



NOTRE DAME
ARMY ROTC
FIGHTIN' IRISH BATTALION



Table of Contents

History of the Fightin' Irish Battalion	1-5
ROTC Program Overview	8-14
Branching Options	15-21

FIGHTIN' IRISH BATTALION

HISTORY



- Military training has been a part of the University of Notre Dame's curriculum since its foundation. In 1858, just sixteen years after Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C. established the university, he also established the Notre Dame Continental Cadets, a military company composed of students. "Our town was enlivened on Wednesday morning by a parade through the streets of the Notre Dame Continental Cadets...", declared the South Bend Forum, "Their drilling, maneuvers, and marching made a fine impression. Their patriotism is highly commendable."



- With the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, the Congregation of Holy Cross sent eight priests to serve as chaplains to the Irish-American regiments of the Irish Brigade. 89 Holy Cross sisters from both Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College served as nurses during the war. Perhaps the most well-known of these Holy Cross priests is Rev. William Corby, C.S.C., who famously granted a general absolution to the members of the Irish Brigade before they took to the battlefield at Gettysburg in 1863.

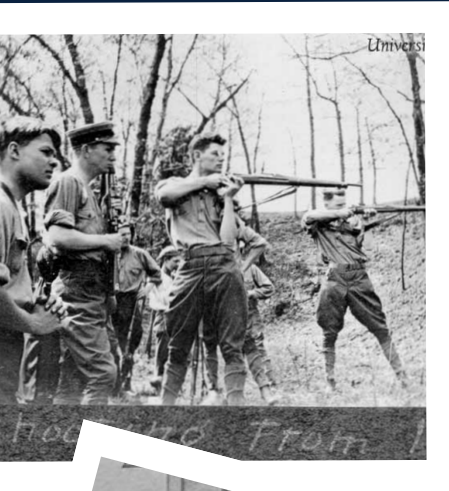


- In 1880, Father Corby, then the university president, revived military training for academic credit at Notre Dame as a source of "recreation, exercise, and discipline." This new military company took on the title of the Hoynes Light Guards, after their commander William J. "Colonel" Hoynes, another Civil War veteran and influential figure in the foundation of Notre Dame's law school.



- With American involvement in World War I, the national draft of young men threatened to decrease Notre Dame's enrollment and funding to levels it had not yet experienced. In 1918, the university received approval to establish a Students' Army Training Corps (SATC), the precursor to ROTC. This program enrolled some 700 students but was disbanded following the end of the war. More than 2,200 ND students and alumni served during WWI.

- Dedicated on Memorial Day in 1924, the eastern door of Sacred Heart Basilica was erected to commemorate the Notre Dame alumni who served in the war to end all wars. Originally intended to have all 2500 names inscribed, the final installation only lists the 56 who made the final sacrifice.



To the left of the door is St. Joan of Arc, the French heroine of the Hundred Year's war. The selection of Joan may be a reference to the French origins of Fr. Sorin, the founder of Notre Dame. Known for her divinely inspired tactical success, Joan was key to turning the tide in the war against English invaders.

To the right of the door is St. Michael the Archangel, commander of the heavenly hosts. Most famous for his defeat of Lucifer soon after the fall of the Angels, Michael defeated Satan in battle and cast him down from the heavens. He is also the patron saint of Soldiers, paratroopers and first responders in general.

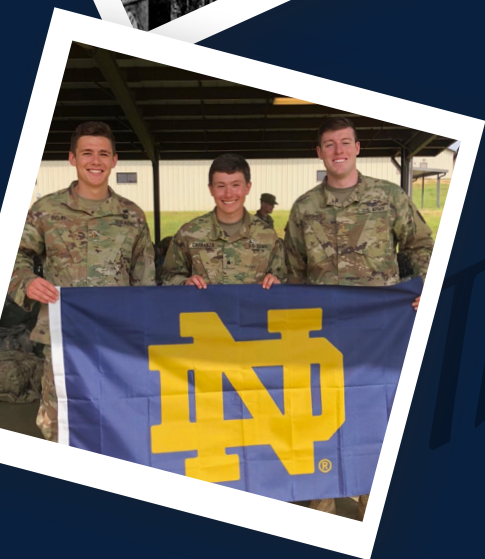
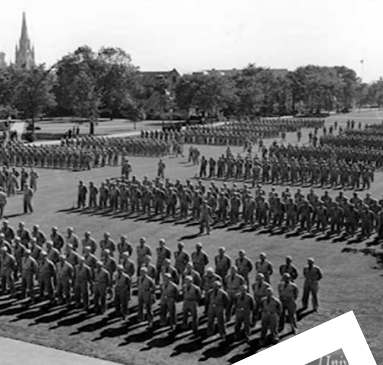
The stone lintel above the doors bears the inscription "In Glory Everlasting." Over the lintel, a carved panel with a pair of eagles flanking a shield emblazoned with the university seal, over which is the Chi and Rho of Christ's monogram.



