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Spring 2025 University Commencement Virginia Tech University, officially Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, is a reputable public research university located in Blacksburg, Virginia. Here are some of the strengths that Virginia Tech is known for academically and culturally:1. Engineering: Virginia Tech is particularly well-regarded for its engineering programs, with many of them consistently ranking among the top in the country. The College of Engineering offers numerous majors, such as Aerospace Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Electrical Engineering. 2. Architecture and Design: The College of Architecture and Urban Studies is also a standout at Virginia Tech. Programs like Architecture and Industrial Design have gained high recognition for their quality and rigorous curricula.3. Agriculture and Life Sciences: Another academic area of distinction is the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, with strong programs in fields such as Animal and Poultry Sciences, Food Science and Technology, and Plant and Environmental Sciences.4. Research: Virginia Tech has a robust research program, with students frequently participating in research opportunities across its various colleges. The school also houses several research centers, such as the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science.Culturally, Virginia Tech is known for:1. Campus Community: Known for its friendly and welcoming atmosphere, students and faculty at Virginia Tech have a strong sense of camaraderie and pride in their university. The motto "Ut Prosim" (That I May Serve) underlines the community's emphasis on service and engagement.2. Corps of Cadets: Virginia Tech has a notable military tradition through its Corps of Cadets, which offers a unique leadership and service-oriented experience for students interested in participating. Some cadets pursue careers in the military, while others opt for non-military paths after graduation.3. Athletics: As part of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the Hokies, Virginia Tech's athletic teams, regularly compete in various sports, including football, basketball, and soccer. Football games, in particular, are known for their high-energy atmosphere and are a significant part of the student experience.4. Outdoors and Recreation: With the picturesque Appalachian Mountains nearby, students have access to a myriad of outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, camping, and mountain biking. The school's commitment to outdoor recreation is evident in many on-campus resources such as the Venture Out program and the Breaks Interstate Park.I hope this helps you in understanding some of the academic and cultural aspects of Virginia Tech University. Good luck with your college search!a year ago Our WebsiteMission, Vision, and Values Mission: Anchored by our land-grant identity and the university’s motto Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), the College of Engineering educates and inspires students to be critical thinkers, innovators, and leaders. We create new knowledge, technologies, and sustainable solutions that address complex social and technical challenges. Vision: The Virginia Tech College of Engineering will be the college of choice for aspiring engineers because of our innovative, dynamic, and integrated approach to education, research, and service. Our students and alumni will be sought globally for their talent, creativity, and work ethic. The impact of our transdisciplinary research will advance the boundaries of engineering knowledge and practice. Our solutions will make a difference in the Commonwealth and the world. The Mission and Vision are informed by five Core Values: Inclusiveness: Our community supports equity and fosters respect for every individual, enabling collaboration and collegiality to permeate our classrooms, research facilities, and offices, and to extend to the broader university community. We recognize the importance of allowing every voice to be heard in a spirit of mutual respect. Excellence: We are committed to excellence through continuous improvement in our teaching, research, service and day-to-day operations. Integrity: Ethics, honesty and transparency are the foundation of all that we do. We believe in honor, discipline and a commitment to do the right thing. Perseverance: We are tenacious and believe in the value of hard work. Through resilience, teamwork and a supportive community, we become stronger and more agile, enabling us to adapt to future challenges and opportunities. Stewardship: As citizens, innovators, and leaders, we serve our communities, both local and global. We seek to be environmental stewards, believing that engineering for sustainability is critical for the future health of our world and its inhabitants. College of Engineering at-a-Glance Virginia Tech engineering students are among the best and brightest in the nation. During their time at the college, they engage with world-class faculty and participate in hands-on learning experiences that span course instruction, student design teams, internship opportunities, and study abroad programs. They learn to work across and outside disciplines to solve the world’s most complex problems, as part of a collaborative culture that has flourished at Virginia Tech. The College of Engineering offers accredited programs leading to Bachelor of Science degrees in the following areas: Aerospace Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Aerospace