in earning a commission and entering the active duty Air Force as an officer, after completing a bachelor's degree. AFROTC instructs students in military heritage, the development of air and space power, military ethics, drill and ceremonies, communication, human relations, and leadership theory and techniques. Teaching methods include instructor presentations, student discussions and team projects, and hands-on leadership exercises. All books and uniforms associated with AFROTC are provided at no cost to the student. Additionally, students may enroll for academic credit only. The AFROTC program is optimized to cover eight semesters of a typical student career. However, the program can be tailored to accommodate as few as the final six semesters prior to degree completion. Contact the Department of Aerospace Studies for details.

General Military Course (GMC)

Qualified freshman and sophomore students may enroll as Air Force ROTC cadets in the general military course. This program allows students to "try out" Air Force ROTC for up to two years without incurring any obligation unless on an Air Force ROTC scholarship. Students will learn about Air Force history, the historical development of airpower, and basic officership skills. Testing and screening are accomplished during the sophomore year to determine those cadets qualified for enrollment in the professional officer course. Enrollment in AERO 101/AERO 102 or AERO 201/AERO 202, plus the corequisite lab, is required to maintain good standing in the GMC.

Professional Officer Course (POC)

Upon successful completion of a four-week field-training course at an Air Force base, qualified cadets may enroll in the professional officer course during their last two years of college. POC courses offered by the Department of Aerospace Studies are designed to prepare selected juniors and seniors for their responsibilities as Air Force officers. A subsistence stipend is paid during the last two years of college to cadets maintaining the minimum grade point average for advancement. Enrollment in AERO 301/AERO 302 and AERO 401/AERO 402, plus the corequisite lab, is required to maintain good standing in the POC. Successful completion of the POC results in receiving a commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

Program Qualification Requirements

- Be a full-time undergraduate student
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Meet AFROTC height and weight standards
- Have good moral character and no history of illegal drug use or serious civil involvements
- Be medically qualified
- Pass the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test
- Pass an AFROTC Physical Fitness Assessment Test
- Successfully complete field training requirements
- Be in good academic standing

- Be between 17 and 30 years old
- Not be a single parent

Scholarship Opportunities

College Students: Air Force ROTC offers two, three, and four-year scholarships to college students in many majors. These scholarships include partial to full tuition and fees, a book allowance, and a monthly nontaxable stipend. Selection is based on student scores on the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test, cumulative grade point average, a physical fitness assessment, SAT (or equivalent) score and a rating from the cadre. To apply for any scholarship, contact the Department of Aerospace Studies.

High-School Seniors and Graduates: There are also scholarships available, on a competitive basis, to high-school seniors or graduates who have not enrolled as full-time college students. For up to four years, these scholarships pay partial to full tuition and fees, a textbook allowance, plus a monthly nontaxable stipend. Students should apply at afrotc.com (<http://www.afrotc.com>) prior to December 1 of the year preceding the fall term they would enter the University full-time.

Physical Conditioning

Mandatory physical conditioning is an integral part of the Department of Aerospace Studies curriculum and is required for all Leadership Lab courses including:

Course	Title	Credits
AERO 101L	Initial Military Training Cadet Leadership Laboratory I	0
AERO 102L	Initial Military Training Cadet Leadership Laboratory II	0
AERO 201L	Field Training Preparation Cadet Leadership Laboratory I	0
AERO 202L	Initial Field Training Preparation Cadet Leadership Laboratory II	0
AERO 301L	Intermediate Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory I	0
AERO 302L	Intermediate Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory II	0
AERO 401L	Senior Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory I	0
AERO 402L	Senior Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory II	0
AERO 499L	Extended Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory	0

Courses

AERO 101 - The Foundation of the U.S. Air Force I (1 Credit)

Survey course introducing students to the U.S. Air Force and AFROTC. Topics include mission and organization of the Air Force, officership, professionalism, military customs and courtesies, and officer career opportunities.

AERO 101L - Initial Military Training Cadet Leadership Laboratory I (0 Credits)

Provides cadets the basic skills/knowledge to be functional members of the cadet corps, and activities to build camaraderie and esprit-de-corps. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

AERO 102 - The Foundation of the U.S. Air Force II (1 Credit)

Continuation of AERO 101. Additional topics include Air Force core values, leadership principles, group leadership dynamics, and an introduction to verbal and written communications skills.

