

MILITARY SCIENCE

Four-Year Program

The Military Science Department conducts a dynamic four-year program of instruction which develops the mental and physical qualifications of graduates in preparation for positions of leadership within the military and civilian communities. Students may enroll at any time for full academic elective credit without incurring any military service obligation. However, the last two years of the program are oriented toward preparing the student for a military career.

The innovative and well-taught courses complement all major areas of study by broadening the student's basic education. The complete curriculum includes both military leadership and management courses; courses which provide an awareness of the heritage of the U.S. military; the Armed Forces' role in national defense strategy; professional military subjects; and military ethics.

Students desiring to attain a highly sought-after commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army must meet eligibility requirements and complete the entire Military Science/ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) Advanced Course (25 units). To be eligible for participation in the Cal Poly ROTC Program, a student must be enrolled full time (12 units) at Cal Poly, have at least two years remaining as a university student to permit completion of the advanced course prior to reaching the 30th birthday, and be physically qualified.

Financial Assistance

Many opportunities for financial assistance are available to students. Three areas of opportunities are: ROTC cadets who sign a contract for Advanced Phase, students who earn an ROTC scholarship, and cadets who train with Reserve or National Guard units. All ROTC cadets sign a contract to participate in the Advanced Phase of ROTC and receive a \$300 - \$500 a month allowance. Criteria to participate in the Advanced Phase are stated later. Highly competitive two-, two and a half, three-, and four-year ROTC scholarships are available. The scholarship provides payment of either full tuition or room and board (student's choice), books, supplies, and the \$300 - 500 a month allowance for the duration of the scholarship. Students interested in ROTC scholarship should contact the Military Science Department. Reserve or National Guard training provides an additional two sources of financial assistance: approximately \$165 a month for one weekend drill and approximately \$190 a month tuition assistance from the National Guard/Army Reserve "New GI Bill®" benefits.

Equipment and Uniforms

All necessary equipment, uniforms and textbooks for participation in the Military Science/ROTC program are furnished to the student by the United States Government free of charge. Title to this property, other than expendable items, remains with the government.

Phases of Four-Year Program

The four-year program elective military science curriculum is divided into two diverse phases. The basic phase is primarily for freshmen and sophomores, and the advanced phase is for junior and senior level students

Basic Phase

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The Basic Phase is a two-year challenging opportunity where students may, without obligation, investigate the ROTC Program and the military as a full- or part-time career. Students may enter and leave this phase during any quarter. The curriculum for the basic phase is listed below and offers many exciting opportunities for all students. To become an ROTC cadet during this phase requires the student be registered for a Military Science class, completion of an ROTC enrollment form (obtained at the Military Science Department, Dexter Building, Room 115), and an interview with the ROTC Enrollment Officer. Because this phase is for students to examine the ROTC Program without obligation, participation in ROTC activities is encouraged but not mandatory.

Entry to the Advanced Phase is accomplished either by successfully completing the four required Basic Phase classes, completing ROTC Leader's Training Course or completing any military basic training program. Students have the option of contracting (making a commitment to complete the Advanced Phase and serve in the Army as a Commissioned Officer after graduation) any time during their second year of the Basic Phase of study.

Advanced Phase

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The Advanced Phase is a two-year period where ROTC cadets receive advanced leadership and management training. The cadets receive many hours of hands-on, practical leadership experiences to prepare them for a military career or a management position in the civilian sector. To become a cadet in the Advanced Phase a student must complete the Basic Phase, ROTC Summer Leader's Training Course (LTC) or Basic Training. The student must also make a commitment to attend all required training activities and sign a contract to accept a prestigious commission in the United States Army. In return for the student's commitment, the Military Science Department provides \$450-500 a month (which is based on program year), classroom instruction, real leadership opportunities, and continuous professional development of their leadership skills.

After their first year of the Advanced Phase, cadets usually attend a four-week camp where their leadership skills are further developed and assessed. All equipment, uniforms, room, board, and medical care are furnished free while at this camp. The cadets also receive approximately \$800 during

the five weeks. Upon successful completion of the Advanced Phase and graduation from the university, the cadet is commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Program Requirements

Basic Phase

Code	Title	Units
First-Year		
MSL 1101	Foundation of Officership I	1
MSL 1102	Foundation of Officership II	1
MSL 1110	Basic Exercises in Military Leadership	1
MSL 1111	Orienteering	2
MSL 1112	Basic Army Physical Training Program	1
Second-Year		
MSL 2201	Foundations of Leadership I	2
MSL 2202	Foundations of Leadership II	2
MSL 2212	Leader's Training Course ¹	6
MSL 2240	American Military History and the Evolution of Western Warfare ²	4
Total Units		20

¹ LTC is an optional 5-week summer training course (1-7 units) at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

² MSL 2240 or equivalent is required for commissioning of all cadets; approved substitutions are HIST 3320 The Age of Revolution in the Americas, HIST 3321 United States Civil War and HIST 3322 Modern United States History.

Advanced Phase

Code	Title	Units
Third-Year		
MSL 3301	Tactical Leadership I	3
MSL 3302	Tactical Leadership II	3
MSL 3310	Intermediate Exercises in Military Leadership	1
MSL 3312	Intermediate Army Physical Training Program	1
MSL 3314	Leadership Development and Assessment Course ¹	6
Fourth-Year		
MSL 4401	Developmental Leadership I	3
MSL 4402	Developmental Leadership II	3
MSL 4410	Advanced Exercises in Military Leadership	2
MSL 4412	Leadership of Army Physical Training Program	1
MSL 4501	Military Leadership at the Platoon Level	1
MSL 4502	Military Leadership in an Organizational Staff	1
Total Units		25

¹ LDAC is a required 5-week summer training experience at Fort Lewis, Washington (6 credits).

Undergraduate Minors

- Military Science Minor (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/agriculture-food-environmental-sciences/military-science/minor/>)
- Naval Science Minor (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/agriculture-food-environmental-sciences/naval-science-minor/>)