- Father Charles O'Donnell, who later served as university president, donated his doughboy helmet as part of a memorial to the 56 Notre Dame graduates who lost their lives in the Great War. The helmet hangs as a light fixture inside the eastern door of Sacred Heart Basilica, above which read the words, God, Country, Notre Dame, the battalion's official motto.



- Following WWI, Notre Dame's involvement with the armed forces waned until the beginning of World War II. In 1941, university president Hugh O'Donnell welcomed the military back to Notre Dame, establishing the university's affiliation with ROTC. Similar to the First World War, the military presence on campus kept Notre Dame afloat at a time when thousands of young men were being sent to war.



- The end of the war saw the return of many veterans to Notre Dame, and in 1946 Vetville was established on the east side of campus to house these students and their families. Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C. created the Notre Dame Veterans Club to further assist veterans with integrating into Notre Dame's student life. Father Hesburgh also served as the chaplain of Vetville from 1945 to 1948. In 1951, the Army ROTC program arrived at Notre Dame, making it one of the first universities to host all three branches of the military. Since then, the Reserve Officer Training Corps has been an integral part of student life at the University of Notre Dame. Army ROTC alumni have served in every conflict since 1955 in which American forces have deployed.

- At Notre Dame and across the nation, the decades following the Second World War witnessed both ups and downs in terms of student involvement in the military. In 1968, at the height of the Vietnam War, students staged a protest at the annual ROTC Pass in Review. In 1986, however, students came together as Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C. dedicated the Clarke Memorial Fountain to the nearly 500 Notre Dame students killed in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. ROTC's presence has continued to make a positive impact at the University of Notre Dame, and in 1990 the program moved into its own building – Pasquerilla Center. From here, students have continued to develop as leaders and as stewards of Our Lady's University.

*The Fightin'
Irish"*



The Clarke Memorial Fountain

The Clarke Memorial Fountain dedicated in 1986 is affectionately known as “Stonehenge” by the local student population. The memorial is dedicated to approximately 500 Notre Dame alumni who died serving in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The monument consists of four large limestone arches placed within a shallow granite pool. Three columns are inscribed with the war that they commemorate, whilst the fourth arch is inscribed with “Pro Patria et Pace,” Latin for “For Country and Peace.” In addition to this, a plaque near the fourth arch contains part of a dedication speech given by President Theodore Hesburgh at the memorial’s dedication. Since September 11, 2001 the three branches of the Reserve Officer Training Corps hold a 24 hour vigil every Veterans Day, with at least one member of each service present at all times.

GOD, COUNTRY, NOTRE DAME



LESS SERVICE LEADERS
LENCE SELFLESS SERV
LESS SERVICE LEADERS
LESS SERVICE EXCELLE



NOTRE DAME
ARMY ROTC

FIGHTIN' IRISH BATTALION



Whether you're at the University of Notre Dame, Bethel University, Holy Cross College, IU South Bend, or Saint Mary's College, the Fighting Irish Battalion is consistently in the top 5% of ROTC programs nationwide and recognized for producing some of the Army's best Officers.

Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps is a college course focused on leadership training. ROTC has produced more than 500,000 Lieutenants, nearly 75% of all Army officers. The program transforms college men and women into Army officers: the most prestigious professionals who serve as leaders of one of the most respected institutions in America.

