

General Overview:

Thank you for your interest in the Naval ROTC Unit at the University of Texas. We are pleased that you have shown an interest in joining the Naval Reserve Officer's Training Corps (NROTC) here in Austin. As a Marine Officer, you will have the option of choosing from over 25 Military Occupational Specialties (MOS). Exciting careers range from being an infantry rifle platoon commander, an intelligence officer, a tank platoon commander, to flying multi-million dollar, state of the art fighter jets or helicopters. Regardless of your MOS, you will have the opportunity to lead some of the most energetic, enthusiastic, and dedicated young men and women this nation has to offer. If you seek new challenges, and are mentally and physically fit, The NROTC program is one of the best ways to achieve your goals of earning a commission in the United States Marine Corps. Information regarding the UT NROTC Unit and general scholarships can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/rotc/navymarine/> and <https://www.nrotc.navy.mil> .

Battalion Life:

One of the most difficult things that our midshipmen encounter is handling all of the competing issues/activities in the university environment. The life of a midshipman is extremely busy, challenging, and rewarding. The students here take their grades and their overall academic performance very seriously. We offer our students their own computer lab as well as free tutoring 2-3 times per week in Chemistry, Physics and Calculus.

The midshipman battalion, made up of approximately 100 members (usually about 20% are in the Marine program), receives diverse training each week. Physical Training (PT) is conducted every Monday and Wednesday morning from 6:00-7:00 AM. On Mondays, we PT as one cohesive unit (Navy and USMC) and on Wednesday mornings the Marines and Marine Option (MO) midshipmen conduct "Leatherneck" PT. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, all members of the battalion participate in 1.5 hour military lab periods in the afternoon. During this time, midshipmen learn how to march, stand inspections, and attend various classes to include: ethics/core values, leadership, and briefs about the different communities in the Navy and Marine Corps.

Many midshipmen and Marines participate in extra curricular activities such as the pistol team that attends competitions in Texas and neighboring states and the unit drill team who travel annually to compete at Tulane University and march in the Mardi Gras parade. Our unit is also involved in the community as we pitch in for charities like "Make-A-Wish" and the Lance Armstrong Foundation. One of our more popular fund raising events involves the "Run-to-Dallas", where members of the Battalion participate in a 200 mile relay, with the game ball in hand, to the Cotton Bowl for the Texas-Oklahoma football game. Check out our website www.runtodallas.com

These are just a few of the reasons that NROTC at UT ranks among the best in the nation. To complete a university admissions application please go to <http://www.utexas.edu/student/admissions/freshman/applying.html>

Leatherneck Platoon:

The MOs and active duty Marines conduct additional training to further develop skills that will enable them to prosper as future Second Lieutenants in the Marine Corps. Emphasis is placed on Physical Training (PT), leadership, and military skills. The PT is intense, which includes: 3-5 mile runs, sprint work outs, pushups and pull-ups, log runs, stadium ramp workouts, and obstacle course training. Additionally we will go on "humps" through the Texas hill country and surrounding Austin parks on weekends. Occasionally, we will conduct field exercises to introduce land navigation and small unit tactics. The leadership in the Leatherneck platoon assists the Marines in their preparation for Officer Candidates School (OCS). OCS, located in Quantico, VA is a six week course established "To train, evaluate, and screen officer candidates to ensure that they possess the

moral, intellectual, and physical qualities for commissioning and the leadership potential to serve successfully as company grade officers in the operating forces." Active duty Marines attend OCS after their freshmen year, while midshipmen attend OCS after their junior year. Once complete with OCS and all undergraduate work, newly commissioned 2ndLts will head back to Quantico, VA for 6 months to attend The Basic School (TBS).

Website Links:

OCS: <http://www.ocs.usmc.mil/>

TBS: <http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/tbs/>

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. How do I earn an NROTC scholarship?

NROTC offers various scholarships. High school students must apply the beginning of their senior year for a four-year NROTC scholarship. The deadline for fall 2008 is in Jan 2008. The minimum requirements for Marine Corps scholarships are 1000 on the SAT (based on the old SAT scoring system), 22 on the ACT, and the applicant should be towards the top of his/her class in high school. To be competitive, applicants should have: 1200-1300 on the SAT and have close to or above a 3.5 GPA. Also, well rounded applicants (those that participate in extra-curricular activities i.e. sports, Junior ROTC, high school leadership positions, and community service) help in the selection process. More information is located on the following website: <https://www.marines.usmc.mil/G3/Officer/nrotc.htm>

2. I'm already an active duty or reserve Marine and want to become a Marine Officer. Where can I find more information?

There are a wide variety of programs available and most likely, if your GPA and standardized test scores are respectable, you can find a program that's right for you. If you're a young enlisted Marine with less than 30 college credit hours, you can apply for the four-year NROTC scholarship. See the following link for more information: <https://www.marines.usmc.mil/G3/Officer/nrotc.htm>. If you have more than 30 hours, you may be qualified for an enlisted to officer program: <https://www.marines.usmc.mil/G3/Officer/enlistedOfficer.htm>. Most of these programs are still affiliated with the UT NROTC unit and you can go to school full time to earn your degree and commission.

