



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SERVICE TRAINING COMMAND
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NSTCINST 1550.1
N7
11 Apr 08

NSTC INSTRUCTION 1550.1

From: Commander, Naval Service Training Command

Subj: LANGUAGE SKILLS, REGIONAL EXPERTISE AND CULTURAL
AWARENESS (LREC) ACADEMIC MAJOR POLICY FOR NAVAL
RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (NROTC) MIDSHIPMEN

Ref: (a) DCNO (MPT&E) Memo for Superintendent, USNA and CNETC
(b) NSTCINST 1533.3
(c) SECDEF Memo for USD P&R of 13 Aug 07
(d) OPNAVNOTE 5300 of 27 Feb 08
(e) A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower of
Oct 07
(f) U.S. Navy Language, Regional Expertise, and Cultural
Awareness Strategy of Jan 08
(g) NSTCINST 1533.2

1. Purpose. To prescribe a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Language Skills, Regional Expertise and Cultural Awareness (LREC) academic major policy for select midshipmen and ensure as commissioned officers, they are instructed in LREC attributes desired by the Navy. Per reference (a), technical academic major production for Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen shall remain the primary NROTC objective. NSTC will incorporate its NROTC LREC policy into reference (b), and LREC program students shall be assigned as Tier 3 academic majors.

2. Background. Per reference (c), the Secretary of Defense has requested all military branches further encourage ROTC students to study languages listed in reference (d). References (e) and (f) emphasize the necessity to foster cultural, regional, and linguistic expertise within the Navy.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education (OPNAV N1) provides production guidance and establishes accession policy for NROTC commissioned officers.

b. Commander, Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) supports NROTC production through policy, planning and programming actions.

c. Commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) executes and achieves the requirement by implementing and sustaining an NROTC LREC program. NSTC will update strategic foreign language and cultural/regional listings; monitor program progress; direct student selection and placement; review/approve academic major and minor changes; direct and manage program attrition and sideloads; enforce midshipmen contract agreements to include recoupment and service obligations; articulate LREC policy and procedures to NROTC units; and monitor LREC midshipmen trends and overall applicant metrics. The NSTC Candidate Guidance Office will publicize the LREC program to NROTC applicants and assist applicants with selecting LREC academic programs.

d. NROTC units will maintain a current NSTC listing of approved LREC academic majors and minors; update NSTC of any academic major curricula changes; counsel and mentor midshipmen about LREC applicable academic major and minor requirements and policies; evaluate and recommend LREC academic major and minor change requests; maintain accurate records regarding student academic majors; and establish and maintain student support programs.

4. Requirements

a. NSTC will conduct an annual review of LREC academic majors and minors no later than February of each year. Updates and changes to the LREC academic majors and minors list will be recommended based on current Navy policy and forwarded to CNSTC for approval no later than May for implementation the next fall term.

b. NSTC Officer Development (OD) will annually review NROTC academic institution course catalogs to ensure academic requirements support the NROTC LREC program. Additionally, based on this review, NSTC OD will update the list of NROTC programs that offer LREC majors and minors. Colleges/ universities participating in the NROTC program may be added to or deleted from the annual LREC list of academic institutions available to NROTC applicants. Modifications to the LREC list

result from Navy LREC requirement modifications and/or changes to the institutions' curricula. Updates to the LREC list will not cause midshipmen who previously enrolled in an LREC academic major and minor to change their academic program.

c. Specific requirements

(1) Total production requirements. The goal of the LREC program is to produce 20 commissioned officers annually. If, at any point in a fiscal year's production schedule, it appears that the NROTC LREC program cannot achieve at least 20 commissioned officers, NSTC will immediately notify NETC regarding the projections and request resolution of officer production priorities.

(2) Categorical production requirements. The NROTC LREC program does not have a prescribed goal for the allocation of regions, cultures, or languages, however NSTC will promote variance in scholarship offers to encompass the regions, cultures, and languages of strategic interest to the Navy.

(3) LREC program requirements. NROTC LREC program applicants shall major in Navy-approved regions, cultures and/or languages. Midshipmen who major in a region/culture prescribed by the Navy must minor in a foreign language associated with the selected region/culture. Similarly, midshipmen who major in a foreign language prescribed by the Navy must minor in a region/culture associated with the selected language.

(4) LREC program completion. Completion of the NROTC LREC program is based on fulfilling the college's/university's academic major and minor requirements for the respective LREC program. Attainment of a specific level of language proficiency is not required by the NROTC LREC program. Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) scores shall not be linked to the LREC program degree requirements.

5. Implementation

a. During the first year of LREC program implementation, success will be dependent on the number of college-level students currently attending a designated NROTC LREC institution and enrolled in an approved LREC academic major and minor who are willing to accept a side-load NROTC scholarship along with a

military obligation. Additional students will be added via scholarship offers.

b. NSTC will currently target the seven NROTC programs listed below that offer international, regional, or cultural majors and/or strategic foreign languages. Additional programs will be considered, as appropriate.