In the Basic Course, you can try Army ROTC for up to 2 years with no obligation. ROTC focuses on leadership development and includes adventure training and military skills – you'll combine classroom time with hands on experience, learning skills that will give you an edge over your peers when it comes time to look for a job. If you decide to continue in the Advanced Course, you will be agreeing to serve your country after graduation. You can choose to be an Army Officer on full-time active duty or to serve part time in the National Guard or Army Reserve while pursuing your civilian career.

Army ROTC enhances your college degree. You will gain the confidence and discipline to succeed in your classes. You will acquire leadership and management skills from our people-oriented organization. These skills will not only benefit you during college, but they will also prepare you for a lifetime of success. You will also gain opportunities to use your abilities and talents to serve others and your country. The Fightin' Irish Battalion will push you to be the kind of compassionate warrior-leader the world needs.

Program Overview

- Military Science & Leadership Lab with hands-on practical exercise each Tuesday afternoon.
- Military Science Academic class each Tuesday evening.
- New Cadet Orientation/ Field Training Exercise: August of Fall semester
- Cadet Physical Training two times per week.
- Field Training Exercise one weekend in Spring
- Paid five-week leadership evaluation camp during the summer after your junior year.
- Year-round extracurricular opportunities

Summer Military Training Opportunities:

- **Air Assault School:** Physically and mentally challenging 2 week course designed to teach air mobile operations and skills – awarded the Air Assault Badge.
- **Airborne School:** Physically and mentally challenging 3 week course designed to teach airborne operations – awarded the Airborne Badge.
- **SERE:** Survival Evasion Resistance Escape – 24 day intense training course in evading capture, survival skills, and the military code of conduct.
- **Mountain Warfare School:** Physically and mentally demanding 2 week course in mountain warfare and the specialized skills required for operating in a mountainous environment.
- **Study Abroad:** ROTC Cadets are encouraged to study abroad during their sophomore year or over the summer through Project Global Officer or Notre Dame's Global Gateways.
- **Internships:** ROTC Cadets are encouraged to participate in a myriad of university and military internships offered during their time in ROTC to complement their field of study.

Army ROTC Clubs

- **Irish Rangers:** The best Fightin' Irish Cadets compete in a military and physical skills competition against other schools from our Brigade.
- **Irish Iron:** Powerbuilding club focusing on compound lifts and improving strength and endurance by providing effect cross training to maximize performance on the Army fitness tests and at high impact events such as ruck marching
- **Color Guard:** Cadets present the nation's colors at community and sporting events.
- **Rifle Team:** Fightin' Irish Cadets receive instruction on numerous weapons systems and participate in various marksmanship challenges.
- **ATLAS:** Fightin' Irish Cadets participate in community service and outreach events on campus and in the greater South Bend area.

Opportunities Unique to the Fightin' Irish

New Cadet Orientation (NCO)/Field Training Exercise

Unlike many other programs across the country, the Fightin' Irish Battalion has a five-day long orientation course for new cadets in the days leading up to their freshman first semester. This short camp is attended by all cadets in the program, and serves primarily as a means to ensure every cadet is familiar or refreshed with Army fundamentals, to include: drill and ceremony, basic rifle marksmanship, map reading and land navigation, an Army confidence course, Field Leader's Reaction Course, and physical training.

Tri-Mil Run with University President

Each year the university president joins all three branches on a run throughout campus, ending in Notre Dame stadium afterwards for a brief address and picture opportunity.

Dixon Challenge

Near the end of every fall semester, Cadets compete against one another in a series of physical and military skills-oriented competition to determine which squad and platoon are worthy of taking home the Irish Cup.

Gettysburg Staff Ride

The Notre Dame Army ROTC Battalion's seniors take a trip to the Gettysburg National Military Park & Battlefield every year in order to complete their required staff ride graduation and commissioning requirement. Generally, each student will be assigned a role and act the part of the commanding officer as they walk the battlefield day by day and discuss each event in detail.

Annual Presidential Pass in Review

Each year in the spring semester all three branches are inspected by the university president in a formal pass in review ceremony on the South Quad, to include program specific leadership awards.



MILITARY SCIENCE & LEADERSHIP COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MSL 101 – Introduction to the Army & Critical Thinking

Introductory course within the military science curriculum consisting of eight semester long courses. The focus is on basic knowledge and understanding of Army leadership, ROTC and personal life skill development.

