

Department of Aerospace Studies (Air Force ROTC)

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Lt Col Sarah Bergkamp, Commander and Professor of Aerospace Studies

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Our faculty professors are active duty officers from diverse professional backgrounds that enrich the learning environment.

Air Force Reserve Officer Training (AFROTC) Program

The AFROTC program at NC State is geared toward students who wish to earn a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force (USAF) or U.S. Space Force (USSF). However, any student from NC State, or one of our four crosstown colleges, who wishes to learn about the USAF can take any Air Force ROTC course with no obligation or commitment. All students who complete the Military Studies: Aerospace Studies academic program of study with a minimum of 15 hours in aerospace studies are eligible to receive a Military Studies: Aerospace Studies minor.

The four-year AFROTC program that leads to a commission as a USAF or USSF officer allows first-year students to enroll in Aerospace Studies courses in the same manner as other college courses for the first two years. It is during this time that a student may join the program and become an Air Force ROTC cadet. All cadets must be attending college in a full-time status.

Aerospace Studies courses are taken as free electives and cadets incur no military obligation unless they are receiving an AFROTC scholarship. The first two years in the AFROTC program are called the General Military Course (GMC) during which cadets learn the basics of military discipline and followership, and begin preparation for field training. The last two years of AFROTC comprise the Professional Officer Course (POC) where cadets lead each other through a time-tested leadership laboratory training environment that instills both character and leadership skills needed in preparation for life as an active duty officer. The pinnacle training event for AFROTC occurs in the summer between the sophomore and junior year when a cadet attends intense field training held at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

While AFROTC is designed and structured as a four-year program, cadets with no previous military training can accomplish the program in as short as three years. For cadets with specific qualifications and experiences, the training program can be compressed to as little as two and a half years. AS 100 and AS 200-level courses are offered once

each academic year: USAF Heritage and Values I and USAF Teams/Leadership are offered in the fall semester. USAF Heritage and Values II and USAF Teams/Leadership II are offered in the spring semester. Interested students must contact the Professor of Aerospace Studies to determine eligibility requirements.

Cadets at every level have numerous opportunities to further their knowledge of the Air Force and develop leadership. Throughout the school year, cadets have opportunities to examine all aspects of life in the Air Force and gain leadership experience through Air Force base visits, flying opportunities and social activities. Additionally, a variety of summer programs allow cadets to visit bases and participate in programs such as the U.S. Air Force Academy Free Fall program, manned glider training and worldwide cultural immersion programs. POC cadets have similar opportunities, with focus on programs related to the cadet's desired active duty career area, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Upon university graduation and satisfactory completion of the Air Force ROTC program, a cadet is commissioned a second lieutenant in the USAF or USSF and is obligated to serve a minimum of four years on active duty.

Scholarship Opportunities and Stipend

Competitive scholarships are awarded by the Air Force to high school students through the High School Scholarship Program (HSSP) as well as to cadets already in college through the In-College Scholarship Program (ICSP). ICSP scholarships are merit based. AFROTC scholarships pay for tuition, fees and books, and provide cadets a stipend each month during the academic year for miscellaneous expenses. Stipends for AFROTC scholarship cadets vary according to the cadet's year of academic enrollment in AFROTC.

For example, scholarship freshmen currently receive \$300 per month, sophomores \$350 per month, juniors \$450 per month and seniors \$500 per month. Additionally, cadets who complete field training and are enrolled in the POC receive a stipend regardless of scholarship status. All scholarships have minimum academic standards that must be maintained.

Eligibility

All full-time freshmen and sophomores with at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA and a desire to seek a commission may enroll in the GMC program without obligation to the Air Force through enrollment in the AS 100-level and 200-level blocks of Aerospace Studies curriculum.

To enter the POC, cadets must meet physical, medical and academic requirements, and successfully complete field training (typically between the second and third year). In addition, some age, citizenship and background restrictions apply; contact the department for more details. Students desiring to enter the four-year program can simply register for the AS 100-level course. All students interested should contact the Air Force ROTC office for more information.

Organization

The Air Force ROTC Cadet Corps, nicknamed "Wolfpack Warriors," is organized as a cadet wing staffed entirely by cadets for leadership development. They are assisted and advised by experienced active duty officers and non-commissioned officers who are assigned as instructors to the detachment. Three collateral organizations, Arnold Air Society,

Wolfpack Warrior Booster Club and Honor Guard, support the cadet wing organization as well as the university and community.

Uniforms

Uniforms are provided by the federal government and are worn by cadets on the day of Leadership Laboratory (Wednesday) or as specified by cadet corps leadership.

View the NC State Air Force (<https://airforce.dasa.ncsu.edu/>) website.

Faculty

Commander

Lieutenant Colonel Sarah L. Bergkamp, *Professor of Aerospace Studies*

Cadre

Major Kristen S. McCoy, *Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies and Education Officer*

Major Nolan M. Plate, *Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies and Operations Flight Commander*

Capt Brandon E. Patten, *Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies and Recruiting Officer*

TSgt Korey M. Partridge Reed, *Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge/Personnel*

SSgt Gabrielle F. Torres, *Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge/Administrative Management*

Mrs. Annika Fairbanks, *Administrative Assistant*

Plans

- Military Studies: Aerospace Studies (Minor) (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/university-college/air-force-rotc/military-studies-aerospace-minor/>)