

Aerospace Studies

Aerospace Studies (AERO)

College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Aerospace Studies
Foley Theater (FOL), Lower Level, (651) 962-6320
Taylor (chair), Priestley, Gruber

Aerospace Studies is the official designation of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) program of instruction. Aerospace Studies is a dynamic college discipline designed to give female and male students an opportunity to concurrently complete ROTC coursework with degree coursework so that participants qualify for commissions in the United States Air Force as they complete their bachelor's degree requirements. Cadets are commissioned as second lieutenants upon graduation. Coursework offers students the opportunity to widen their perspective; sharpen their sense of responsibility; develop their ability to organize, motivate, and lead others; and acquire a maturity of judgment that can be a source of strength and self-confidence throughout their careers.

The Aerospace Studies program does not require a student to major in any certain field, but rather, complements the academic major of choice. It is possible to minor in Aerospace Studies and use Aerospace Studies courses as elective credits. These courses are offered at the University of St. Thomas, but students at any of the five Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities (ACTC) consortium – St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Augsburg, Hamline, and Macalester – may take the courses. Through cross-town agreements, students at Bethel, Concordia, North Central University, Northwestern, William Mitchell, Anoka-Ramsey, Inver Hills, Century, Normandale, North Hennepin, and the University of Wisconsin-Stout may also take aerospace studies courses.

The aerospace studies curriculum is divided into two phases: the General Military Course (GMC) in the freshman and/or sophomore years, and the Professional Officer Course (POC) in the junior and senior years. Cadets in the GMC have no service commitment whatsoever, unless they receive an Air Force ROTC scholarship. Students must voluntarily apply for the POC. Currently, all POC cadets are obligated to serve as an officer for a minimum of four years on active duty after commissioning, depending on the career field to which they are assigned.

An integral part of all aerospace studies classes is Leadership Laboratory. Instruction is conducted within the framework of an organized cadet corps with a progression of experiences designed to develop leadership potential. Leadership Laboratory involves a study of Air Force customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, career opportunities in the Air Force, and the life and work of an Air Force junior officer. Leadership potential is developed in a practical, supervised laboratory.

The Air Force offers four-, three-, two- and one-year college scholarships. See “Scholarships not awarded by the university” in the Financial Services section of this catalog.

Most students complete Air Force ROTC via the four-year program, during which both the GMC and the POC are completed. If a student does not enroll in the freshman year, both the freshman and sophomore classes can be taken during the sophomore year. This is followed by a four-week field training session at an active-duty Air Force base, normally between the sophomore and junior years. Students in the program receive a salary and room and board while at field training.

In the summers between the freshman and sophomore, and the junior and senior years, the student may opt to go on an internship in a chosen career field at an active Air Force base. All advanced training is paid by the Air Force. If the student does not enroll in Air Force ROTC until spring semester of the sophomore year, a commission can be earned through the two-year program. However, the student will attend a five-week field training session instead of the four-week session. The extra week provides the academic training that would have been received in the GMC. Upon successful completion of the five-week field training session, the cadet may enter the POC to complete the remaining two years. The student is still eligible for the internships and advanced training in the junior year, and can compete for a scholarship.

St. Thomas offers its students who are winners of Air Force ROTC scholarships up to full subsidy (room and board and remaining tuition) on almost every Air Force ROTC scholarship awarded. For information on Air Force scholarships, call the AFROTC Unit Admissions Officer at 651-962-6329.

The minor in Aerospace Studies is open to all undergraduate students at the University of St. Thomas. Students who are not seeking an Air Force commission should enroll in Option 1 below. Students who wish to receive a commission in the Air force need to participate in Options 2 or 3, which include the Leadership Laboratories that coincide with their respective development level.

While the courses are intended to be taken sequentially, students may complete the minor by taking more than one AERO class per term, with the permission of the department chair.

All of the coursework generally contributes to and enhances the human diversity objectives of the university. Additionally, AERO 321, 322, 421, and 422 also enhance the university's computer competency goals, particularly in their requirement for submission of written papers and verbal presentations requiring visual aids (computer generated, for the most part).

