
ROTC at Houghton [Army] (minor)

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Web site: <http://www.houghton.edu/academics/programs/rotc.htm>

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Minor: Military Leadership [minimum of 12 hours of MSL coursework and contract with U.S. Army leading to rank of 2nd Lieutenant]

Houghton College students may participate in ROTC [Reserve Officer Training Corps] through a cross-enrollment agreement with St Bonaventure University. Two hours of military science are offered each semester that combine academic coursework and practical field experiences designed to enhance self-confidence, discipline, initiative, and responsibility. 100 and 200 level courses are offered on the Houghton campus to any interested student without obligation to the Army. Up to 8 hours of Houghton graduation credit can be earned this way. 300 and 400 level courses, offered on the SBU campus, are open only to students under contract with the U.S. Army. Houghton students in this program have done well in competition for scholarships which cover full tuition and books plus a modest living allowance.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MSL 101/101L Foundations of Officership (Course and Lab) (2, F)

The purpose of this semester is to introduce cadets to fundamental components of service as an officer in the United States Army. These initial lessons form the building blocks of progressive lessons in values, fitness, leadership, and officership. Additionally, the semester addresses “life skills” including fitness, communications theory and practice (written and oral), and interpersonal relationships. Upon completion of this semester, the cadets should be prepared to receive more complex leadership instruction.

MSL 102/102L Basic Leadership (Course and Lab) (2, S)

This semester builds upon the fundamentals introduced in the previous semester by focusing on leadership theory and decision-making. “Life skills” lessons in this semester include: problem solving, critical thinking, leadership theory, followership, group interaction, goal setting, and feedback mechanisms. Upon completion of this semester, cadets should be prepared to advance to more complex leadership instruction concerning the dynamics of organizations.

MSL 201/201L Individual Leadership Studies (Course and Lab) (2, F)

Building upon the fundamentals introduced in the MS-1 year, this instruction delves into several aspects of communication and leadership theory. The use of practical exercise is significantly increased over previous semesters, as cadets are required to apply communications and leadership concepts. Virtually the entire semester teaches critical “life skills”. The relevance of these life skills to future success in the Army is emphasized throughout the course.

MSL 202/202L Leadership and Teamwork (Course and Lab) (2, S)

The final semester of the Basic Course focuses principally on officership, providing an extensive examination of the unique purpose, roles, and obligations of commissioned officers. It includes a detailed look at the origin of our institutional values and their practical application in decision-making and leadership to focus on a career as a commissioned officer. Upon completion of this semester, cadets should possess a fundamental understanding of both leadership and officership, demonstrate the ability to apply this understanding in real world situations, and be excited about the aspect of shouldering the responsibility of a commissioned officer in the United States Army.