

# **Military Science**

Gonzaga's Military Science Department develops officer-leaders of competence and character that are committed to serving our nation while upholding its mission as stated by the United States Army: "To commission the future officer leadership of the U.S. Army." The core principles of duty, honor, and country serve as the foundation for all of the Department's teachings.

#### THE PROGRAM

The Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program is designed to develop competent, confident, and adaptive leaders with the basic military and leadership foundations necessary to lead small units in the Contemporary Operating Environment. ROTC prepares students for leadership positions within the Active Army Duty, U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard. Students simultaneously earn a bachelor's or master's degree in an academic discipline and a commission as an Army Second Lieutenant.

Gonzaga's Military Science program meets the individual needs of its cadets and the country's need for officer-leaders. Students typically enroll in one Military Science course, leadership laboratory, and physical fitness class each semester, leaving time for other academic and extracurricular activities.

### **ROTC ACCOLADES**

Gonzaga's ROTC program consistently ranks among the country's most elite programs based on various measures, including academic performance, Advanced Camp leadership scores, physical fitness, and the number of lieutenants commissioned each year. Every year since 2001, the United States Army Cadet Command has ranked the Gonzaga Bulldog Battalion among the top 15% of the nation's 275 ROTC programs.

The Ranger Challenge Team has won many championships during the past 20 years, including the 8th Brigade championship in 2016, 2017, 2020, and 2021, which led to competing in the Sandhurst Competition in West Point, NY placing in the top 25% in 2021.

## **ACADEMICS**

Gonzaga's ROTC program consists of two phases:

The lower-division **Basic Course** is completed in the first and second years. Basic Course credits may also be obtained through placement credit for those with prior service, members of Reserve or National Guard units, participants in high school ROTC programs, and summer Basic Camp attendees. Cadets incur no postgraduate obligation during the Basic Course unless they are scholarship recipients.

The Advanced Course is completed during the third and fourth years. Cadets learn leadership theory and apply its lessons as members of the Bulldog Battalion chain of command. After completing both courses and the Advanced Camp between the third and fourth years, Cadets qualify for a commission in the U.S. Army.

# WHY GONZAGA ARMY ROTC?

The Military Science Classroom at Gonzaga University is dedicated to Army Chaplain John P. McBride, Society of Jesus, Gonzaga ROTC Commissioning Class of 1949 (the first class to become Army Officer graduates from Gonzaga). This is not only to recognize our forefather, but also to honor the connection to the Ignatian vision at Gonzaga and its similarities to the mission of the United States Army. The program truly values servant-leadership and consistently highlights in practice the close connection between the Army and the Jesuit education of the institution.

Why Gonzaga Army ROTC? Fr. McBride answered this way:

"What the nation and the services need are Officers who have received principles of war and the Sermon on the Mount within the same morning. Men and women of a mind that has stretched to comprehend these widely divergent views of reality. People of a spirit that will calmly embrace them into a single balanced view of life. And, entering into the ranks of the Armed Forces of our democracy, Lieutenants who have a broad and enlightened understanding of the control of violence that is the saving of our way of life."

#### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Once students have been admitted to Gonzaga University, they must meet only a few basic requirements to participate in the ROTC Basic Course. However, to participate in the Advanced Course or receive an ROTC Scholarship, a student must meet the following criteria:

- · Be a United States citizen
- Be at least 17 years old by October 31 the year for which he or she is applying for scholarship and under age 31 by December 30 of the year of graduation
- · Be able to complete all commissioning and graduation requirements
- · Be physically fit and medically qualified
- Cadets have flexibility in choosing their course of academic study and major, though many choose majors that align with the Army's identified areas of need, including science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and nursing.





## **PRIVILEGES**

Leading America's Soldiers is a privilege that must be earned. Students who successfully participate in Gonzaga's ROTC earn the privilege of commissioning as an officer in the United States Army and forever hold a coveted spot among the elite group of Gonzaga ROTC alumni and veterans.

ROTC Scholarships are merit-based and awarded competitively. Wellrounded individuals with strong backgrounds in academics, athletics, and leadership positions have the best opportunity to earn scholarships.

Recipients of two, three, or four-year scholarships are guaranteed full tuition and fees, monthly stipend, book allowance, and on-campus room and board.

Students not awarded a scholarship may attend Military Science classes and have the opportunity to apply for ROTC scholarships following enrollment at Gonzaga.

Cadets are trained in basic tactics and learn the art of leadership and making decisions under pressure. Cadets conduct land navigation and situational tactical training exercises over weekends once per semester.

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