AERO 102L - Initial Military Training Cadet Leadership Laboratory II (0 Credits)

Continuation of AERO 101L. Exposure to additional information on an Air Force career. Scenarios and problems teach followership and leadership skills. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

AERO 201 - The Evolution of the U.S. Air Force I (1 Credit)

Examines USAF air and space power from a historical perspective. Covers the earliest aircraft, both World Wars, the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, air and space employment during the Cold War.

AERO 201L - Field Training Preparation Cadet Leadership Laboratory I (0 Credits)

Preparation of students for summer training at an Air Force base; teaching drill and other leadership experiences. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

AERO 202 - The Evolution of the U.S. Air Force II (1 Credit)

Continuation of AERO 201. This course continues to explore Air Force history, beginning with the Vietnam era and culminating with the application of air and space power in recent conflicts.

AERO 202L - Initial Field Training Preparation Cadet Leadership Laboratory II (0 Credits)

Continuation of AERO 201L. Focuses on AFROTC Honor Code, Field Training Manual/procedures, and expeditionary skills required at field training. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

AERO 301 - Air Force Leadership Studies I (4 Credits)

Study of leadership, management fundamentals, the profession of arms, personnel evaluation systems, ethics, motivation, team building, change management, and communication skills. Analyses of leadership and management case studies.

Corequisite: AERO 301L.

Graduation with Leadership Distinction: GLD: Professional and Civic Engagement Leadership Experiences

AERO 301L - Intermediate Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory I (0 Credits)

Provides cadets opportunities to develop leadership and followership skills, as well as sharpen their planning, organization, and communication ability. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

Corequisite: AERO 301.

Graduation with Leadership Distinction: GLD: Professional and Civic Engagement Leadership Experiences

AERO 302 - Air Force Leadership Studies II (4 Credits)

Continuation of AERO 301. Topics include developing subordinates, conflict management, counseling, influence, authority and responsibility, accountability, and moral leadership. Includes case studies on effective supervision and accountability.

Prerequisites: AERO 301.

Corequisite: AERO 302L.

Graduation with Leadership Distinction: GLD: Professional and Civic Engagement Leadership Experiences

AERO 302L - Intermediate Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory II (0 Credits)

Continuation of AERO 301L. Allows intermediate cadet leaders to further develop leadership and management skills essential in Air Force officers. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

Prerequisites: AERO 301L.

Corequisite: AERO 302.

Graduation with Leadership Distinction: GLD: Professional and Civic Engagement Leadership Experiences

AERO 401 - National Security/Leadership Responsibilities/Commissioning Preparation (4 Credits)

Study of U. S. Constitution, the Armed Forces, civilian control of the military, elements of national security, USAF doctrine, Total Force, the Joint environment, terrorism, and regional and cultural studies.

Prerequisites: AERO 302.

Corequisite: AERO 401L.

AERO 401L - Senior Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory I (0 Credits)

Provides senior cadet leaders opportunities to develop leadership and supervisory skills, and to effectively manage resources toward mission accomplishment. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

Prerequisites: AERO 302L.

Corequisite: AERO 401.

AERO 402 - Preparation for Active Duty (4 Credits)

Continuation of AERO 401. Topics include additional regional studies, military justice, personnel feedback, evaluation and promotion systems, the military profession, current issues affecting the military, and preparation for active duty.

Prerequisites: AERO 401.

Corequisite: AERO 402L.

AERO 402L - Senior Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory II (0 Credits)

Continuation of AERO 401L. Allows senior cadet leaders advanced opportunities to hone their leadership in preparation for entering active duty. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

Prerequisites: AERO 401L.

Corequisite: AERO 402.

AERO 499L - Extended Cadet Leader Leadership Laboratory (0 Credits)

Provides extended cadet leaders opportunities to continue developing leadership, managerial, and communication skills, and to mentor junior cadet corps members. Includes mandatory physical fitness program.

Prerequisites: 402L.