

Division of Professional Development

Seamanship and Navigation Department

Career Information and Officer Accessions Department





Division of Professional Development

The Division of Professional Development prepares midshipmen to be professional officers in the naval service. The courses offered by its academic department — Seamanship and Navigation — develop skills in the classroom environment, on the water, in yard patrol training craft and in the academy's tactical training facilities. The Career Information and Officer Accessions Department facilitates each midshipman's transition from USNA to their first experience as Fleet junior officers through the Career Information Program and, ultimately, service assignment.

Seamanship and Navigation Department

The Seamanship and Navigation Department provides midshipmen with the necessary skills that are essential to the future leaders of the Navy and Marine Corps. To support the mission of the Naval Academy, the department's core courses instill the fundamentals of Seamanship, Navigation, and Warfare. This foundation of naval skills is applied through a wide spectrum of courses which culminate in the Junior Officer Practicum Course. Yard Patrol Craft Summer Training is provided to further reinforce the core courses.

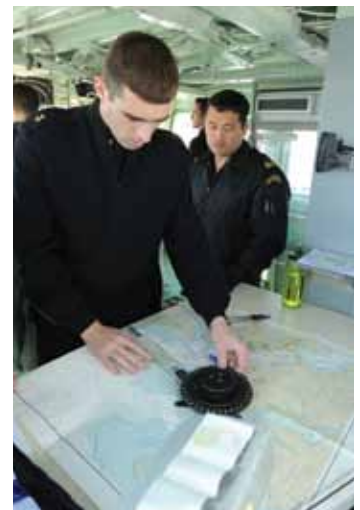
Career Information and Officer Accessions Department

The Department of Career Information and Officer Accessions serves as the coordination center for midshipmen career development and service assignment.

The Career Information Program (CIP) educates midshipmen about future Navy and Marine Corps career options. It is an integrated four-year plan, comprised of briefings, social events, and discussion of current trends in the operational Navy and Marine Corps with junior officers, as well as daily midshipmen interaction with military staff and faculty.

The culmination of CIP is the service assignment process, by which midshipmen are assigned to their future warfare communities. The process matches a midshipman's qualifications, aptitude, and career preferences with current and projected Navy and Marine Corps officer manning requirements. The department serves as the liaison with the Chief of Naval Personnel to ensure the Naval Academy provides the best-qualified officers ready to lead Sailors and Marines.

[Seamanship and Navigation courses](#)



Division of Leadership Education and Development

Leadership, Ethics and Law Department

Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Masters Degree Program

Character Education Program

Leader Development and Research Department





The challenge to our country on the seas today is greater than ever before in our history, and only highly motivated, well educated and thoroughly trained young men and women will be capable of helping our Navy to answer the challenge.

VICE ADMIRAL WILLIAM P. MACK, CLASS OF 1937 and Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy, 1972-75

Division of Leadership Education and Development

The Division of Leadership, Education and Development prepares midshipmen to be leaders of character who, upon graduation, serve as warriors, standard bearers of the naval profession, and servants of the nation. The courses offered by its academic department, Leadership, Ethics and Law, complement the training and experiences that develop honor, character, and integrity in midshipmen. The integrated programs of the Division of Leadership, Education and Development are designed to develop officers who possess the personal attributes, professional knowledge and skill, and strong sense of duty needed to lead and excel in the Navy and Marine Corps.

Leadership, Ethics and Law Department

The Leadership, Ethics and Law Department in the Division of Leadership, Education and Development of the U.S. Naval Academy provides midshipmen with comprehensive, relevant, and quality education and training in core courses in leadership, ethics, character, and law, and the opportunity to study specialized electives in philosophy, behavioral science, leadership, and law. While the course of study is intentionally broad, it enhances the effectiveness and credibility of midshipmen while they are members of the Brigade, and later when they enter the fleet as junior officer leaders. Through an intensive four-year process, students acquire a solid foundation in the science and art of leadership, preparing them for a lifetime of leadership and service to their country.

The approach to studying leadership at USNA is based upon an experiential learning model comprised of conceptualization, experimentation, reinforcement, and reflection over a period of four years in residence at USNA. Through a process of personal learning, classroom instruction, and interaction, complemented by the unique professional experiences and opportunities for reflection during the academic year and through summer training, midshipmen will understand leadership and what it means to be a Leader of Character. The leadership education program consists of formal instruction by military and civilian professionals in leadership, philosophy and ethics, human behavior, and law; complemented by the practical knowledge and real-time fleet experiences of Navy and Marine Corps leaders. This relevant and effective combination of academic and professional expertise profoundly enhances the learning environment. The “deckplate” experiences of the instructors transforms the learning environment from an abstract study into a more pertinent and timely application of knowledge.

