ARMY ROTC (MILITARY SCIENCE)

School of Interdisciplinary and Graduate Studies

West Chester University students are eligible to participate in the Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) program through a formal cross-enrollment agreement with the Widener University Department of Military Science. Army ROTC offers University students the opportunity to graduate with a bachelor’s degree and a commission in the United States Army, Army National Guard, or United States Army Reserve. All 100-, 200-, and 300-level ROTC classes are taught at West Chester University, while the 400-level classes are conducted on the Widener (http://www.widener.edu) campus. The 100- to 400-level leadership labs are taught at West Chester University.

The Army ROTC program consists of a basic course taken during the freshman and sophomore years, and an advanced course taken during junior and senior years. Successful completion of the basic course is required before placement in the advanced course. Students who participated in Junior ROTC in high school or who have prior military service may receive partial or full credit for the basic course, which is determined by the Army Professor of Military Science. The basic course requirement also may be satisfied through attendance at a four-week Army ROTC Leadership Training Course (LTC) at the end of the sophomore year. Qualified students enrolled in the basic course receive a stipend of $300 for freshmen and $350 for sophomores. Students enrolled in the advanced course receive a stipend of $450 for juniors and $500 for seniors per month. Guaranteed National Guard and Reserve Forces options are also available.

Nursing students who complete the four-year or two-year program, obtain their nursing degree, and pass their Nursing Board Examinations are commissioned into the Army Nurse Corps. Two-year, three-year, and four-year Army ROTC scholarships are available on a competitive basis. These scholarships pay 100 percent of the student’s tuition or room and board up to $10,000 and include payment of certain University fees, as well as a $1,200 book and school supplies subsidy.

Applications for Army ROTC scholarships must be submitted early in the spring semester.

Applications for attendance at the LTC must be submitted early in the spring semester of the sophomore year.

Military Science students also participate in orientation and field training activities as part of the Military Science curriculum. These activities are an exploration of historical, organizational, and functional activities of the U.S. Army, conducted in conjunction with the Army Officer Education Program, and are recognized as a part of the commissioning preparation process for cadets.

Activities are conducted off campus through tours, field trips, laboratory sessions, and practical field application that includes marksmanship, land navigation, small unit operations, rappelling, water survival, color guard, organized athletics, and other military skills. Varying degrees of health and body risk are involved in these activities. The government of the United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, West Chester University, its officers, trustees, employees, agents, or students assume no liability for any injury caused during the above activities. For injuries incurred while participating in ROTC activities, the Department of Labor will assume the cost above the student’s personal health insurance.

For further information on scholarship and career opportunities, contact the Professor of Military Science, Widener University (http://www.widener.edu), Chester PA 19013, 610-499-4097, or Major Richard Howett (rhowett@wcupa.edu), Campus Officer-in-Charge, West Chester University, Anderson Hall Room 331A, 610-430-4403.

Policies

- See undergraduate admissions information. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/admissions-enrollment/undergraduate-admissions)
- See academic policies. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures)

All undergraduate students are held to the academic policies and procedures outlined in the undergraduate catalog. Students are encouraged to review departmental handbooks for program tips, suggested course sequences, and explanations of procedures. When applicable, additional policies for specific department programs may be listed below.

Courses

MSI

MSI 101. Introduction to ROTC. 1 Credit.

This course is designed to teach self-confidence through team study and activities in basic drill, physical fitness, rappelling, leadership reaction course, first aid, making presentations, and basic marksmanship. Includes fundamental concepts of professional leadership in both classroom and outdoor laboratory environments. One hour and a required leadership lab, plus participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in a weekend exercise also is required. Typically offered in Fall.

MSI 102. Introduction to Leadership. 1 Credit.

Learn/apply principles of effective leading. Reinforce self-confidence through participation in physically and mentally challenging exercises with upper-division ROTC students. Develop communication skills to improve individual performance and group interaction. Relate organizational ethical values to the effectiveness of a leader. One hour and a required leadership lab, plus participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in a weekend exercise also is required. Typically offered in Spring.

MSI 113. Army Physical Readiness Training. 1 Credit.

