About the Program

The department of military science at Slippery Rock University provides a program of leadership development which prepares college men and women for service as officers in the United States Army. After graduation, they serve as commissioned officers on active duty, or as an officer in an Army Reserve or National Guard. To accomplish this, the department:

Prepares cadets to be commissioned as second lieutenants through a curriculum that develops leadership and management skills and provides opportunities to utilize these skills in a variety of practical applications.

Provides an understanding of how to lead and influence small organizations, with a strong emphasis on personal integrity, ethical decision-making, goal setting and mission accomplishment.

Offers adventure training, such as rappelling, land-navigation, marksmanship and for selected students, airborne and air-assault training and the opportunity to serve with active duty units, worldwide, during the summer.

Provides programs and experiences which increase self-confidence, self-discipline, physical stamina, poise and other attributes essential to the development of a leader of character - one who is prepared to serve the nation or the commonwealth both in or out of uniform.

Career Opportunities

There’s a reason ROTC cadets go on to become business leaders, governors and even presidents. Officers in the Army are managers, problem-solvers, key influencers and planners who lead others. You will get training and certification beyond what you would get in the civilian world. You will handle more responsibility and be better qualified and more desirable because of your military background. You will gain a leadership experience and the ability to perform under pressure, making you the perfect candidate for any management position.

Internships

Cadet Troop Leadership Training
Cadets serve in lieutenant-level leadership positions in active-duty units. Platoon leader positions have a three-to four-week duration depending on the hosting unit and location. Cadets are assigned a unit mentor and are provided lodging and meals during the internship.

Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency
Every year hundreds of cadets travel the globe, spending up to three weeks immersed in foreign cultures, learning more about how others around the world view the U.S. and, in the process, learning more about themselves. Countries include, but are not limited to: Cambodia, Bosnia, Thailand, Latvia, Vietnam, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Kazakhstan.

Suggested Minors
- American History
- American Politics
- Business Administration
- Management Pre-MBA
- European History
- International Affairs
- Leadership
- Modern Languages
- Political Science
Leadership Minor

Students participating in the leadership minor curriculum at Slippery Rock University are instilled with multiple leadership traits and abilities that are universally applicable. Students earning the leadership minor learn about organizational vision, purpose, direction, motivation, delegation, team building, time management, decision making, and problem solving.

- A student who completes the Advanced ROTC program can achieve three significant accomplishments during their collegiate career:
- A bachelors of science or arts in the student’s chosen major
- A minor in leadership
- A commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army

The leadership minor requires completion of 25 credit hours, six of which are electives from among the departments of history, management, political science, and psychology. The heart of the leadership minor curriculum is the nationally accredited U.S. Army Officers curriculum.

The Four-Year Program

Military Science is divided into two parts: Basic Course and Advanced Course. The Basic Course is usually taken during the first two years of college and covers such subjects as customs, traditions and organizations of military service, national defense, military history and leadership development. In addition, a variety of outside social and professional enrichment activities are available. All necessary ROTC textbooks, uniforms, and other essential materials for the Basic Course are furnished. After completion of the Basic Course, students who have demonstrated the potential to become an officer and who have met the physical and scholastic standards are eligible to enroll in the Advanced Course. (Note: There is no military service obligation associated with any Basic Course electives. All electives earn academic credit.)

The Two-Year Program

The two-year program is designed for junior students, community college graduates, and students at four-year colleges who did not take ROTC during their first two years of school, or students entering a two-year post-baccalaureate or graduate course of study.

To enter the two-year program, students must first attend a fully-paid, five-week Leadership Training Course, normally offered during the summer between the sophomore and junior years of college. At LTC, students learn to challenge themselves physically and mentally and to build their confidence and self-respect. After they have successfully completed LTC, students who meet all necessary enrollment requirements may enroll in the Advanced Course.

Students who have attended basic training/AIT also qualify for the two-year program.

Clubs and Organizations

Ranger Challenge – A physically demanding club, comprised of volunteers from cadets, who train on a variety of military tasks and compete annually against 41 other colleges and universities from the northeast in the Freedom Brigade Ranger Challenge Competition.

Color Guard – A hand-picked team of well-disciplined cadets who represent the Army and the University at sporting events and other University functions, while learning the storied history of the U.S. national and military flags and how to property display and care for them.

Frontier Leadership Assessment Group – A student organization open to any student, who has completed at least one military science course, interested in participating in and learning about the daily application of leadership skills outside of the classroom.

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