and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Biological Systems Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Biological and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Biomedical Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Bioengineering and Biomedical and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Building Construction which is accredited by the American Council for Construction Education, . Chemical Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Chemical, Biochemical, Biomolecular and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Civil Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Civil and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Computer Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Electrical, Computer, Communications, Telecommunication(s) and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Construction Engineering and Management which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Construction and Similarly Named Engineering Programs and is also accredited by the Applied and Natural Science Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Construction and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Computer Science which is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Computer Science and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Electrical Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Electrical, Computer, Communications, Telecommunication(s) and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Industrial and Systems Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Industrial and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Materials Science and Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Materials, Metallurgical, Ceramics and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Mechanical Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Mechanical and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Mining Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Mining and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Ocean Engineering which is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, , under the commission’s General Criteria and the Program Criteria for Ocean and Similarly Named Engineering Programs. Experiential Learning The Virginia Tech College of Engineering fosters opportunities for hands-on learning, interdisciplinary collaboration, and exploration of emerging and innovative subject areas. The Ware Lab is one of the first spaces on Virginia Tech’s campus dedicated to the development of an undergraduate engineering build space. Prior to the founding of the Ware Lab, the university’s design teams meet in multiple spaces spread across campus in various academic buildings. Thanks to the generosity and vision of Ware, multidisciplinary teams can interact in a common space. The lab removes boundaries that often separate engineering professions. In real-world practice, engineers from different disciplines will work together. Students who work in the lab are highly recruited by top-tier companies who frequent the lab looking for the well-rounded, globally minded engineers who have had hands on experiences. Further information can be found: ﷺ The Advanced Engineering Design Lab (AEDL) provides additional space for engineering teams that focus on aerospace and rocketry projects. Further information can be found: . Students can participate in Undergraduate Research and Independent Research. Undergraduate Research offers students the opportunity to work closely with a faculty member in a research lab environment or performing directed work toward a research goal. Undergraduate Research can serve as valuable preparation for graduate study. Independent Study provides students an opportunity to pursue unique, self-directed study under the supervision of a faculty member. Further information can be found at: The College of Engineering has several options for students to have a global experience. Some notable opportunities include the Rising Sophomore Abroad Program (RSAP) which provides a 2-week abroad along with a 3-credit course (ENGE 1644); international internship experiences with SPTS International, Rolls-Royce, and GoinGlobal; and department specific study abroad programs that allow students to continue progress toward degree while taking courses at a non-U.S. university. Additional information can be found at: . Approximately 75% of college of engineering students participate in a co-op or internship allowing them to experience professional work prior to completing their degree. One of the primary ways that students find these opportunities is the Engineering EXPO, a career fair organized by the Student Engineering Council (SEC) that is typically held early in the Fall semester each year. Engineering EXPO is one of the largest student-run career fairs in the nation and hosts hundreds of companies offering full-time employment or internship and co-op opportunities. Additional information on Engineering EXPO can be found at: . Many undergraduate engineering programs culminate in a capstone senior design course sequence in which student teams work under the supervision of a faculty advisor to complete a client-driven design project. Such projects replicate aspects of professional problem-solving experience, providing a transitional learning experience to help students prepare for a professional career. The college also offers an Interdisciplinary Capstone Course (ENGE 4735-4736) that brings together students from different majors to work on design projects that require multiple