MSL 102 – Introduction to the Profession of Arms

Introduces students to challenges and competencies that are integral to the profession of arms and Army communication. The seven Army Values, Warrior Ethos and Profession of Arms will all be discussed, and cadets will gain practical experience with communication skills and how to apply the aforementioned concepts and ethical standards in real time.

MSL 201 – Leadership and Decision Making

In this sophomore fall semester class, Cadets will learn the basics of tactical leadership strategies and styles, as well as team dynamics and various leadership theories forming the foundation of Army leadership framework. This course will further develop knowledge of leadership attributes and increase understanding of Operations Orders, Tactical Decision making and Troop Leading Procedures

MSL 202 – Army Doctrine and Team Development

This course is the final installment of the Army ROTC Basic Course. It focuses primarily on military tactics, highlighting the impact of terrain analysis to tactical situations, the Army Warfighting Functions and provides an introduction to Unified Land Operations as well as continued instruction regarding the orders process. This course prepares cadets for progression into the Army ROTC Advanced Course and helps develop greater self-awareness as they assess personal leadership styles and communication techniques

MSL 301: Training Management & the Warfighting Functions

The first course in the Army ROTC Advanced Course creates an environment in which Cadets study, practice, and apply the fundamentals of Army Leadership, Army values, Ethics, Personal Development and small unit tactics at the platoon level. At the conclusion of this course, you will be capable of efficiently commanding a platoon or squad sized element in a variety of missions whether in the field or garrison settings. The academic course load and practical exercises are more strenuous than previous MSL courses due to required attendance at Advanced Camp in Fort Knox, KY over the summer. Success in this course will help prepare you for this important evaluation.



MSL 302 – Applied Leadership in Small Unit Operations

This course builds on the lessons introduced in MSL 301, balancing adaptability and professional competence. Various platoon operations are stressed in order to familiarize Cadets with material they can expect to execute during Cadet Summer Training. This is an academically challenging course where you will study, practice, and apply the fundamentals of Army Leadership, Army Values and Ethics, Personal Development, and small unit tactics at the platoon level. At the conclusion of this course, you will be capable of planning, coordinating, navigating, motivating, and leading a squad or platoon in the execution of a mission during a classroom practical exercise, a leadership lab, or during a leader training exercise. Successful completion of this course will help prepare you for the Leadership Development Assessment Course (Advanced Camp) at Fort Knox, KY.

MSL 401 – The Army Officer

Develops student proficiency in planning, executing, and assessing complex operations, functioning as a member of a staff, and providing performance feedback to subordinates. You are given situational opportunities to assess risk, make ethical decisions, and lead fellow ROTC Cadets. Lessons on military justice and personnel processes prepare you to make the transition to becoming an Army officer. Both your classroom and battalion leadership experiences are designed to prepare you for your first unit of assignment. You will identify responsibilities of key staff, coordinate staff roles, and use battalion events to teach, train, and develop subordinates. At the conclusion of this course, you will be able to plan, coordinate, navigate, motivate and lead a platoon in a future operational environment. Successful completion of this course will assist in preparing you for your Basic Officer Leader Course and is a mandatory requirement for commissioning.

MSL 402 – Company Grade Leadership

Develops student proficiency in the application of critical thinking skills pertaining to Company Grade leadership, officer skills, Army Values and ethics, personal development, and small unit tactics at platoon level. This course includes reading assignments, homework assignments, small group assignments, briefings, case studies, practical exercises, mid-term exam, and a Capstone Exercise in place of the final exam. For the Capstone Exercise, you will be required to complete an Oral Practicum that will evaluate your comprehensive knowledge of MSL 100-400 coursework, academic classes, Leadership Labs, and the Leadership Development Assessment Course at Fort Knox, KY. Both your classroom and battalion leadership experiences are designed to prepare you for your first unit of assignment. Successful completion of this course will assist in preparing you for your Basic Officer Leader Course and is a mandatory requirement for commissioning.