Minor in Aerospace Studies

Student must complete twenty credits. This requirement must be accomplished by completing one of the following sequences:

Option 1:

AERO 111 Foundations of the United States Air Force I (1 credit)

AERO 112 Foundations of the United States Air Force II (1 credit)

AERO 211 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power I (1 credit)

AERO 212 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power II (1 credit)
 AERO 321 Air Force Leadership Studies I (4 credits)
 AERO 322 Air Force Leadership Studies II (4 credits)
 AERO 421 National Security Affairs I (4 credits)
 AERO 422 National Security Affairs II (4 credits)

Option 2:

AERO 250 Five-Week Field Training (4 credits)*
 *Open only to students enrolled in Air Force ROTC
 AERO 321 Air Force Leadership Studies I (4 credits)
 AERO 322 Air Force Leadership Studies II (4 credits)
 AERO 421 National Security Affairs I (4 credits)
 AERO 422 National Security Affairs II (4 credits)
 AERO 200 Leadership Laboratory (0 credits)

Option 3:

AERO 111 Foundations of the United States Air Force I (1 credit)
 AERO 112 Foundations of the United States Air Force II (1 credit)
 AERO 211 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power I (1 credit)
 AERO 212 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power II (1 credit)
 AERO 321 Air Force Leadership Studies I (4 credits)
 AERO 322 Air Force Leadership Studies II (4 credits)
 AERO 421 National Security Affairs I (4 credits)
 AERO 422 National Security Affairs II (4 credits)
 AERO 200 Leadership Laboratory (0 credits)

AERO 111 Foundations of the United States Air Force I (1 credit)

This course introduces students to the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. Featured topics include: mission and organization of the Air Force, officership and professionalism, military customs and courtesies, Air Force officer opportunities, and an introduction to communication skills. Leadership Laboratory is mandatory for AFROTC cadets and complements this course by providing cadets with followership experiences.

AERO 112 Foundations of the United States Air Force II (1 credit)

Continuation of AERO 111
 Prerequisite: AERO 111 or permission of instructor

AERO 211 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power I (1 credit)

This course examines general aspects of air and space power through a historical perspective. Utilizing this perspective, the course covers a time period from the first balloons and dirigibles to the space-age global positioning systems of the Persian Gulf War. Historical examples are provided to extrapolate the development of Air Force capabilities (competencies), and missions (functions) to demonstrate the evolution of what has become today's USAF air and space power. The course also examines several fundamental truths associated with war in the third dimension: e.g. Principles of War and Tenets of Air and Space Power. As a whole, this course provides the students with a knowledge level understanding for the general element and employment of air and space power, from an institutional, doctrinal and historical perspective. In addition, the students will continue to discuss the importance of the Air Force Core Values with the use of operational examples and historical Air Force leaders, and will continue to develop their communication skills. One class-hour per week, plus a weekly 2.0 hour Leadership Laboratory consisting of Air Force customs and courtesies, Air Force environment, drill and ceremonies, and field training orientation.

Prerequisite: AERO 112 or permission of instructor

AERO 212 Evolution of USAF Air and Space Power II (1 credit)

Continuation of AERO 211
 Prerequisite: AERO 211 or permission of instructor

AERO 250 Five-Week Field Training (4 credits) (AERO 111, 112, 211, 212)

Training and evaluation on an Air Force base during the summer. Training is designed to 1) fulfill the course goals of the General Military Course (GMC) normally taken during the regular school year; 2) develop military leadership and discipline, provide AF officership training, orientation and motivation, and determine officer potential. These objectives are provided to conform to the standards of a structured military environment as well as teach the participant how an Air Force base operates. The syllabus provides a minimum of 370 hours of scheduled activities – 170 hours of total core curriculum hours consisting of Air Force orientation, leadership training, and officership training. Additional hours are required for Flight Training Officer Time (FTOT) and cadet meetings, *etc.* Required for all two- and one-year program cadets prior to entry into AERO 321.

NOTE: Students who receive credit for AERO 250 may not receive credit for AERO 111, 112, 211, or 212.