3. What if I miss the deadline to apply to ROTC or what if I'm already in college and want to join ROTC?

Students can transfer into the program during their freshman or sophomore year. Two and Three year scholarships are awarded to students who perform well academically, physically, and display strong leadership characteristics. If you are a junior or senior, I recommend that you take a more serious look at the Platoon Leader's Course (PLC); see FAQ #11 for more info.

4. What is the military service obligation?

Military service obligation of eight years, at least **four of which must be active duty**. *(This means that if you decide to get out of the Marine Corps after your four years, you can do that. However, you will be placed on Individual Ready Reserve for four more years as a civilian and may be called back to assist the Marine Corps in case of national emergencies or during time of war.)*

For midshipmen who drop on request (DOR) or are disenrolled from NROTC Scholarship Program for academic or personal reasons **after the first day of their sophomore year** may be required to serve a minimum of two years active enlisted service or recoupment of tuition dollars provided to the Midshipman while in the program. If disenrolled, personnel who were originally on active duty and were released early to accept NROTC Scholarships must complete their original enlisted contracts.

5. Where do I apply for the Marine Corps NROTC Scholarship?

Apply online <https://www.nrotc.navy.mil/application/default.cfm> or through your local Marine Corps recruiting office. Be sure to tell them you want to apply to be an officer or you may find yourself in Boot Camp as an enlisted Marine.

6. What grades and SAT score do I need to get into UT?

High school grade point average is not directly considered when freshman admissions decisions are made. Instead, class rank is used, and is a significant factor in decisions for entering freshmen. During the 2006 fall semester, over 70% of entering freshmen graduated in the top 10% of their high school class and more than 99% graduated in the top half of their class.

The average SAT scores for the 2006 entering freshman class are 540 to 670 Critical Reading, and 580 to 700 Math. Less than 14 % of entering freshmen submit SAT Critical Reading scores below 500 and less than 8 % submit SAT Math scores below 500. The average range for ACT composite scores is 23-29. 23,000 applications were submitted in 2006 and 11,000 students were accepted.

7. What qualifications are necessary to enter the program as a midshipman?

In order to enter the program, the student must attend either the University of Texas at Austin or Huston-Tillotson University (also located in Austin). There are two types of Midshipmen in our battalion: those on scholarship and college program midshipmen. The latter are, in most cases, trying to earn a 2 or 3 year scholarship. As long as students have a positive attitude, are physically fit, maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher, and desire to earn a commission, we will accept them into our program. Be advised, earning a scholarship is a very competitive process.

8. How can ROTC help with Financial Aid?

Financial aid is awarded through the University. We have no impact on their decision-making. However, additional scholarships are awarded to top notch midshipmen by the NROTC alumni association as well as various UT organizations.

9. Are there ROTC programs at any local community colleges or affiliated universities?

Navy and Marine ROTC is not available at community colleges. However, Huston-Tillotson University (www.htu.edu) is an affiliated university. This basically means that you can attend HTU as a student and attend the NROTC program here at UT. *(Note: If you are an enlisted Marine recently picked up for the MECEP program, UT and HTU are the only universities that you can attend for the UT NROTC program.)*

10. I have college credits, how do I transfer to UT?

You must complete 30 units prior to being recognized as a transfer student. The ROTC unit has no way of changing/waiving this policy. If you have less than 30 credit hours and still need to transfer, you may want to examine Huston-Tillotson University (here in Austin), then try for a transfer to UT. FYI, in 2006 only 21% of transfer student applicants were accepted to UT; the average GPA was a 3.6.

11. Are there any restrictions on academic majors?

Although there are no restrictions on academic majors for USMC officer candidates, I advise students to select their field of study in areas considered beneficial to the Marine Corps and your career as a Marine Corps officer.

12. If I can't participate in ROTC, can I still earn a commission in the USMC?

The Platoon Leaders Course (PLC) is another way to earn a commission and offers financial assistance while you complete your education. Visit the website below to find out more information about PLC. www.texasmarineofficer.com.

If you have any other questions please don't hesitate to call.

Semper Fi,

Major Ron Lobato

Marine Officer Instructor

The University of Texas at Austin

phone: (512) 471-7647 fax: (512) 471-7690

email: r.lobato@austin.utexas.edu