Your Commitment

ROTC is a college class. Enrolling in the ROTC Basic Course (the first two years of college) does not obligate you to service. Students are allowed to learn about the U.S. Army, service and leadership without a required commitment. You are required to contract if you receive a scholarship, or by your junior year, (the ROTC Advanced Course), and you will have an eight (8) year service commitment. Every Cadet, regardless of scholarship, has an opportunity to learn about the Army for a year without obligation of service. Until the first day of your sophomore year, scholarship Cadets can walk away no questions asked, without a commitment or repayment penalty. However, after the first day of your second year, you are obligated to an eight 8 year service commitment with the United States Army.

How to fulfill your obligation

While nothing is guaranteed in life, Cadets graduating from the University of Notre Dame generally receive their component of choice (Active Duty, U.S. Army Reserve, or National Guard).

Active Duty

Four (4) years of service. Upon completion of your Active Duty service, you have an option to remain on Active Duty or transition into the U.S. Army Reserve, National Guard or Individual Ready Reserve (IRR is dependent on the needs of the Army), for the remaining four years.

U.S. Army Reserve

Eight (8) years of service. The U.S. Army Reserve requires one weekend a month on duty, and two weeks in the summer for training. Second Lieutenants will go to the Basic Officer Leadership Course of the branch they select within the first two years after commissioning.

National Guard

Eight (8) years of service. While the service obligation is the same as the U.S. Army Reserve, it is important to note that maneuver units are exclusive to the National Guard – i.e. if you wanted to commission into Field Artillery, Infantry, Aviation or Armor and want to maintain part time status you must go into National Guard. Another important difference is that the National Guard answers to the governor of the state in which it is located, not the federal government, though they can be activated for federal duty or deployment. The National Guard requires one weekend a month on duty, and two weeks in the summer for training. Second Lieutenants will go to the Basic Officer Leadership Course of the branch they select.

Education Delay

Army Reserve Officer Training Corps students have the opportunity to delay their entry into service and attend graduate school. Available for Medical, Dental, Veterinarian and Law Schools. Upon completion of your program, you will enter Active Duty and serve in that particular specialty.

FIGHTIN' IRISH BATTALION

ARMY BRANCHING OPTIONS

Maneuver, Fires and Effects (MFE) Branches

Infantry

The Infantry encompasses positions concerned with the employment of the combined arms to close with the enemy by means of fire and maneuver in order to destroy or capture him, or repel his assault by fire, close combat, and counterattack. Infantry forces fight dismounted or mounted according to the mobility means provided. They form the nucleus of the Army's fighting strength around which the other arms and services are grouped.

Air Defense Artillery

Air Defense Artillery encompasses positions concerned with the employment of a family of Air Defense Artillery weapons in support of military land combat operations and against enemy aircraft and missile attacks. Depending upon the mission, Air Defense Artillery units are found defending the ground-gaining combat arms units or critical units/areas against enemy air attack. When not in combat, Air Defense Artillery units maintain an around-the-clock state of readiness to respond immediately to hostile action.

Armor

The Armor encompasses positions concerned with the employment of the Armor/Cavalry maneuver forces and combined arms organizations during mobile combat operations. Armor's mission is to close with and destroy the enemy using fire, maneuver, and shock action. The dynamism that distinguished the cavalry of yesteryear is now the hallmark of the Armor, the Combat Arm of Decision. Armor Officers command the World's Best Main Battle Tank, The M1A1 Abrams!

Aviation

Aviation is a combat arms branch which encompasses 80 percent of the commissioned officer operational flying positions within the Army (less those in Aviation Material Management and Medical Service Corps). Army Aviation is concerned with the accomplishment of the assigned mission to conduct prompt and sustained combat operations. Upon completion of flight training, the newly rated officer can expect leadership positions with aviation units which will be challenging.

Corps of Engineers

The Corps of Engineers is a Combat Arms Branch which also has combat support and combat service support roles. Engineer officers plan and execute missions relating to engineer support on the battlefield in light, heavy, airborne, and topographic missions. They coordinate and control all facilities and housing support at military installations. Additionally, the engineer officer serves as the Army's component to the Department of Defense (DOD) team charged with mapping, charting, geodesy, and military geographic responsibilities.

