

Aerospace Studies

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The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) offers eligible students education and training that leads to a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. Air Force ROTC students may major in any degree program offered at UI; they supplement their major curricula with the specialized aerospace studies courses to prepare for active commissioned service.

Four-Year Program (General Military Course and Professional Officer Course). A formal application is not required for students entering the four-year program. They may register for the program at the same time and in the same manner as they enroll in their other college courses. During their freshman and sophomore years, students enroll in the General Military Course (GMC), and there is NO MILITARY OBLIGATION. They then may compete for entry into the Professional Officer Course (POC), which is normally taken during the last two years of college. Selection into the POC is highly competitive and is based on qualification on an Air Force medical examination, a physical fitness test, scores achieved on the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT), successful completion of a paid four-week field training course at an Air Force base, and the recommendation of the professor of aerospace studies.

Air Force ROTC also offers financial assistance to selected students in the form of scholarships and subsistence allowances. The students compete for the scholarships through a national screening process. The Air Force offers 1- to 4-year scholarships that cover tuition, fees, and a book allowance, and also provide a stipend allowance (\$250-\$450 per month, depending on their level in the program) for each school year a student is on scholarship. Students interested in applying for scholarships should get in touch with this department. Nonscholarship students receive a stipend allowance (\$350-\$450 per month) while in the POC.

Air Force places a strong emphasis on physical fitness, and all ROTC cadets are required to participate at least twice a week in an organized, early morning fitness program with other cadets as part of the Leadership Laboratory requirements.

Field Training. Air Force ROTC field training is offered during the summer months at selected Air Force bases throughout the U.S. Students in the four-year program participate in four weeks of field training, usually between their sophomore and junior years. Field Training is a mandatory program for all individuals qualified to pursue an Air Force commission through AFROTC. The program is designed to evaluate military leadership and discipline, determine potential for entry into the POC, and stratify among peers.

Leadership Laboratory. Leadership Laboratory is taken an average of two hours a week throughout the student's enrollment in Air Force ROTC. Instruction is conducted within the framework of an organized cadet wing with a progression of experiences designed to develop each student's leadership potential. Leadership Laboratory involves a study of Air Force customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, career opportunities in the Air Force, and the life and work of an Air Force junior officer. Students develop their leadership potential in a practical, supervised laboratory, which typically includes field trips to Air Force installations throughout the U.S. In addition, students are required to participate at least twice a week in an organized, early morning fitness program with other cadets.

Courses

See Part 6 for courses in Aerospace Studies (Aero).

Programs

The following programs are designed to provide students with a good military and leadership foundation so students completing them can serve as effective Air Force officers. They are not designed to be academic majors and thus no bachelor's degree is offered.

For a student to receive an Air Force commission, he or she must have completed either the Four-Year Program or the Two-Year Program. Students may enter the program at points other than the two and four year points, however this requires a specialized academic program and department head approval. Contact the department head for more information. Prior-service students should consult the department to find out what course of study will be required for them.

Four-Year Program

- Aero 101-102 Foundations of the U.S. Air Force (2 cr)
- Aero 103 Leadership Laboratory I (2 cr, max 4)
- Aero 201-202 Evolution of U.S. Air Force Air and Space Power (2 cr)
- Aero 205 Leadership Laboratory II (2 cr, max 4)

Aero 291 Four-Week Field Training Course (2 cr)
Aero 311-312 Air Force Leadership and Management (6 cr)
Aero 313 Leadership Laboratory III (2 cr, max 4)
Aero 411-412 National Security Affairs/Preparation for Active Duty (6 cr)
Aero 413 Leadership Laboratory IV (2 cr, max 4)

Academic Minor Requirements

AEROSPACE STUDIES MINOR

Courses selected from the following (at least 12 credits must be in courses numbered 300 and above) (20 cr):

Aero 101-102 Foundations of the U.S. Air Force (1 cr)
Aero 201-202 Evolution of U.S. Air Force Air and Space Power (1 cr)
Aero 311-312 Air Force Leadership and Management (3 cr)
Aero 313 Leadership Laboratory III (2 cr, max 4)
Aero 411-412 National Security Affairs/Preparation for Active Duty (3 cr)
Aero 413 Leadership Laboratory IV (2 cr, max 4)