fields of expertise. Undergraduate Scholarships In the 2022-2023 academic year, over three million dollars in scholarship funds were awarded to undergraduate students in the College of Engineering. Scholarships are available at two levels: departmental & college. The scholarship opportunities are varied. Some require a minimum GPA for eligibility while others require a demonstration of financial need per the FAFSA. Some others have specific eligibility criteria such as in-state residency, participation in the Corps of Cadets, etc., however, the College of Engineering uses a single application process for all scholarships. More information about the types of scholarships awarded can be found at . Admission to Major All students admitted to the College of Engineering as First Time in College (FTIC) students with an intent to pursue an engineering or computer science major are placed in the Department of Engineering Education and are designated as General Engineering majors. General Engineering provides an innovative learning environment that embraces a hands-on, minds-on approach, which leverages the latest advances in educational technologies to fully engage students in the learning experience. The first-year course sequence integrates professional and technical skills to give students tools for tackling the grand challenges of the 21st century. The program introduces students to the wide range of engineering majors in the College of Engineering so that students are able to make informed decisions about their educational pathways. Further information on General Engineering can be found in the overview for the Department of Engineering Education in the undergraduate catalog. While in the General Engineering program, students will complete the courses required to matriculate to a degree-granting engineering or computer science program. Further information on the process to enter a degree-granting engineering or computer science program is available at: . Students admitted to the College of Engineering as FTIC students with an intent to pursue the Building Construction major are directly admitted to that major. All students admitted to the College of Engineering as transfer students will be directly admitted to the major indicated on their application. Transfer applications are competitive and prospective transfer students are strongly encouraged to consult the Admissions Transfer Roadmaps posted by the university to prepare themselves for success in their intended major. (Students wishing to transfer into an engineering major or change majors from another college or degree program within the university must meet current standards set by the college for each engineering program. All major changes are processed by the Director of Enrollment Management in the Academic Affairs office. The college has a guaranteed admission agreement with the Virginia Community College System. VCCS students who complete the transferable Associate Degree in engineering with a minimum 3.2 overall grade-point-average are guaranteed admission to the College of Engineering. Not all Virginia Community Colleges offer engineering courses. Please review Guaranteed Admission Agreement (posted at for specific information on this agreement. Engineering Technology credits are not accepted for transfer by the College of Engineering. Required Academic Progress and Graduation Requirements The University requires a student to maintain a 2.0 or higher overall GPA to remain in Good Academic Standing. Additionally, departments have minimum requirements for graduation, which include the attainment of at least a 2.0 Grade Point Average (averaging "C" grades or better), both overall and in-major. Some departments may have additional requirements or specifications concerning the acceptability of C- or lower grades for in-major courses. Students are expected to sustain progress towards completion of their degree requirements, consulting with their academic advisor regularly. Failure to meet the criteria for satisfactory progress towards degree (University Policy 91) can result in suspension from the major. Individual departments establish the criteria for their majors which are listed for each program in the undergraduate catalog. Although pass/fail courses may be authorized for those who maintain a GPA above 2.0, students should recognize future disadvantages when transferring to other departments or applying for admission to other professional or graduate colleges. Engineering students are expected to take all major department courses on a grade basis. The College of Engineering will accept advanced ROTC credit as free elective credit towards graduation. Some departments in engineering may allow the use of selected ROTC courses to meet technical elective requirements. Consult specific departments in the College of Engineering for information. Additional academic policies may apply. Students should also be aware of the requirements listed in the Academic Policies section of the undergraduate catalog. Degree Requirements The graduation requirements in effect during the academic year of admission to Virginia Tech apply. Requirements for graduation are listed in the undergraduate catalog. Students must satisfactorily complete all requirements and university obligations for degree completion. The university reserves the right to modify requirements in a degree program. Dean: Julia Ross Associate Dean for Academic Affairs: Keith Thompson Associate Dean for Administration and Chief of Staff: Edward L. Nelson Associate Dean for Information Technology: Glenda R. Scales