(1) NROTC Programs:

- (a) Harvard University
- (b) Tufts University
- (c) Georgetown University
- (d) Stanford University
- (e) University of Southern California
- (f) University of Utah
- (g) Northwestern University

c. NSTC will direct midshipmen to focus on the regional and cultural areas listed below.

(1) Regional/Cultural Areas:

- (a) Middle East
- (b) Russia/Eastern Europe
- (c) Africa
- (d) Middle/Central/Latin America
- (e) East Asia/China
- (f) South Asia
- (g) Southwest Asia
- (h) Southeast Asia

d. NSTC will direct midshipmen to major or minor in the languages listed below.

(1) Foreign Languages:

Arabic	Portuguese
Cambodian	Russian
Chinese	Serbo-Croatian
French	Somali
Hebrew	Spanish
Hindi	Swahili
Indonesian	Tagalog
Japanese	Thai
Kurdish	Turkish
Malay	Urdu
Pashto	Vietnamese
Persian	

e. The earliest NSTC will be able to commission NROTC LREC program midshipmen will be the class of 2013. This assumption is based on advertising now, selecting candidates in 2008 and 2009, and accepting enrollments in Fall 2009.

6. Applicability

a. NROTC Program

(1) Four-Year Scholarship Program. Per reference (b), 85% of the incoming NROTC Navy Option Scholarship freshmen shall be technical majors and approximately 15% of NROTC Navy Option Scholarship freshmen shall be non-technical majors. The 15% non-technical Navy Option Scholarship freshmen will be the target population for the NROTC LREC program.

(2) College (Non-Scholarship) Program. NROTC Navy Option College Program midshipmen majoring and minoring in Navy approved regions, cultures, and languages shall also be a target population for the NROTC LREC program.

b. STA-21 Program. Certain NROTC STA-21 midshipmen may be eligible for the NROTC LREC program if their selected program option does not require a specific academic major and they attend a college/university that offers the NROTC LREC program.

7. Scholarship Recruiting and Application

a. NSTC shall ensure NROTC Program websites and publications include statements promoting the LREC program and display program requirements for participation. Communiqués will indicate:

(1) Scholarship activation will be contingent upon the development of a degree plan with the host NROTC unit and university and upon enrollment in the assigned academic major and minor. The approved degree plan shall be documented in the automated record (Officer Personnel Management Information System (OPMIS)), the midshipman student file, and the scholarship service agreement.

(2) The NROTC application will state the applicant is a Tier 3 academic major and list the applicant's selected region/culture program of study and language of interest.

b. To support the NROTC four-year national scholarship application cycle beginning in the spring of 2008, the web-based application will require applicants identify their desired academic major and minor. This fundamental information will be used in selection and placement of those applying to major and minor in selected LREC programs.

c. NSTC will coordinate with staff of the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command and Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command regarding information and guidance related to this policy.

8. Scholarship Selection. To facilitate achieving the annual requirement of commissioning 20 NROTC LREC program officers:

a. The NSTC draft of the precept and Navy guidance for the NROTC Continuous National Selection Board FY09 will include direction stating no fewer than 20 scholarship offers must be assigned to LREC academic majors to achieve out-year production requirements. The NSTC precept will heavily weigh the selection of LREC majors as a selection factor for Tier 3 majors by allotting those candidates more points in the selection algorithm.

b. NSTC will ensure the selection board choices for incoming Navy Option Scholarship freshmen reach a minimum of 20 students enrolled in LREC academic majors. The board report shall include specific LREC academic majors and minors for each selected scholarship candidate and alternate.

c. Selection notifications shall include LREC academic major and minor assignments and an explanation of majors and minors available within the LREC program. Notification shall also ensure selectees are advised that scholarship activation is contingent upon enrollment in the assigned major and minor.

9. Class progression

a. A minimum freshman enrollment of 20 midshipmen is set to achieve the annual requirement of 20 LREC commissioned officers.

b. Sideload scholarships will be awarded with preference given to LREC majors and minors to facilitate achieving the minimum annual requirement of 20 LREC commissioned officers.

10. Academic Major/Minor Transfer Requests. If a midshipman desires to change their academic major from an LREC major to either a technical major (Tier 1 or 2) or other non-technical major (Tier 3) during the freshman, sophomore or junior year (program policy defines these college years by a midshipman's first through third years of Naval Science), the following applies:

a. For LREC Tier 3 to Tier 1 or 2 transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes from fiscal year to fiscal year, the newest list will apply to academic major transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds semesters beyond four years by transferring academic majors, NSTC OD will evaluate the fifth year benefits application package and decide on a case-by-case basis whether costs will be covered by scholarship or incurred by the midshipman.

