



Penn State Army ROTC Parent Brief





Professor of Military Science

LTC Daniel Gross



PMS Information

- Introduction
- Educate / Train / Mentor
- Cadets are adults – AND – University students; require close adherence to requisite privacy laws/policies
- Getting Cadets through the first year:
 - Peer counseling: academic, fitness, time management, social settings; part of team right now
 - Cadet Chain of Command is invested in their welfare and continued success
 - Many junior/senior mentors, that are outside the Cadet Chain of Command
 - Invested/Experienced Cadre (225+ yrs) with access to University and Army resources
 - Above all, encourage **SELF-ADVOCACY**
- Contact me if you have concerns regarding the safety or welfare of your son/daughter.
 - LTC Daniel Gross
 - djg6131@psu.edu
 - 814-863-0368
- Parent Collaboration: Facebook > Penn State ROTC Parents Page



NLB Cadets

Cadet Gabe Daubert (MSL III)

Cadet Madison Wright (MSL II)

Cadet Nicole Evans (MSL IV)



The Nittany Lion Battalion

- The NLB is a Cadet led program whose mission is to *train college men and women to become efficient Leaders, Scholars, and eventually, commissioned Officers in the United States Army, Army National Guard, and United States Army Reserve.*
- Penn State Army ROTC is one of 42 Battalions in the US Army Cadet Command's 2nd "Freedom" Brigade.
- Today, the NLB proudly boasts over **230 Cadets** who call Penn State and it's AROTC program home.
 - The NLB consists of three Companies here at the Main Campus





Military Science Level (MSL) Courses

- Military Science Courses are held **2x per week, every week**, for the duration of the semester.
 - There are 3 course offerings at:
 - 0905-1020
 - 1035-1150
 - 1205-1320
- Military Science Lectures for MSIs cover the following:
 - Basic Customs & Courtesies
 - Individual & Squad Level Movement Formations
 - Army Values & Leadership Behavior
 - Map Reading & Land Navigation
 - The Army Problem Solving Process
 - Troop Leading Procedures
 - And more...

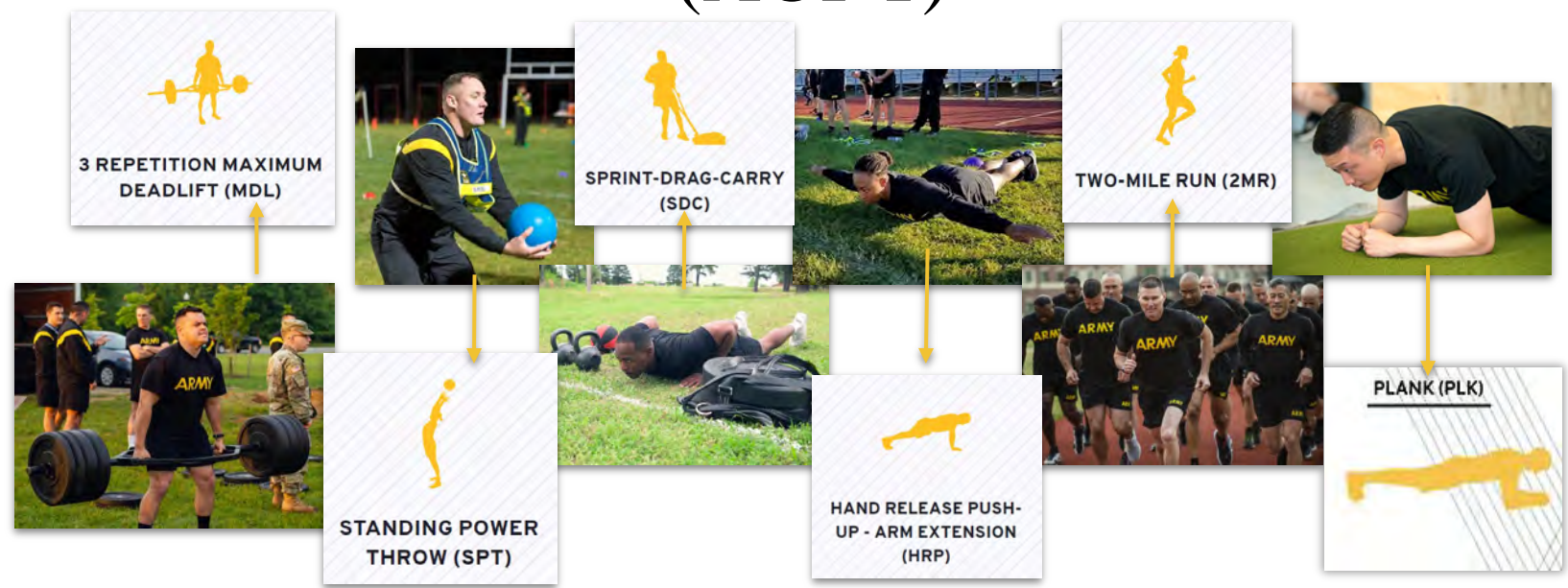


Physical Readiness Training (PRT)