AERO 321 Air Force Leadership and Management Studies I (4 credits)

This course is a study of leadership, management fundamentals, professional knowledge, Air Force personnel and evaluation systems, leadership ethics, and communication skills required of an Air Force junior officer. Case studies

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are used to examine Air Force leadership and management situations as a means of demonstrating and exercising practical application of the concepts being studied. A mandatory Leadership Laboratory complements this course by providing advanced leadership experiences in officer-type activities, giving students the opportunity to apply leadership and management principles of this course.

Prerequisite: AERO 212 or 250

AERO 322 Air Force Leadership and Management Studies II (4 credits)

Continuation of AERO 321.

Prerequisite: AERO 321 or permission of instructor

AERO 421 National Security Affairs I (4 credits)

This course provides future Air Force officers with a background in the national security process, regional studies, advanced leadership ethics, and Air Force doctrine. Special topics of interest focus on the military as a profession, officership, military justice, civilian control of the military, preparation for active duty, and current issues affecting military professionalism. Within this structure, continued emphasis is given to refining communication skills. A mandatory Leadership Laboratory complements this course by providing advanced leadership experiences, giving students the opportunity to apply the leadership and management principles of this course.

Prerequisite: AERO 322 or permission of instructor

AERO 422 National Security Affairs II (4 credits)

Continuation of AERO 421.

Prerequisite: AERO 421

The following courses allow students to gain credit for certain non-classroom experiences. Permission of department chair is required. A maximum of three credits may be applied, two of which must be from AERO 450 Four-Week Field Training (FT), except for cadets participating in AERO 451 Cadet Training Assistant (CTA), who are able to accrue a maximum of five credits of non-classroom experiences toward the 132 credits required for graduation. Graded on S-R basis.

AERO 450 Four-Week Field Training (2 credits)

Training and evaluation on an Air Force base during the summer. The experience is designed to develop military leadership and discipline, provide AF officership training, orientation and motivation, and determine officer potential. These objectives are provided to conform to the standards of a structured military environment as well as teach the participant how an Air Force base operates. The syllabus provides for a minimum of 270 hours of scheduled activities—157 hours of total core curriculum hours consisting of Air Force orientation, leadership training, and officership training. Additional hours are required for Flight Training Officer Time (FTOT) and cadet meetings, *etc.*

Prerequisite: AERO 212

AERO 451 Cadet Training Assistant (CTA) (2 credits)

A cadet who previously completed Field Training and who successfully competes to be assigned as a staff member in a 4- or 5-week Field Training. Discharges staff responsibilities to meet the objectives described in AERO 450.

AERO 452 Professional Development Training (PDT) (1 credit)

The objective of PDT is to provide opportunities to cadets to gain knowledge and appreciation for the human relations and leadership challenge encountered by junior Air Force officers. Further, the program is designed to motivate cadets in their pursuit of an Air Force career. Normally open to junior and senior contracted cadets who have completed Field Training. However, selected AERO 100 cadets may participate in some of the PDT programs.

American Culture and Difference (ACST)

College of Arts and Sciences, Interdisciplinary Program

2093 Grand Ave, (651) 962-5649

Contact: Kanishka Chowdhury

American culture and difference is an interdisciplinary minor that offers students a critical perspective on the diversity of "American culture." Students consider ways in which music, film, advertisements, folklore, literature, television, and art shape daily life in the United States, form cultural and national identity, construct racial and ethnic identity, and create a sense of "high" and "low" culture. Drawing on perspectives from a number of participating departments and programs (e.g. Art History, Communication and Journalism, English, History, Music, Political Science, Sociology, Theater, Theology, and Women's Studies), the American culture and difference minor examines the symbols, practices, and histories which contribute to the complexity and variety of the "American" experience. In addition to making connections among disciplines, students will be encouraged to engage in analysis that discovers linkages and tensions between vernacular and elite culture, as well as among diverse and multiple cultural identities and affiliations. The minor re-examines representations of mainstream American culture and the productions of alternative and oppositional cultures, highlighting the experiences and struggles of communities that have been historically marginalized because of their class, gender, racial or sexual identities. Put simply, American culture and difference emphasizes diversity as a defining element of American culture. Given its emphasis on the diversity