(3) A transfer request may be approved by the Professor of Naval Science (PNS) if that request is in the best interest of the Navy. Tier 1 and 2 academic majors are more desirable

than LREC academic majors so the rationale for change should be evaluated carefully.

(4) Process:

(a) Midshipman submits academic major change request.

(b) The PNS reviews submission to approve/disapprove the request. The PNS may disapprove the request if the major change request is not in the best interest of the Navy.

(c) PNS shall notify NSTC of approval or disapproval of the request.

b. For LREC Tier 3 to non-LREC Tier 3 transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes from fiscal year to fiscal year, the current approved list will apply to academic major transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds semesters beyond four years by transferring majors, costs will be incurred by the midshipman.

(3) Requests to transfer to a non-LREC Tier 3 academic major will be reviewed by an NSTC board convened and held as required. Boards will consist of no fewer than three officers and/or staff civilian employees, and will include representation from the following NSTC departments: Nuclear Programs, Professional Development and Student Operations. Boards will be chaired by NSTC NROTC Student Operations. If no Tier 3 non-LREC quotas are available, request packages will be reviewed with consideration given to transferring the midshipman to the College Program.

(4) Process:

(a) Midshipman submits academic major change request package for evaluation by the NROTC unit staff and review by an academic major change board. Midshipman package must include reasons for the desired change, copies of transcripts, and existing and proposed degree plans.

(b) Change requests must be submitted a minimum of one semester in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(c) NROTC unit staff reviews change request package and PNS forwards to NSTC for evaluation with appropriate endorsement. Endorsement must include comments related to the reasons for the academic major change and applicant performance (e.g., character, academic performance and course load, aptitude, etc.).

(d) Board results will be approved by CNSTC or approved designee and returned to the PNS for appropriate action.

c. For LREC Tier 3 academic minor transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes from the previous fiscal year, the newest list will apply to academic minor transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds semesters beyond four years by transferring minors, costs will be incurred by the midshipman.

(3) A transfer of academic minor request may be approved by the PNS if the new academic minor program of study remains in compliance with the educational institution's academic major degree requirements and the selected minor aligns with the region or language selected as an academic major.

(4) Requests to transfer to an academic minor not in compliance with the educational institution's academic major degree requirements and not aligning with the region or language selected as an academic major will be reviewed by a board convened and held by NSTC as required. Boards will consist of no fewer than three officers and/or staff civilian employees, and will include representation from the following NSTC departments: Nuclear Programs, Professional Development and Student Operations. Boards will be chaired by NSTC NROTC Student Operations. If no additional minors align with the midshipman's LREC academic major, request packages will be reviewed with consideration given to transferring the midshipman to the College Program.

(5) Process:

(a) Midshipman submits academic minor change request package for evaluation by the PNS and possibly review by an academic minor change board. Midshipman package must include reasons for the desired change, copies of transcripts, and existing and proposed degree plans.

(b) Change requests must be submitted a minimum of one semester in advance of the desired change to facilitate approval before execution of a new degree plan.

(c) The PNS reviews submission to approve/disapprove academic minor change request. The PNS may disapprove the request if the academic minor change request does not comply with the educational institution's academic major degree requirements or the minor does not align with the midshipman's region or language selected as an academic major.

(d) If the proposed academic minor deviates from the selected LREC academic major, NROTC unit staff will review the change request package and the PNS will forward to NSTC for evaluation with appropriate endorsement. Endorsement must include comments related to the reasons for the academic minor change and applicant performance (e.g., character, academic performance and course load, aptitude, etc.).

(e) PNS shall notify NSTC of the approval/disapproval of the request. If a board convenes, the board results will be approved by CNSTC or an approved designee and returned to the PNS for appropriate action.

d. For failure to enroll in specified courses

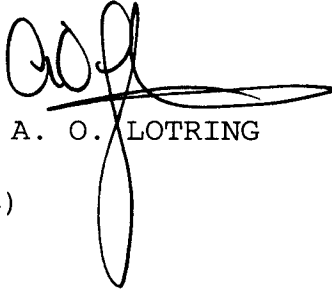
(1) If a midshipman fails to enroll in courses appropriate to the LREC academic major to which they are assigned, that action will be considered failure to be in compliance with the program requirements and appropriate, immediate action will be taken by the NROTC unit per Chapter 7 of reference (g).

(2) Freshmen NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen who depart their respective LREC major and minor and are not placed into another academic major tier will be offered the

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choice to transfer to the College Program option or disenroll from the NROTC program.

(3) NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen who have started their sophomore year, signed the NROTC Scholarship Service Agreement, but then depart their respective LREC program and academic major tier and do not follow the required process for placement into another academic major tier shall be offered the College Program option as a first choice. If the midshipman declines the College Program option, the midshipman will incur an obligation for active enlisted service or NSTC will initiate the process to recoup tuition as outlined in reference (g).



A. O. LOTRING

Distribution: (NSTCINST 5216.1B)
List 3 & 4