Field Artillery

The Field Artillery is the King of Battle. They are sound leaders of Soldiers as well as astute managers of the most deadly resources on the modern battlefield. They blend a knowledge of tactics and a technical expertise of many weapons systems to provide all types of fire support to the ground-gaining arms. They are experts in the capabilities of mortars, cannons, rockets, missiles, naval gunfire, and close air support.

Operations Support (OS) Branches

Chemical Corps

The Chemical Corps encompasses functions which are primarily oriented toward operations, training, scientific development, and acquisition activities in support of nuclear, biological, chemical (NBC) defense program. The Chemical Corps provides the Army with a highly trained corps of NBC defense and operational experts.

Signal Corps

Signal Corps officers must blend together combat leadership skills and technical proficiency as they plan and manage information systems that support the command and control of the Army's forces. Signal officer assignments and career opportunities are diverse and challenging. They direct and control the installation, operations, maintenance, and reconfiguration of networks of information systems for theater/tactical, strategic, and sustaining base operations and the operation of the Army portion of the global defense communications systems.

Military Intelligence Corps

Military Intelligence encompasses the application and integration of all Military Intelligence functions at both the tactical and strategic levels. Officers serving in this specialty plan, conduct, and supervise intelligence collection resources, analysis of the resultant raw intelligence information, and the production and dissemination of finished all-source intelligence in the form of briefings and written reports to the ultimate consumer, the commander.

Military Police

The Military Police Corps encompasses positions concerned with Military Police (MP) support to combat operations, law enforcement, security of U.S. Government resources, criminal investigation, and corrections. The combat support role provides a vital link in our national defense, and the MPs provide the tactical commander with a force that is highly organized, trained, and responsive to the battlefield commander. Military Police also serve as peacekeeping forces in a low-intensity conflict and provide security in war and peace to critical Army facilities and resources.

Cyber

U.S. Army Cyber Command integrates and conducts cyberspace operations, electromagnetic warfare, and information operations, ensuring decision dominance and freedom of action for friendly forces in and through the cyber domain and the information dimension, while denying the same to our adversaries.

Force Sustainment (FS) Branches

Adjutant General's Corps

Officers in the Adjutant General's Corps serve at all organization levels of the Army where they plan, develop, and operate the Army's personnel management support systems: a vital responsibility in both peace and war. Personnel systems include all life cycle functions such as personnel requisitioning, reassignments, evaluations, promotions, awards and decorations, reenlistment, casualty reporting, strength accounting, and replacement operations. Administrative systems management includes courier and postal services. As a member of the Army band, officers coordinate band activities for the command and conduct technical inspections to evaluate the operational status, capability, and proficiency of command bands.

Finance Corps

All officers commissioned in the Finance Corps (FI) serve in a variety of financial management and leadership positions in today's Army. The ultimate mission of the FI is to support the soldiers and commanders in the field and provide the Army with expertise concerning all aspects of financial management. Finance officers are required to be both technically and tactically proficient to perform their mission in wartime as well as peacetime. They must continuously develop their professional skills and knowledge in order to stay abreast of evolving doctrine and stay current in the finance and accounting profession.

Medical Service Corps

Medical service corps officers command the medical service corps that treats and helps the Soldiers and their families in a variety of areas such as behavioral sciences – social workers, clinical psychologists and counseling psychologists. Health administration services as well as laboratory sciences – biochemists, clinical laboratory officers, microbiologists and research psychologists are roles undertaken by medical service officers. Finally, there are also opportunities in optometry, pharmacy, podiatry as well as preventive medicine sciences – medical science officers, entomologists, audiologists and environmental science/engineering officers.

Ordnance Corps

The purpose of the Ordnance Corps is to develop, produce, acquire, and support weapons systems, ammunition, missiles and ground mobility material during peace and war in order to provide combat power for the U.S. Army. The Ordnance Branch encompasses all functions related to the life cycle management of its three commodities: tank/automotive materiel, munitions materiel, and missile materiel.

Quartermaster Corps

The Quartermaster Corps offers a broad spectrum of opportunities. The Quartermaster Corps officer plans and directs the activities of Army units and organizations engaged in the acquisition, receipt, storage, preservation, and issue of equipment, repair parts, fortification/construction material, subsistence, petroleum products, water, and other general supplies.