Associate Dean for Graduate and Professional Studies: Holly Matusovich Assistant Dean Advancement: Jeremy Weaver The following courses are applicable to study in several departments and do not carry departmental designations. Several of the undergraduate courses listed below were developed specifically for students in both engineering and non-engineering majors with the objective of broadening the base of knowledge in cross-disciplinary areas with some background within a technology driven focus. Some of these courses were created for students living in the College of Engineering's Living Learning Communities of Hypatia and Galileo, and are restricted to those students. Others were created as part of the academic, professional and personal support services provided for engineering students. Most students will use these courses to satisfy free electives in their programs. Engineering students also may find these courses of value in broadening their perspectives regarding their fields of study and may wish to use them as free electives in their programs. Undergraduate Course Descriptions (ENGR) ENGR 1014 - Engineering Research Seminar (1 credit) Instructional Contact Hours: (1 Lec, 1 Crd) ENGR 1034 - First Year Hypatia Seminar (2 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (2 Lec, 2 Crd) ENGR 1054 - First Year Galileo Seminar (2 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (2 Lec, 2 Crd) ENGR 1984 - Special Study (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 2004A - Engineering International Activity (0 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (0 Crd) ENGR 2004E - Engineering Experiential Learning (0 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (0 Crd) ENGR 2004R - Engineering Undergraduate Exploratory Activity (0 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (0 Crd) ENGR 2004S - Engineering Service Learning (0 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (0 Crd) ENGR 2044 - Second-Year Galileo and Hypatia Seminar (1 credit) Prerequisite(s): ENGR 1034 or ENGR 1054 Instructional Contact Hours: (1 Lec, 1 Crd) ENGR 2164 - Introduction to Scieneering (1 credit) Instructional Contact Hours: (1 Lec, 1 Crd) Course Crosslist: COS 2164 ENGR 2464 - Engineering Fundamentals for Scientists (2 credits) Prerequisite(s): ENGR 2164 or COS 2164 Instructional Contact Hours: (2 Lec, 2 Crd) ENGR 2974 - Independent Study (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 2984 - Special Study (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 2984G - Special Study (1-19 credits) Pathway Concept Area(s): 7 Identity & Equity in U.S. Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 2994 - Undergraduate Research (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 3044 - Third-Year Galileo and Hypatia Seminar (1 credit) Prerequisite(s): ENGR 2044 Instructional Contact Hours: (1 Lec, 1 Crd) ENGR 3124 - Introduction to Green Engineering (3 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd) ENGR 3954 - Study Abroad (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 3984 - Special Study (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 4064 - Scieneering Capstone (3 credits) Prerequisite(s): ENGR 2464 or BIOL 2124 Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd) Course Crosslist: COS 4064 ENGR 4134 - Environmental Life Cycle Assessment (3 credits) Prerequisite(s): ENGR 3124 Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd) ENGR 4974 - Independent Study (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 4984 - Special Study (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 4994 - Undergraduate Research (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course ENGR 4994H - Undergraduate Research (1-19 credits) Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course Popularly known as Virginia Tech, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is a land-grant university located in Blacksburg, Virginia. Although the institution was founded in 1872 as an agricultural and mechanical land-grant college, Virginia Tech is currently known as a research university. The school now boasts the largest full-time student population in the state of Virginia. The main Virginia Tech campus is located in New River Valley in the Appalachian Mountains in southwestern Virginia. It is just a few miles from the Jefferson National Forest. Virginia Tech offers roughly 65 bachelor’s degree programs through its seven undergraduate academic colleges. Roughly 145 master’s and doctoral degrees are available through the graduate school, and Virginia Tech students can also earn a professional degree from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. Virginia Tech was ranked 69th among national universities and 30th among national public universities by the U.S. News and World Report’s Best Colleges 2011 edition. Various Virginia Tech programs and colleges have also received several other distinct honors. The College of Engineering undergraduate program was recently ranked 13th in the nation and the Pamplin College of Business was ranked 42nd among the nation’s undergraduate business programs. Virginia Tech operates on the traditional semester academic calendar. A few of the most popular majors offered at are engineering; business, management, marketing, and related support services; family and consumer sciences/human sciences; social sciences; and biological and biomedical sciences. Popular fields of study include agriculture, architecture, business, journalism, and computer and information sciences. Virginia Tech is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award