

CHAPTER 4

ACADEMICS

401. PURPOSE OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM. The academic program is designed to establish conditions conducive to academic success and to academically prepare students for service as Commissioned Officers in the USN or USMC.

402. ORGANIZATION OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

a. Academics. The academic program consists of six parts:

(1) The Academic Major Field of Study

(2) The US Navy Specified University Courses

(3) The Naval Professional Academic Courses

(4) Naval Professional Training, including required drills, seminars, and laboratories taken on campus in addition to the Naval Professional Academic Courses.

(5) Marine Option Program

(6) The Summer Training Program

b. Program Requirements

(1) Scholarship Program. Navy Option Scholarship Program MIDN may pursue degrees in any field of study leading to a baccalaureate degree approved by the PNS but must complete one year of differential and integral calculus by the end of the sophomore year and one year of calculus based physics by the end of the junior year.

(2) The College Program. College Program MIDN may pursue degrees in any field of study leading to a Baccalaureate Degree approved by the PNS although technical curriculums are preferred. The field of study is considered in the selection of College Program MIDN for Scholarship status.

(3) Officer Candidates. OCs must follow the guidelines set forth by their respective programs.

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403. PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION (PME). The objective of the Naval Professional Academic Courses and professional training portion of the NROTC academic program is to instill in each student those leadership qualities essential to exercise self-discipline, to organize time and effort effectively, to perform efficiently under stress, to think and react quickly with good judgment, and to consistently exhibit exemplary military bearing and appearance. Upperclassmen are placed in positions of command and must call upon all the leadership skills they have developed during their first three years of NROTC Professional Training. Following this final year of practical experience, they should find themselves well prepared to assume leadership positions in the USN and USMC as commissioned officers.

404. ACADEMIC STANDARDS. The goal of the NROTC is for all students to maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA (CGPA). At no time is less than a 2.50 Semester GPA or a CGPA acceptable. The current NROTCUAUINST 1533.3, ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR NROTC MIDSHIPMEN AND OFFICER CANDIDATES AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY, details academic standards for NROTC students.

405. GRADING SYSTEM. NAVS course grades are computed on a 100-point scale and converted to an alphabetic grade at the end of each semester to conform to the common practice within the University.

406. REQUIRED COURSES AND SCHEDULE

a. The current edition of NROTCUAUNOTE 1533, NROTC PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS, which is issued annually, lists the Auburn University courses that fulfill specified NROTC course requirements.

b. Navy Professional Courses. USN professional courses are required for all MIDN and OCs. (OCs must only fulfill the Senior requirements). Marine Option MIDN must take NAVS 1010, 2020, 3030, 4020, and 4030. MECEP students must take NAVS 3030, 4020, and 4030.

c. Nursing Professional Courses. Navy Nurse Option Midshipmen are required to take NAVS 1010, 2010, 2020, 4010 AND 4020. It is recommended that those courses be completed prior to entering the Professional Nursing Program.

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407. UNIVERSITY CREDIT FOR NROTC REQUIREMENTS. All NAVS course requirements receive University credit and are used in determining the student's GPA. However, the number of NAVS course hours which are allowed toward degree requirements vary from department to department. A maximum of six hours of credit toward degree requirements are generally permitted by the University. Students should consult with their Advisor for their individual situations to determine the best course of action. Some colleges will also allow certain NAVS courses to substitute for other requirements such as COMM 1000.

408. CHANGES IN ACADEMIC MAJOR. Changes in academic major are not permitted without the prior approval of the PNS. This applies to all NROTC students. Scholarship students may be held liable for any additional costs to the Government resulting from a change in majors. See NROTCUAU FORM 1330/1, CHANGE IN ACADEMIC MAJOR REQUEST, to make the request.

409. HOURS TO BE SCHEDULED

a. It is the responsibility of each NROTC student to schedule his/her courses each semester in order for him/her to graduate within the time allotted by each program. Should it be impossible to schedule a minimum of 15 hours in any one semester, prior permission must be received from the PNS. Otherwise, the student will be placed on Academic Probation for that semester. See NROTCUAU Form 1330/4, LESS THAN 15 CREDIT HOURS REQUEST.

b. Students must ensure that their schedule for each semester is being processed within the proper time frame. Any late fees or cancellations of schedules are the responsibility of the student and will not be paid for by the government after the scheduled drop/add period.

c. Any alterations to a student's schedule (course withdrawal or a change in graduation date) must have the PNS's prior approval. Scholarship students will be held liable for any additional costs to the Government resulting from such changes. See NROTCUAU FORM 1330/3, COURSE WITHDRAWAL REQUEST, or NROTCUAU FORM 1330/5, CHANGE GRADUATION DATE REQUEST. A course withdrawal which results in the student completing less than 15 hours in a semester requires approval of the PNS on a NROTCUAU Form 1330/4 LESS THAN 15 CREDIT HOURS REQUEST. Course withdrawals made

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without PNS approval may result in the student being placed on Probation, or sent to an Aptitude Board of Review.

d. NAVS Laboratory (Drill) will be held at a time specified by the PNS and is required for all NROTC students. Any Drill conflicts must be reviewed and approved by the Battalion Advisor.

410. TUTORING SERVICES. Battalion Academics provides tutoring assistance by NROTC students. The Unit also provides paid professional calculus and physics tutoring. A tutoring service is also provided by the University. Tutoring service information is published each semester by the Battalion and the University. Since students in the Battalion study a wide variety of subjects and courses, **DO NOT HESITATE** to ask for assistance from other MIDN or OCs.