During the four-year program, midshipmen study leadership, human behavior, ethics, law, and character, as well as individual, group, and organizational behavior. In these courses, they gain an understanding and appreciation of the values, culture, identity, and specialized knowledge encompassed by the naval profession.

Leadership, Ethics and Law Courses: NL110, NE203, NL310, NL400

The following courses are offered as electives: NL200, NL211, NL230, NL311, NL312, NL313, NL335, NL340, NL420, NL425, NL430, NL435, NL440, NL450, NP230, NP232, NP250, NP335, NP336, NP340, NP410 and NP420.

[Leadership, Ethics and Law courses](#)

Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Program for Company Officers

The Division of Leadership, Education and Development coordinates graduate education provided by a host university in the greater Baltimore-Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. The LEAD Program allows talented, highly qualified Navy and Marine Corps Junior Officers to enroll in a one year graduate program at a top tier university prior to serving as a Company Officer at the United States Naval Academy. The program develops students' abilities to think critically and analytically, and focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities essential for understanding, designing, and conducting leader and team development as a Company Officer at the Naval Academy and in future assignments in the Fleet. Junior Officers are awarded a Master's of Professional Studies Degree (MPS) by the host institution upon program completion.

Character Education Program

The Character Education Program consists of interactive seminars, speaker series, conferences, and experiential activities that begin during Plebe Summer and continue through all four years at the Naval Academy. The earliest seminars introduce midshipmen to the concepts of professional officership and core values in the military, as well as understanding the importance of followership as a developmental construct of leadership. The Character Education Program also includes speaker series and experiential activities, such as visits to the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. and summer training opportunities and travel abroad. The Character Education Program culminates with the 1/C year Officership Capstone Seminar, which introduces future Junior Officers to some of the complex leadership and ethical challenges that they are likely to face upon graduation and commissioning. The Character Education Program is integrated with both the academic leadership education and the formal leader training program and is an important aspect of the process of socialization to the military officer identity.

Leader Development and Research Department

The Leader Development and Research (LDR) Department resides within the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Division. The LDR Department provides oversight and direction to more than 21 Experiential Leader Development (ELD) programs offered to midshipmen across the four-year continuum. The LDR Department was conceived as the bridge between LEAD Division curricular programs and USNA experiential leader programs, such as Plebe Detail, Off-shore Sail training, YP cruises, and National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) expeditions. The LDR Department seeks to integrate ELD programs with leadership education at USNA, expand existing ELD programs and explore new ELD opportunities in support of the Naval Academy mission, and assess the vitality and efficacy of ELD programs as leadership laboratories.



Division of Character Development and Training

The Division of Character Development and Training encompasses three key areas in the Academy's course of study required of all midshipmen: the Honor Department, the Training Department, and the Character Development Department.

The Honor Department

The Honor Department administers the Honor Concept for the Brigade of Midshipman. Working with Brigade Honor Staff, the department guides midshipmen through a four-year progression regarding the Honor Concept. The Honor Department also coordinates honor hearings and remediation efforts in the event of any violations.

The Training Department

The Training Department is responsible for all midshipman professional training conducted outside the academic classroom. A four-year training continuum—Midshipman Qualifications Standards (MQS), closely resembling standard fleet qualification programs—provides guidance and structure to the professional development of midshipmen. The continuum aligns a variety of programs—professional knowledge, Midshipman Leadership Development Guide, Saturday Morning Training—and integrates them into a coordinated curriculum. As a result of this training continuum each midshipman gains a base-line level of professional proficiency and competency prior to commissioning. The training begins on Induction Day (I-Day) during Plebe Summer, the foundation of each midshipman's four year professional development. The Training Department develops the Plebe Summer training requirements, plans the program to meet the requirement, and assesses the outcomes. Plebe summer and each of the subsequent three summers comprise the comprehensive Summer Training Program. This encompasses the dozens of activities that midshipmen participate in on the Yard and in assignments aboard Fleet units around the world. By exposing midshipmen to Fleet units in all warfare communities, the Summer Training Program enhances midshipman professional knowledge and allows each midshipman to make an informed decision regarding his or her eventual Service Assignment.

The Character Development Department

The Character Development Department is responsible for training midshipman on through the Command Managed Equal Opportunity Program (CMEQ), the Alcohol and Drug Education Program and the Etiquette and Protocol Program. It also coordinates the Family Outreach Program for the Commandant of Midshipmen. Working closely with the Brigade Character Staff, the department sponsors a guest speaker lecture series and character-related briefings during Plebe Summer and throughout the academic year. This culminates in a midshipman's final year in the Capstone Seminar, which provides direct interaction between senior mentors and 1/C midshipmen before their eventual commissioning.