doctorate, masters, baccalaureate, and associate degrees. Virginia Tech is designated a senior military college by federal law because it is one of few public universities in the U.S. that maintains a corps of cadets. The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, or VTCC, is the military component of the Virginia Tech student body. The Corps of Cadets receives an intensive military and leadership educational experience much like the one that students receive at the U.S. military academics. The Virginia Tech cadets live together in dorms and wear a distinctive uniform while on campus. The Highty-Tighties is the award-winning Regimental Band of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. Since its inception in 1893, the group has won over 120 first-place trophies and one second-place trophy in 130 marching competitions. The Highty-Tighties have marched in 11 inaugural parades, most recently that of President Barack Obama. Prospective students can apply for admissions to Virginia Tech and on the school’s official website. A nominal application fee is required. Applicants are encouraged to have earned at least four credits in English; three credits in math; two credits in science, and three credits in a foreign language. Students applying for regular decision admissions should apply by January 15. Regular decision applicants will be notified of their status by April 1. Students applying for early decision should apply by November 1. Early decision applicants will be notified of their status by December 15. Graduate students, transfer students, international students, and all other students that are not traditional incoming undergraduates are encouraged to learn about specific requirements from the Virginia Tech admissions office. Campus visits are recommended and admissions interviews are not required, although they are available. Admissions information sessions are available every day that the university is open, and student-led walking tours are available whenever classes are in session. Students and parents are encouraged to check with the admissions office prior to visiting campus to obtain up-to-date schedule information. It’s important to note that the summer months are the most popular time of year for campus visitors, which often leads to very large tour groups. Virginia Tech offers some type of financial assistance to over 60% of students, and all undergraduates are encouraged to apply for financial aid. Financial aid opportunities are available to USC students in the form of scholarships, loans, grants, and the Federal Work Study (FWS) program. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of student qualifications. They usually require an application process. Scholarships are helpful because they do not have to be repaid. Several types of loans from the federal government are available to Virginia Tech students, based on their unique financial situation. Loans must be repaid after a student graduates or leaves school. Grants, like scholarships, do not have to be repaid. Grants are awarded on the basis of a student’s financial need. Federal Work Study (FWS) is a program that offers part-time employment to eligible students. Tuition waivers and graduate assistantships are two other unique financial aid opportunities for Virginia Tech students. Detailed information is available from the Financial Aid office. In order to be eligible for financial aid at Virginia Tech, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after it becomes available online after January 1 each year. This application is required for both federal and state financial aid programs. The majority of Virginia Tech students are enrolled full-time, and the study body is comprised of unique students that come from all walks of life. Virginia Tech prides itself on allowing students to meet and mingle with “Students Like You, Only Different.” A vast majority of traditional students reside on-campus in co-ed or single sex residence halls or Greek housing. As of summer 2011, Virginia Tech boasts over 600 student clubs and organizations ranging from Abundant Life Student Ministries to the Animal Nutrition Club and the Boxing Club and the Economics Club. Students are encouraged to participate in groups and events on campus. The Virginia Tech Hokies participate in the NCAA’s Division I in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The school joined the Atlantic Coast Conference in 2004 after leaving the Big East conference. The school’s mascot, the Hokie Bird, is a turkey-like creature and the school’s official colors are Chicago maroon and burnt orange. Popular sports include baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, football, men’s and women’s soccer, and softball. Tech Triumph is the Virginia Tech fight song. It was first performed in 1919 and is popular to this day. Blacksburg is the largest incorporated town in the state of Virgina by population, which was just over 39,000 as of the 2000 U.S. Census. The town is economically and demographically dominated by the presence of Virginal Tech. The three towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg and Radford comprise the Blackburg-Christiansburg-Radford metropolitan area, which is one of the fastest-growing metro areas in the state. Although summers in Blacksburg are typically warm and humid, the average temperature ranges from 30 degrees in January to 71 degrees in July. The town is easily accessed by both US-460 and I-81, major roads for travel. Blacksburg Transit, or BT, provides bus transportation to and from Virginia