Commonly Offered In ROTC

Courses in the freshman year focus on the foundation of the United States Air Force and introduce students to the Air Force and AFROTC. Topics include the characteristics, missions, and organization of the Air Force, the qualities of an officer and professionalism, career opportunities, military customs and courtesies, and communication skills.

Courses in the sophomore year focus on the evolution of the United States air and space power. Students study air and space power through historical analysis and examine the capabilities, function, and doctrinal deployment of aerospace forces. The course emphasizes oral and written communication skills.

Courses in the junior year focus on Air Force leadership studies. Topics include leadership, management fundamentals, professional knowledge, Air Force personnel system, ethics, and communications. Students apply knowledge and skills required of junior Air Force officers through case studies, practical exercises, and seminar discussion.

Senior year courses cover two subjects, national security affairs and preparation for active duty. Students learn about national security process, international and regional relations, advanced leadership ethics, Air Force doctrine with focus on the military as a profession, military justice, civilian control of the military, and current issues affecting the military. Preparation for active duty focuses on the role of the Air Force officer in contemporary society emphasizing skills to facilitate a smooth transition from civilian to military life.

The leadership laboratory is required for all students every quarter. Students participate in hands-on exercises to learn drill and ceremony; Air Force customs and courtesies; leadership and followership skills; and they hear from guest speakers on a variety of Air Force topics.

Army ROTC

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel John Tiedeman

Some Army ROTC courses are offered at Santa Clara University and some are offered on Stanford’s campus. See also the Army ROTC web site (http://www.scu.edu/rotc).

Freshman year courses introduce students to leadership and personal development and provide foundations for leadership. Course topics include personal challenges and competencies for effective leadership, goal setting, time management, physical fitness, and stress management related to leadership and officership. Students develop a personal fitness program under the guidance of an Army master fitness trainer. In addition, they learn leadership fundamentals such as setting direction, problem solving, listening, presenting briefs, providing feedback, and effective writing skills in the context of practical and interactive exercises.

Army courses taught in the sophomore year look at leadership through a variety of lenses using case study and interactive exercises. Topics include creative and innovative leadership strategies and styles, challenges of leading in contemporary operational environments along with cross-cultural challenges, and team leading procedures.

In the junior year, students learn adaptive team leadership and situational leadership. They develop skills including decision making, persuading, and motivating team members when under fire in small-unit tactical operations scenarios.

Courses for seniors provide capstone leadership instruction and experiences in a practical and current event driven context. Students plan, execute, and assess complex operations, function as a member of staff, and provide leadership performance feedback to subordinates. They use case studies, scenarios, and exercises to prepare for their first
unit assignment and the transition to commissioned officer in a modern world.

All students are also required to take a military history course focused on leadership. This course may be taken any year. The leadership laboratory is required for all students every quarter. In addition, students complete a four-day weekend field training exercise away from the University in the Autumn and Spring quarters, and a formal military dinner during an evening in the Winter Quarter.

Naval ROTC

Commanding Officer: Captain William Koyama

Naval ROTC courses are offered at the University of California at Berkeley. See also the Naval ROTC web site.

Courses in the freshman year introduce students to the Navy and Marine Corps and to the NROTC program. They also study sea power from a historical and United States centered perspective.

In the sophomore year, students take their first leadership class with a focus on management and their first navigation class with a focus on the fundamentals of nautical navigation. Courses include case studies, student presentations, and practical exercises.

Juniors study introductory naval engineering with a focus on ship systems and modern weapons systems. Example topics include gas turbine propulsion systems, nuclear reactors, and radar and sonar theory.

During their senior year, students study advanced leadership topics within an ethics framework and advanced navigation and naval operations.

Students pursuing a commission in the Marine Corps do not take the two engineering courses or the two navigation courses. Marine option students take two Marine Corps specific courses that examine the history of littoral warfare and the evolution of warfare.

All students are required to take the weekly professional development laboratory course (drill) at UC Berkeley every quarter.