DEPARTMENT OF NAVAL SCIENCE

Mission

The Naval ROTC Unit at Texas A&M University provides qualified young men and women the opportunity to learn the mission of the Naval Services and pursue a commission as an officer in the United States Navy or United States Marine Corps. The Naval ROTC Unit operates as the Department of Naval Science at Texas A&M and is one of the largest Naval ROTC Units in the United States. Graduates from our program can be found serving around the world. Officers commissioned as Ensigns in the United States Navy have the option, based on physical and aptitude qualification, to serve in the Aviation (Pilot or Naval Flight Officer), Surface Warfare (Conventional or Nuclear), Nuclear Submarine or Special Warfare (SEAL or Explosive Ordnance Disposal) communities. Officers commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the United States Marine Corps can serve in one of more than 36 military operational specialties in three categories including Aviation (Pilot or Naval Flight Officer), Combat Arms (Infantry, Artillery, Assault Amphibians, Combat Engineers, etc.) or Combat Service Support (Logistics, Supply, Communication, Finance, etc.).

Naval ROTC students may participate fully in all aspects of university life. This includes serving in positions with Student Government or the Memorial Student Center, belonging to campus clubs and service organizations, or participating in religious, social, professional or personal interest organizations.

Scholarships

The Naval ROTC program provides numerous scholarship opportunities for qualified individuals who are seeking a commission upon graduation as an officer in either the United States Navy or United States Marine Corps. The four-year Naval ROTC scholarship program is a nationally competitive program. High school students seeking a four-year Navy or Marine Corps Option Naval ROTC scholarship may apply as early as the spring of their junior year in high school, and should apply no later than December of their senior year in high school. College freshmen with less than 30 college credit hours may also apply for the 4-year Naval ROTC scholarship during the fall of their freshman year. If awarded the scholarship, it would come into effect during the fall of their sophomore year. The Naval ROTC scholarship pays for all tuition, most university fees, some uniform fees, and provides the student with a monthly stipend and a semester book allowance. Three- and two-year scholarships with the same benefits listed above are available for qualifying students who apply while enrolled as NROTC students at Texas A&M. The four-year national scholarship application can be found at Naval Education and Training Command website (https://www.netc.navy.mil/).

College Program

Students without NROTC scholarships that desire to commission into the Navy or Marine Corps are Basic College Program Students. Basic College Program students are guided by the same goals as the NROTC Scholarship students; to include meeting the respective service physical requirements, maintaining a required minimum GPA, and possessing the aptitude and motivation for service above self. The Basic College Program exists to provide students the opportunity to learn about the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps and provide an alternate means for a commission for those not on scholarship. Basic College Program students can apply for a two-year or three-year Navy or Marine Corps Option Naval ROTC scholarship. Students who do not qualify for a scholarship but still desire a commission in the Navy can apply for acceptance into the College Program (Advanced Standing). The College Program (Advanced Standing) begins during the junior year and pays a monthly stipend, but does not pay for tuition and fees. All NROTC students are provided Naval Science textbooks, which are returned at the end of each semester, at no cost.

Naval Science Students

Students who join the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets are required to participate with an ROTC for a minimum of three semesters. Students who choose to join the Naval ROTC, but do not intend to pursue a commission into the Navy or Marine Corps are considered Naval Science Students. They are required to take a Naval Science (NVSC) class and attend specified Leadership Laboratories. They are not required to do physical fitness with the NROTC or be advised by a military advisor.

Leadership

All Scholarship and College Program (Basic and Advanced Standing) NROTC students are also members of the Texas A&M Midshipman Battalion, an organization providing distinct training and leadership opportunities for students pursuing Navy and Marine Corps commissions. This training is accomplished through the NROTC's physical fitness program and leadership laboratory. Associated with each Naval Science class and conducted every Tuesday afternoon, Leadership Laboratory is a combination of classroom study and practical hands-on application that exposes the students to many facets of the Navy and Marine Corps and provides them the opportunity to develop their leadership skills.

Academic Requirements

Academic requirements vary by program, but all freshmen and sophomore Naval ROTC students must take a Naval Science (NVSC) class each fall and spring semester. These courses provide a basic understanding of the Navy and Marine Corps organization and mission; address the concepts of leadership, ethics and management; and provide a basic understanding of the history of American sea power and the evolution of warfare throughout the ages. All Scholarship and College Program (Advanced Standing) students continue to take Naval Science courses during their junior and senior year. These courses cover additional topics such as navigation, weapons systems, amphibious warfare and leadership and ethics for the junior officer. All students on scholarship or College Program (Advanced Standing) can choose from any major offered by Texas A&M. Students who are recipients of the NROTC scholarship Navy option, must also complete two courses of calculus and two courses of physics, regardless of major.

Summer Cruise

Scholarship students receive four to six weeks of additional training every summer with operational Navy and Marine Corps units around the world. Between the freshman and sophomore years, students receive orientation training with naval aviation, surface combatant, submarine and Marine Corps units. Between the sophomore and junior years, Navy Option students experience the life of enlisted sailors aboard ships and submarines and Marine Option students experience the life of enlisted marines with Marine units in the field. For the final training session between the junior and senior years, all Scholarship and College Program (Advanced Standing) students receive service-specific training in final preparation for commissioning. Navy Option students are assigned

to aviation units, surface combatants or submarines depending upon their qualifications and desires and receive hands-on training working closely with qualified junior officers. Marine Option students attend Officer Candidate School at Quantico, VA where they are screened, trained and evaluated in an intense, competitive environment alongside other Marine Option students from around the country. Students participating in summer cruises are provided government travel, medical and dental care, commissary and exchange privileges, and are paid for the duration of the training.

Commissioning

Upon graduation, qualified Naval ROTC Marine Option Scholarship students receive commissions as Second Lieutenants in the United States Marine Corps and serve a minimum of four years of active duty. Qualified Naval ROTC Navy Option Scholarship students receive commissions as Ensigns in the United States Navy and serve a minimum of five years of active duty. Qualified Naval ROTC College Program (Advanced Standing) Navy Option students receive commissions as Ensigns in the United States Navy and serve a minimum of three years of active duty. Those Navy Option graduates who are academically qualified and accepted to graduate school in certain disciplines may apply for active duty deferments to complete their post-graduate education.

NROTC Staff

The staff of the Naval Science Department is dedicated to producing officers of the highest quality for the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps. All instructors are active duty Navy or Marine Corps officers and senior enlisted personnel assigned to the University by the United States Navy or United States Marine Corps. In addition, they work with the Corps of Cadets and act as military advisors to the Companies/Outfits within the naval regiment. This group of highly trained professionals places specific emphasis on the academic and professional development of every student assigned. Additional information about the Naval ROTC program at Texas A&M University can be obtained by calling the Department at 979-845-1775, or by visiting the Texas A&M Naval ROTC website (https://nrotc.tamu.edu/).