Tech. Both students and faculty can ride BT for free by presenting their school ID cards. The Smart Way Bus is a regional bus service that provides connecting travel between Virginia Tech, downtown Blacksburgs, Christiansburg, and the Roanoke Regional Airport, which makes it convenient for students. Another popular transportation option for students is U Car Share, which offers a car-sharing service around the Virgina Tech campus. Notable Virginia Tech alumni include: Homer Hickam, author of Rocket Boys, which was later renamed October Sky with a movie of the same name Jayma Mays, actress, best-known for her role as Emma Pillsbury on Glee Ed Clark, NASCAR President of Atlanta Motor Speedway Kylene Barker, Miss America 1979 Doug Fritz, NASCAR President of Richmond International Raceway Mike Aubrey, Class of 1996, real estate expert and co-host of HGTV’s Real Estate Intervention Tyrod Taylor, quarterback for the Baltimore Ravens Rashad Carmichael, cornerback for the Houston Texans Virginia Tech made worldwide headlines during the spring of 2007, when senior English major Seung-Hui Cho killed 32 people and wounded 25 others before committing suicide during two separate attacks. The Virginia Tech massacre is considered the deadliest shooting incident by a single gunman in U.S. history, and the event drew criticism of privacy laws which had prohibited the school from being made aware of the fact that Cho had been diagnosed with a severe anxiety order. As such, the state of Virginia was prompted to modify laws and close legal loopholes which allowed mentally unsound individuals to purchase handguns without a background check as well as the passage of the first major federal gun control measure in over a decade. On the first anniversary of the attack and in years since, the Queens’ Guard of The College of William and Mary, located in Williamsburg, Virginia, has memorialized the victims with an honor guard at the head of the college’s Sunken Garden. McGrath, Anne, ed. U.S. News & World Report: Ultimate College Guide. Naperville, Illinois: Sourcebooks, Inc., 2010. Print. Spotlight on Impact. Virginia Tech. Web. 2 July 2011. Virginia Tech. Web. 2 July 2011. This website and its associated pages are not affiliated with, endorsed by, or sponsored by this school. StateUniversity.com has no official or unofficial affiliation with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. We feature information about all Universities and Colleges in the United States. Specifically, we bring information about state universities across the country to your fingertips. Read about Financial Aid, Academics, Athletics, and more! The site lists college rankings, an online university degree search, and comprehensive profiles for every state university. Also, you can receive information about obtaining an online university degree so you can study from home. Take a look at Financial Aid plans, Student Loan consolidation, etc. We provide an excellent resource for you to research your favorite university. We've been mentioned or featured in the following: USA Today, CNBC's Sites of the Day, Huffington Post, Minneapolis Star Tribune, Clarion Ledger News, Bristol Herald-Courier, WHSV-TV, Minnesota Daily, and more! Colleges in the United States that offer military ROTC programs In the United States, a senior military college (SMC) is one of six colleges that offer military Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs under 10 U.S.C. § 2111a(f), though many other schools offer military Reserve Officers' Training Corps under other sections of the law. The six senior military colleges are: Norwich University, in Northfield, Vermont Texas A&M University, in College Station, Texas The Citadel Military College of South Carolina, in Charleston, South Carolina University of North Georgia, in Dahlonega, Georgia Virginia Military Institute, in Lexington, Virginia Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Virginia Under Army regulations, an SMC must meet certain criteria:[1] Bachelor's degrees must be granted. All physically fit undergraduate students must take courses in military training. Exceptions to this requirement include foreign nationals, prior-service personnel, females not participating in ROTC, and students who are granted exemptions by a Professor of Military Science. The school must establish a corps of cadets in which all cadets wear military uniforms when on campus. The corps of cadets involves a military environment in which the students live constantly, not just during the school day, and in which the students are subject to military discipline. The SMC must have as an objective the development of character through military training and the regulation of cadet conduct according to principles of military discipline (a cadet code of conduct). The SMC must maintain military standards similar to those of the federal service academies. Federal law currently prohibits the Department of Defense from requiring a policy in SMCs that mandates female students' participation in the ROTC programs.[2] Cadets at an SMC are authorized to take the ROTC program all four years, but taking a commission upon graduation remains optional, unlike other colleges where ROTC cadets are required to sign a contract to take commission before entering their final two years. Under both Army Regulation (AR) 145-1 and federal law, the ROTC programs at the senior military colleges are treated differently from those at other schools.. Unlike ROTC programs elsewhere, the Department of Defense is prohibited from closing or reducing the ROTC programs at an SMC, even during time of war (full or total mobilization). The Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of the military departments may not take or authorize any action to terminate or reduce a unit of the Senior ROTC at a SMC unless the termination or reduction is specifically requested by the college[3] and Army "[SMC] ROTC programs will continue at an accelerated rate as directed."