Transportation Corps

The Transportation Corps is responsible for moving supplies, troops and equipment anywhere on the globe. During war, the Transportation Corps utilizes trucks, boats and airplanes to provide extremely fast support to the combat teams on the frontlines. Transportation Officers are experts in the systems, vehicles and procedures in moving troops and supplies in the Army.

Non-Accession Branches

Special Forces

As a Special Forces Officer, you'll lead a team in missions, including counter-terrorism, direct action, foreign internal defense, intelligence gathering, and unconventional warfare. You'll have several duties, including training, resource management, mission and logistics planning, and working with U.S. and foreign government agencies.

Chaplain Corps

Since the country's inception, Army chaplains have provided religious services and guidance in times of war and peace. Today, officers in the Chaplain Corps perform or provide religious support for all Soldiers and family members. As a leader in this corps, you will serve both God and country with rewards and challenges like no other in the Army. When George Washington took command of the Continental Army in 1775, there were only 15 chaplains serving. Since that time, approximately 25,000 Army chaplains have served as religious leaders for more than 25 million Soldiers and their families. Six chaplains have earned the Medal of Honor, our military's highest awards.

Civil Affairs

As a Civil Affairs Officer, you'll act as a liaison between the Army and civilian authorities and populations. You'll perform strategic and tactical civil affairs operations and combined armed forces, both overt and covert, in peacetime or when activated for crisis or war. You'll also coordinate employment of civil affairs Soldiers at all levels of command in U.S. and multinational operations.

Judge Advocate (JAG) Corps

The Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps was established in 1775, making it the oldest law firm in the nation. As a JAG attorney and officer, you'll serve as prosecutor or defense counsel in international, operational, labor, contract, environmental, tort and administrative law. You'll provide military, state, and federal legal services for the U.S. Army and its Soldiers. You'll also have immediate experience, handling real cases and significant legal issues. To become a JAG attorney, you must first pass the Bar Exam after attending an American Bar Association accredited law school. You must also be admitted to practice law before the highest state or federal court. Those who enter the JAG Corps will receive a direct commission as a first lieutenant and will reach the rank of captain within six to nine months.

MISO

As a MISO Operations Officer, you'll be a master of persuasion and influence, and an expert in political trends, cultural trends, and attitudes of the people in your given area of operation. You'll utilize your understanding of social psychology and individual and group dynamics to influence individuals, groups, and populations.





The official title of the University is "Universitas Dominae Nostrae a Lacu."

The colors blue and gold are the colors of the Virgin to whom the University of Notre Dame is dedicated. There are various heraldic emblems symbolic of the Virgin Mother of God in addition to the colors blue and gold (heraldry: azure and gules). The star, reminiscent of the beautiful epithet Star of the Sea, was chosen as Mary's symbol for the coat of arms. At the base of the shield are two wavy broad lines of silver that represent the two lakes located on Notre Dame's campus, which are also in the University's official name, the University of Notre Dame "du Lac," (by the lake). Thus, the white star and the waves of silver become poetically expressive of the dedication of the University to the Star of the Sea.

The Cross represents the Congregation of Holy Cross (C.S.C.), whose members founded and still administer the University of Notre Dame. The open book is always emblematic of an institution of learning. The phrase "Vita, Dulcedo, Spes," taken from the ancient prayer to the Virgin, the "Salve Regina," means "our life, our sweetness, our hope." The combination of these phrases with the symbol for the University indicates the dedication of all Notre Dame's activities, intellectual, spiritual, athletic, and so on, to Our Lady.

For Army ROTC at the University of Notre Dame, the "Fightin' Irish" is an ethic more than an ethnicity. The Fightin' Irish Brigade of the Civil War, the immigrant railroad crews, priests and soldiers, farmers and builders - these important figures that came before us represent the millions of people who embody the name Fightin' Irish. Generations of hardworking men and women that fought for the privileges we have today.

GOD, COUNTRY, NOTRE DAME



Questions? Comments? Scan our QR Code or call:
Mr. Christopher D. Pratt
Contact: cpratt2@nd.edu
(574) 631-4656

Find everything Fightin' Irish Battalion by following
us on social media: [@NDArmyROTC](https://www.instagram.com/NDArmyROTC)