- As part of the Army ROTC curriculum, Cadets are required to participate in Physical Readiness Training (PRT) **3x per week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** from 0550 to 0700.
 - College athletes, as long as they meet ACFT and Army Height/Weight standards, are excused from PRT to conduct athletic training with their respective teams.
- Cadets will take the **Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT)** a minimum of 1x per semester.
 - Until it is officially implemented, the ACFT is not factored into the overall Army grade for MSIs and MSIIIs.



The Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT)





Leadership Labs

- Army Leadership Labs are designed give Cadets hands-on training that builds on skills and knowledge developed during lectures.
 - These labs are conducted **weekly** from 1535 to 1730, for the duration of the semester.
- Leadership Lab training consists of the following:
 - Land Navigation
 - Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC)
 - Squad and Platoon Level Light Infantry Tactics
 - Team Building
 - Weapon Theory and Familiarization
 - Drill and Ceremony
 - Room Clearing
 - Communications and ASIP Radio Operations
 - Individual, Squad, and Platoon Level Movement Techniques & Formations







Field Training Exercises

- The NLB conducts one Field Training Exercise (FTX) during the Fall semester, and one Combined Field Training Exercise (CFTX) during the Spring Semester.
 - Our FTX lasts **3 days and 2 nights** and is conducted on campus at AO Lion during the month of September.
 - The CFTX lasts **4 days and 3 nights** and is conducted at Fort Indiantown Gap during the month of April.
- Each FTX/CFTX gives Cadets a chance to **put their learned skills to the test.**
- **MSI/MSII** FTX/CFTX Tasks include:
 - Night/Day Land Navigation
 - Squad Level Light Infantry Tactics and Movement Formations
 - Team Building & Critical Thinking Exercises
 - Grenade Theory & Practicums
 - Communication
 - Field Garrison: Roles & Responsibilities
 - Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC)
- Each MSL has a different FTX/CFTX experience. For a quick glance into an FTX as an MSI/MSII, click on the link below!
 - <https://youtu.be/p6VfdUTqell>





Army Extracurriculars

- The NLB is host to **six different clubs**, each encompassing different goals that benefit both the program and the individuals that participate.

- NLB Clubs

- Kaizen
- Cadet Relations Team
- Running Club
- Ranger Challenge
- General Brito Club
- Lion's Guard
- Tactics Club







Cadet Summer Training (CST)

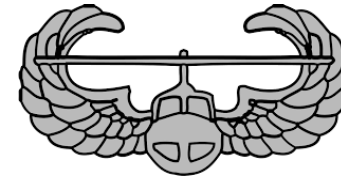
- Advanced Camp is a 35-day training required by Cadet Command for commissioning
- Located in Fort Knox, Kentucky
- Cadets will attend Advanced Camp between their MSIII and MSIV year
- CDT's skills, knowledge, and interpersonal skills will be tested and applied during the course of this training





Summer Training Opportunities

- Project GO
- Army Internships
- CTLT
- Army Professional Development Schools







Military Science Instructor

CPT Jonathan Berry



Common Issues

- Uniform/Appearance Standards
- Customs and Courtesies Issues
- Grades
 - Mid-semester grade report
 - Social Greek Organization Policy
- Major Changes
 - Ramifications
 - Process
- Peer Interactions
- Attendance
- Conduct
 - Drinking
 - Attitude



Scholarship and Enrollment Officer

Mr. David Rizzo



NLB Statistics / Metrics

Contracted/Pending Cadet Performance						
Military Science Level	Performance		STEM Majors		Scholarship %	
	Avg. GPA	Avg. APFT	# STEMs	% of Msn	Scholarships	% of CDTs
MSL 5/C	2.87	508	12	52%	11	48%
MSL 4	3.43	524	24	39%	54	87%
MSL 3	3.34	527	22	37%	54	90%
MSL 3	3.25	539	23	39%	44	75%
Average	3.31	532	81/221	37%	163	74%