411. STUDYING AT THE UNIT. The Unit will be open after normal working hours so that all NROTC students can use the Unit as a place for studying. The Wardroom may be used as a study area; however, this area will not be strictly used for studying. The Conference room will be used as a quiet study hall, especially when University tutor sessions are conducted. The Conference Room is available for meetings provided a reservation is made with the Executive Officer (XO).

412. COMMANDING OFFICER'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT LIST. All NROTC students achieving a semester GPA of 3.4 or higher during any given semester for 15 or more semester hours credit will be placed on the CO's Academic Achievement List. The List will be posted every semester and suitable notation will be placed in each individual's official record. To be eligible a student must not fail any subject in the semester that he/she achieves the 3.4 or higher GPA. Those students attaining Academic Achievement may wear an Academic Achievement gold star, in accordance with Appendix B, for the semester following the semester in which the honor was earned.

413. DISTINGUISHED NAVAL GRADUATE. All graduating NROTC students are evaluated in military aptitude and academics just prior to graduation to determine designation as Distinguished Naval Graduates.

414. COUNSELING SESSIONS. To evaluate academic progress, all Company Advisors conduct a minimum of two counseling

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sessions with each of their students during the course of each academic semester. All students in an Academic Warning, Probation, or LOA status will attend weekly sessions. Prior to each counseling session, each student must be aware of his/her status in each class so that he/she may give his/her Company Advisor an accurate picture of progress. If each student accurately communicates his/her status to his/her Company Advisor, especially possible problem areas, the Company Advisor can counsel the student more effectively as to remedial action required.

**415. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REVIEW BOARDS**

a. The PNS may convene an Academic Performance Review Board to investigate and make recommendations on the unsatisfactory academic performance of students enrolled in the NROTC. All parties concerned will be notified in writing at least seven days prior to the convening of the Board. When notified, NROTC students shall be advised that they have the right to appear before the Board, have the right to submit a written statement to the Board, and that they may present documents or witnesses in their behalf. They will also be advised that the Board may recommend no action, warning, probation, LOA, or disenrollment to the PNS. These students will be counseled by their NROTC Company Advisor and given the opportunity to review their record prior to convening of the Board. All Board findings and recommendations will be forwarded by the Senior Member of the Board to the PNS. In the case of disenrollment, these findings and recommendations will be included with the correspondence and referred to the NETC as well as the SECNAV for approval.

b. Academic Performance Review Boards shall normally consist of the Unit XO (Senior Member-Voting), one NROTC Advisor not to include the student's advisor (Member-Voting), a University Representative (Member-Voting), the student's advisor (Non-Voting), a Recorder (Non-Voting) and, in an observer status only, a student from the BN, normally the Company CDR of the student concerned. Procedures for review boards are provided in NROTCUAUINST 1533.5, PERFORMANCE REVIEW BOARD PROCEDURES.

c. Whenever any NROTC student appears before an Academic Board, he/she should be prepared to provide the Board sufficient information to satisfy or explain his/her deficiency in academic performance.

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416. ACADEMIC WARNING. This status is for students who meet Program standards but must take immediate steps to improve their academic performance before more serious actions are taken. When a lack of academic achievement places a MIDN or OC in one of the categories listed below, he/she will be placed on Academic Warning for the following semester.

a. Semester GPA is less than 2.5 in a semester (except STA-21 Nuclear Option OCs).

b. Semester GPA falls below a 3.0 (STA-21 Nuclear Option OCs).

c. CGPA falls below a 2.5.

d. Failure of any required subject undertaken.

417. ACADEMIC PROBATION. When a lack of academic achievement places a MIDN or OC in one of the categories listed below, he/she will be placed on Probation for the next semester for the following reasons:

a. Semester GPA is less than 2.0.

b. CGPA falls below 3.0 (STA-21 Nuclear Option OCs).

c. Progress toward degree falls behind that required for graduation at the normally scheduled time.

418. ACADEMIC LEAVE OF ABSENCE. Academic Leave of Absence (LOA) entails temporary loss of all financial benefits for MIDN. In the case of OCs, LOA indicates a level of severity much greater than Academic Probation. MIDN and OCs may be placed in an Academic LOA status by an Academic Performance Review Board for any of the following reasons:

a. MIDN enrolled in a curriculum normally requiring five years for completion, who does not receive approval from NETC for extended benefits, will be placed in a LOA status for one of the five years in order that they may complete the curriculum leading to a degree. A student in this status will not receive the financial benefits paid to MIDN. Fifth-year benefits are permitted by NETC on a case by case basis, usually resulting in an additional service commitment.

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b. The PNS may deem it necessary to place a MIDN in an Academic LOA status because of particularly poor academic performance.

c. Students not completing the requirements of the NROTC Program within the time limits specified in the NROTC REGULATIONS may be placed in an Academic LOA status.

d. Navy Option Scholarship MIDN failing the required Calculus or Physics courses may be placed on Academic LOA by an Academic Performance Review Board.

e. Navy Option MIDN failing to complete the required Calculus or Physics courses by the start of their Junior or Senior Years as mandated in the NROTC Administration Manual (NAM) may be placed directly in a LOA status by the PNS until they complete the course requirements.

419. MANDATORY SUPERVISED STUDY PROGRAM. All first semester Freshmen and any NROTC student on Academic Warning or Academic Probation are required to attend mandatory study sessions prescribed by the PNS. (See NROTCUAUINST 1533.4, MANDATORY SUPERVISED STUDY PROGRAM POLICY).