[1] In contrast with other colleges and universities: "Under full or total mobilization, the Secretary of the Army may withdraw the ROTC detachments without giving prior notice to the academic institution. The establishment of new SROTC detachments will not be authorized after full mobilization has been declared." All Military Science IV cadets at the SMCs will be commissioned and directed to attend the proper Officers Basic Course (OBC). At other colleges, ROTC programs will be suspended and the cadet will immediately be available for reassignment.[4] Another distinction of the SMC system is that all cadets at the SMCs are guaranteed active duty commissions when they graduate: The Secretary of the Army shall ensure that a graduate of a SMC who desires to serve as a commissioned officer on active duty upon graduation from the college, who is medically and physically qualified for active duty, and who is recommended for such duty by the Professor of Military Science at the college, shall be assigned to active duty. This section is empty. You can help by adding to it. (December 2022) Air Force Reserve Officer Training Course requires all airmen to receive a bachelor's degree, pass the PT test and complete field training. Main article: Norwich University The Military College of Vermont, the oldest senior military college and the "Birthplace of ROTC",[5] Norwich University is a private university located in Northfield, Vermont. Founded in 1819 at Norwich, Vermont, as the American Literary, Scientific and Military Academy, it is the oldest[6] of the non-federal Military Academies and currently only private military college in the United States. It is home to both a corps of cadets and a traditional civilian student population.[7] Main article: University of North Georgia Further information: History of the University of North Georgia The University of North Georgia (UNG), also known as The Military College of Georgia, is located in Dahlonega, Georgia. Since its creation in 1873 as North Georgia Agricultural College, the college required undergraduate resident males to participate in the Corps of Cadets (the corps was optional for resident undergraduate females and all commuting or graduate students). North Georgia was also the first SMC to admit women into the Corps of Cadets.[8] The school has a large United States Army ROTC program and is the only senior military college without Navy/Marine Corps and Air Force programs.[9][10][11][12][13][14] Students are no longer required to enroll in the military program.[15] Main article: Texas A&M University Further information: History of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets Texas A&M University was established under the Morrill Act of 1862, and cadets began classes in 1876.[16] During World War II, Texas A&M produced 20,229 students who served in combat. Of those, 14,123 served as officers: more than the combined total of the United States Naval Academy and the United States Military Academy.[17] Texas A&M has grown rapidly since the 20th century and is now one of the largest universities by enrollment in the United States. With an enrollment of 64,961 students,[18] of which approximately 2,560 are cadets.[19] In 2018, more than 220 cadets were commissioned as officers.[20] Main article: The Citadel The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, is a state-supported, comprehensive college located in Charleston, South Carolina, which was established in 1842. The Citadel enrolls approximately 2,250 cadets in the South Carolina Corps of Cadets and another 2,000 civilian graduate and undergraduate students in The Citadel Graduate College. The Citadel also offers 8 online degree programs.[21] In 2017, for the seventh consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report ranked The Citadel as the No. 1 regional public college in the South among those that offer master's degrees.[22] Members of the Cadet Corps are required to be enrolled in ROTC and approximately one third are commissioned into the six military services. Active duty Marine and Navy personnel also attend cadet classes as part of the MECEP (Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program) and Seaman to Admiral (STA-21) programs which commission highly qualified NCOs; the MECEP program originated at The Citadel in 1973.[23][24] Main article: Virginia Military Institute Founded in 1839 in Lexington, Virginia, the Virginia Military Institute is the oldest state military college in the United States.[25] VMI has been called the "West Point of the South" because of its role during the Civil War and unlike any other senior military college in the United States, VMI enrolls military cadets only and awards bachelor degrees exclusively. Next to West Point, VMI has graduated more Army generals than any other college or university in the United States of America. In addition to the accomplishments of its graduates in civilian endeavors, VMI is the only military college in the United States to graduate the highest ranking four-star generals across three services: Two Marine Corps Commandants, Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. and Randolph M. Pate, and Chiefs of Staff of the Army, George C. Marshall and the Air Force, John P. Jumper. VMI is also the only SMC in the United States to graduate a five-star general: General of the Army George C. Marshall.