Military Science

The Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) is the primary source of college-trained, federally commissioned officers for the United States Army, the Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard. Army ROTC is currently offered at over 1,000 universities and colleges across the country.

Army ROTC is a four-year elective program and is open to students regardless of their major. It is divided into two parts: the Basic Course and the Advanced Course.

The Basic Course is normally attended during the freshman and sophomore years. No military commitment or obligation is incurred in the Basic Course for students unless they are receiving an Army ROTC Scholarship. Students may withdraw at any time before the beginning of the third year.

To enter the Advanced Course, students agree to graduate and finish the ROTC program and then accept a federal commission and an assignment in either the active duty (full-time) or in the reserve forces, i.e. Army Reserves or Army National Guard (part-time). The active-duty career option is usually three years for non-Army ROTC scholarship students and four years for an Army ROTC scholarship student. All students attend a four-week Leadership Assessment and Development Course at Fort Lewis, Washington (all expenses paid) during the summer between their junior and senior year. Advanced Course students sign a contract, incur a military obligation and receive a monthly stipend ($350 for juniors and $400 for seniors).

Starting salary upon graduation and assignment on active duty is over $35,000 and $65,000 within five years. Active-duty assignments are initially at an Army post in the continental United States for three to six months of training, followed by a one-to-three-year assignment either in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Europe, or Asia. Students select their assignments during their senior year.

The reserve-forces career option combines the benefits of a civilian job with the leadership and management experience gained in the Army Reserve or National Guard. The reserve forces obligation is three to six months on active duty upon graduation at a military branch school and the remainder of a six- to eight-year obligation. Reserve forces duty is one weekend a month and two weeks of annual training sometime during the year. Starting salary is over $4,500 for a Second Lieutenant in the Army Reserve or National Guard.

Employment Opportunities

At the beginning of the student's senior year, the student designates which branch of the Army he or she wishes to serve in. The following is a list of career fields available:

- **Combat Arms**: Air Defense Artillery, Armor, Field Artillery, and Infantry.
- **Combat Support**: Aviation, Chemical, Engineers, Military Intelligence, Military Police, and Signal.
- **Combat Service Support**: Adjutant General, Chemical, Finance, Medical Service, Nursing, Ordnance, Quartermaster, and Transportation.

Degree Options

The ROTC program at Youngstown State University is controlled by the Department of Military Science, which is part of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services. Additionally, the program is operated in conjunction with the Army ROTC program at Kent State University. Students may also obtain a minor in Military Science while enrolled at YSU.

Faculty

The ROTC faculty is a carefully constituted mix of active-duty and reserve-duty officers and enlisted soldiers who bring a variety of active-duty experience to their positions in the Department of Military Science. They are normally on a two-to four-year assignment to ROTC duty as instructors.

YSU maintains a faculty-student ratio of 1:20, among the best of state-affiliated universities in Ohio.

Youngstown State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

For more information about this program, go to www.ysu.edu, click on Colleges, then Bitonte College of Health & Human Services

(see following page)
Facilities
The Department of Military Science is located in Stambaugh Stadium, room 1112. Classes are conducted in the Department of Military Science classrooms and labs are conducted in the Stambaugh Stadium gyms, Beeghly Center, Beede Field, and Wick Park. Weekend training exercises are conducted at Ravenna Arsenal and Camp Carl.

Outside the Classroom
Army ROTC students participate in several extra-curricular activities both on and off campus.

During regular-season home football games, the students provide a color guard at the opening of each game and saber arch for the homecoming court during the annual homecoming. They also fire the Penguin cannon after each Penguin touchdown and field goal.

Students provide color guards for numerous local parades and University and community activities. They also participate in a social function each semester, and go on annual field trips to places such as Niagara, Canada; Gettysburg; and Washington D.C.

Students who desire more physical and outdoor experiences may volunteer for and participate in Ranger Challenge. Ranger Challenge training encompasses individual military and team skills. The Ranger Challenge team competes semiannually against northeastern Ohio universities that have an Army ROTC, and competes annually against both Ohio and Kentucky universities with an ROTC at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Selected students are sent (all expenses paid) to the Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia for three weeks to learn military parachuting, during the summer between their sophomore or junior year.

Scholarships
The Department of Military Science offers several types of scholarships for students in the Army ROTC program.

High school seniors compete for a four-year Army ROTC scholarship at the national level. Current YSU freshmen and sophomores compete for two- and three-year Army ROTC scholarships on campus. These scholarships pay all of a student's tuition at YSU, mandatory fees, $600 for books, plus a stipend of $2,500 annually. Four-year scholarship applications are available from April 1 to November 1. Current YSU students may apply for the scholarship between November 1 and February 1. Students who attend the Leader Training Course (all expenses paid) at Fort Knox, Kentucky before entering the two-year program (Advanced Course) may also compete for two-year scholarships while at camp.

A limited number of two-year scholarships are also available to students who desire to serve with the Army Reserve or the Army National Guard in lieu of active duty upon graduation.

Nursing students may apply for two-, three- and four-year ROTC nursing scholarships. Nursing scholarships provide the same monetary benefits as the Army ROTC scholarships. Additionally, nursing students participate in a six-week Nurse Summer Training Program, which includes a clinical practicum at an Army medical facility between their junior and senior year.

The following scholarships are provided by the Youngstown State University Foundation for students enrolled in military science classes:
- **Gold Bar Scholarships**: Available for freshmen and sophomores. The Gold Bar Scholarships provide $1,000 annually to the student. These scholarships are normally awarded annually and are based on the student's academic record, physical fitness, and extracurricular participation. Additionally, there is no military obligation for being awarded one of these scholarships, only that the awardee is enrolled in military science classes during his or her freshman/sophomore year.
- **YSU ROTC Alumni Scholarship**: Provides $1,000 annually to a junior that has demonstrated outstanding academic and military performance and leadership potential in the Advanced Course.
- **Nunziato Scholarships**: Provide room and board on the YSU campus for students who have been awarded Army ROTC scholarships or are enrolled in the Advanced Course.
- **Colonel Booth Scholarship**: Provides $250 annually to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership potential in the Basic Course.
- **Lieutenant Colonel Sacchini Scholarship**: Provides $300 annually to a junior that has demonstrated outstanding leadership potential in the Basic Course.

Pay and Benefits
Students under contract in the Basic Course (Army ROTC Scholarship students) and all contracted students in the Advanced Course receive the following while in the program:
- $3,500 annually.
- Pay for the four-week Leader Training Course and Leadership Development and Assessment Course, currently $750, plus food, housing and clothing.
- Paid transportation to and from camp.
- $50,000 in life insurance benefits while attending and traveling to and from camp.
- Free uniforms and equipment.
- Free immunizations.
- Free medical and dental examinations.