This course is designed to provide the necessary information and skills to enable the cadet to participate in and lead fitness activities safely and effectively, which is essential to the Army way of life. This will include discussion of fitness principles and practical application of techniques discussed. The course will investigate methods of improving muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardio respiratory fitness, flexibility and body composition. Pre / Co requisites: MSI 113 requires a corequisite of MSI 201 or MSI 202. Typically offered in Fall & Spring. Repeatable for Credit.

MSI 199. Transfer Credits. 1-50 Credits.

Transfer Credits. Repeatable for Credit.

MSI 201. Self-Team Development. 2 Credits.

Learn/apply ethics-based leadership skills that develop individual abilities and contribute to effective team building. Develop skills in oral presentations, writing concisely, planning events, coordinating group efforts, advanced first aid, land navigation, and basic military tactics. Learn fundamentals of ROTC’s Leadership Development Program. Two hours and a required leadership lab, plus required participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in a weekend exercise also is required. Pre / Co requisites: MSI 201 requires prerequisites of MSI 101 and MSI 102. Typically offered in Fall.

MSI 202. Individual-Team Military Tactics. 2 Credits.

Introduction to individual and team aspects of military tactics in small-unit operations. Includes use of radio communications, making safety assessments, movement techniques, planning for team safety/security, and methods of pre-execution checks. Practical exercises with upper-division ROTC students. Learn techniques for training others as an aspect of continued leadership development. Two hours and a required leadership lab, plus required participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in a weekend exercise also is required. Pre / Co requisites: MSI 202 requires prerequisite of MSI 201. Typically offered in Spring.
MSI 301. Leading Small Organizations I. 3 Credits.
Series of practical opportunities to lead small groups, receive personal assessments and encouragement, and lead again in situations of increasing complexity. Uses small-unit defensive tactics and opportunities to plan and conduct training for lower-division students to develop these skills as vehicles to practice leading. Three hours and a required leadership lab, plus required participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in one weekend exercise also is required, and one or two more weekend exercises may be offered for participation. PREREQ: Army ROTC advanced course standing or approval of the professor of military science. Typically offered in Fall.

MSI 302. Leading Small Organizations II. 3 Credits.
Continues methodology of MSI 301. Analyze tasks, prepare written or oral guidance for team members to accomplish tasks, delegate tasks, and supervise. Plan for and adapt to the unexpected in organizations under stress. Examine and apply lessons from leadership case studies as well as the importance of ethical decision making in setting a positive climate that enhances team performance. Three hours and a required leadership lab, plus required participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in one weekend exercise and three other one-day exercises is required. Typically offered in Spring.

MSI 399. USMC ROTC (PLC). 3 Credits.
USMC ROTC (PLC)
Typically offered in Summer.

MSI 400. US Military History. 3 Credits.
Students develop an awareness of the relationship of military establishment to society particularly the US. Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

MSI 401. Leadership Challenges and Goal Setting. 3 Credits.
Plan, conduct, and evaluate activities of the ROTC cadet organization. Articulate goals and put plans into action to attain them. Assess organizational cohesion and develop strategies to improve it. Develop confidence in skills to lead people and manage resources. Learn/apply various Army policies and programs in this effort. Three hours and a required leadership lab, plus required participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in one weekend exercise also is required, and one or two more weekend exercises may be offered for optional participation. Typically offered in Fall.

MSI 402. Transition to Lieutenant. 3 Credits.
Continues the methodology from MSI 401. Identify and resolve ethical dilemmas. Refine counseling and motivating techniques. Examine aspects of tradition and law as related to leading as an officer in the Army. Prepare for a future as a successful Army lieutenant. Three hours and a required leadership lab, plus required participation in three, one-hour sessions for physical fitness. Participation in one weekend exercise also is required, and one or two more weekend exercises may be offered for optional participation. Typically offered in Spring.

MSI 410. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
Students become familiar with army supply management operations and procedures focusing on inventory and requisitioning procedures. Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

MSI 499. USMC ROTC (PLC). 3 Credits.
Military Science transfer credit. Typically offered in Summer.