[26][nb 1] Main article: Virginia Tech Further information: Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), located in Blacksburg, Virginia, is one of only two major public universities to host a senior military college as part of a larger civilian university. The Corps of Cadets has existed since Virginia Tech's 1872 founding; membership was mandatory for all male students during their entire term at the school until 1924 when the requirement was reduced to two years. After World War II, prior-service students were not required to enter the Corps, and in 1964 Corps membership was made voluntary for all non-ROTC students. Women had attended as civilian students since 1921, and they were admitted into the Corps of Cadets in 1973, before the service academies.[27] Members of the Corps may participate in one of two tracks: the Military-Leader Track in one of the three nationally distinguished ROTC programs leading to an officer's commission or the Citizen-Leader Track to serve in the public or private sectors after graduation.[28] Graduates of the six SMCs, as well as Mary Baldwin University, Massachusetts Maritime Academy and Prairie View A&M University, are allowed to commission into the U.S. Coast Guard under the Direct Commission Selective School (DCSS) program.[29] Citations ^ a b "AR 145-1 (Reserve Officers' Training Corps)" (PDF). Army Regulation. United States Army. 6 September 2011. Retrieved 10 December 2022. ^ 10 U.S.C. § 2009(b) ^ "10 USC 2111a(d)". United States Code. Legal Information Institute at Cornell University Law School. Retrieved 1 October 2012. ^ Maria OCadiz. 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Informational notes ^ The following Americans have been promoted to five-star rank or above: • General of the Armies John J Pershing 3 September 1919 • Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy 15 December 1944 • General of the Army George Marshall 16 December 1944 • Fleet Admiral Ernest King 17 December 1944 • General of the Army Douglas MacArthur 18 December 1934 • Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz 19 December 1944 • General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower 20 December 1944 • General of the Army & Air Force Henry H. Arnold 21 December 1944 & 7 May 1949 • Fleet Admiral William Halsey, Jr. 11 December 1945 • General of the Army Omar Bradley 20 September 1950 • General of the Armies George Washington 4 July 1976a The timing of the first seven appointments established both a clear order of seniority and a near-equivalence between the Army and Navy services. In 1949, Arnold was honored by being made the first, and to date only, General of the Air Force. He is the only American to serve in a five-star rank in two of its military services. Of these generals, only Marshall and Washington did not graduate from one of the service academies. Washington never graduated from college and Marshall graduated from VMI. By a Congressional Act of 24 March 1903, Admiral George Dewey's rank was established as Admiral of the Navy, a rank which was specified to be senior to the four-star rank of admiral and was equal to admiral of the fleet in the British Royal Navy. Admiral Dewey was the only individual ever appointed to this rank, which lapsed with his death on 16 January 1917. ^a During the United States Bicentennial year, George Washington was posthumously appointed to the grade of General of the Armies of the United States by the congressional joint resolution Public Law 94-479 passed on 19 January 1976, with an effective appointment date of 4 July 1976. This restored Washington's position as the most senior U.S. military officer. Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States Retrieved from " Spring 2025 University Commencement Virginia Tech, located in Blacksburg, Virginia, is a public research university known for its academic excellence and significant contributions to education, research, and innovation. Established in 1872, the university has a rich history of providing high-quality education and conducting cutting-edge research across various fields. The main campus of Virginia Tech, spanning over 2,600 acres, offers a beautiful and expansive environment conducive to learning and research. The university operates on a semester-based academic calendar and is home to numerous academic colleges and schools. These include the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Architecture and Urban Studies, College of Engineering, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, College of Natural Resources and Environment, College of Science, Pamplin College of Business, and the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. With a strong commitment to research and innovation, Virginia Tech consistently ranks among the top national universities in the United States. The university’s programs, resources, and faculty expertise ensure that students have access to an exceptional educational experience. Virginia Tech offers various majors and academic disciplines, providing students with diverse opportunities to explore their interests and prepare for future careers. The student-to-faculty ratio at Virginia Tech supports a personalized learning experience, with most classes having a manageable size, allowing for meaningful interactions between students and professors. This enables students to engage in discussions, receive individualized guidance,