National Scholarship Winners Pathway to Contracting

- 4yr Winners
 - Most have already started the process
- 3 YR AD
 - Scheduled to contract in Fall 2025; start process now (typical delays)
 - Must remain eligible

Physical Qualification

- DODMERB

- o Waivers constantly worked
- o Long-term issues may require retroactive benefits (**must remain administratively eligible**)

o 3425-R required for non-qualified Cadets

- ACFT

- o Must pass IOT contract
- o Some 4yr winners passed during NSO
- o Battalion has one scheduled for 2x weeks from now

Administrative Preparation / Enrollment

- Required Documents

- o Copy Birth Certificate
- o Copy Social Security Card
- o Selective Service #
- o Copy Passport
- o Dentist Information
- o Direct Deposit Information
- o SF-86 (Security Clearance)
- o **104-R Academic Planning**

- More Paperwork to Come!!!

Official Contracting

- 'Contracting **Recognition Ceremony**' vs 'Contracted'

- **Scheduled paperwork session with NLB HRA**

- **Benefits come shortly after Contracting Day (don't wait for book money)**



Scholarship/Contracting Eligibility

- Citizenship
- GPA Requirement:
 - Scholarship = 2.5 Cumulative AND/OR Semester GPA
 - Non-Scholarship = 2.0 Cumulative AND/OR Semester GPA
- Pass the ACFT
- Meet the Army Height/Weight Standard
- DODMERB Qualified
- Full-time student
- Honorable Discharge (if applicable)
- **Civil Convictions / Legal Issues**
 - All legal issues MUST be disclosed, regardless of expungement or case dismissal
 - This is primarily a Security Clearance issue
 - No faster way to drop on the Order of Merit list



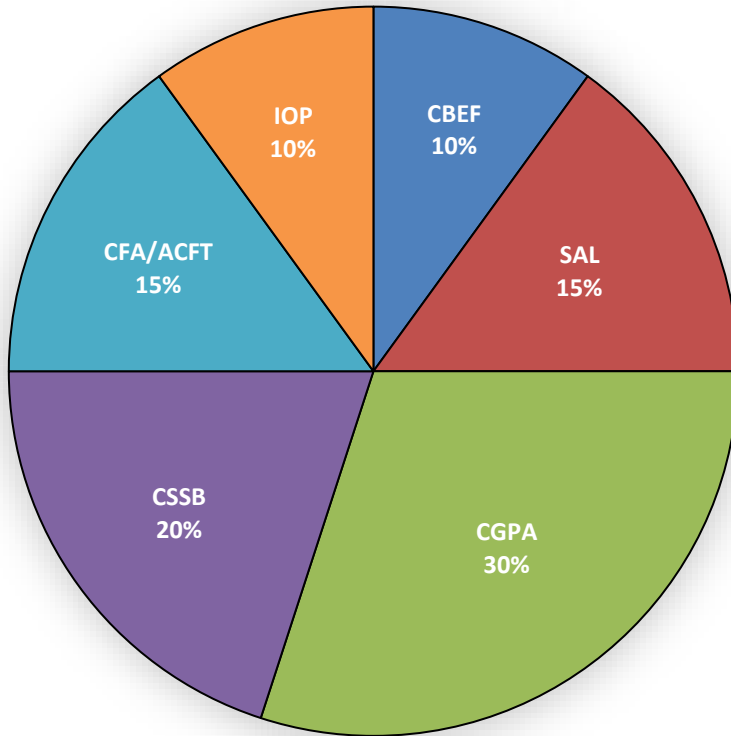
Campus Based Prospects Pathway to Contracting

- Freshmen/Sophomore Campus Based Scholarships
- **Post-Contracting Scholarship Program (PCSP)**
- Scholarship Board Process
- Additional Scholarship Opportunities
 - Minuteman Scholarships (ARNG/USAR)
 - Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP)
 - Contracting Non-Scholarship
- Dynamic & Changing
- Four/Three/Two Year Scholarships
- Scholarship Benefits:
 - 100% of tuition and mandatory fees (facilities fee, activities fee, technology fee)
 - \$1,200 for Books
 - Monthly Stipend \$420



Campus Based Evaluative Criteria

NLB Whole Person Score



- Scholar, Athlete, Leader (SAL) Points
 - Qualitative evaluation of extra-curricular activities
 - Based on USACC Scoring system
 - First semester Freshmen ONLY use HS activities
 - Upperclassmen ONLY use college activities
- Contracting/Scholarship Selection Board (CSSB)
 - Develops Battalion Order of Merit List (OML); informs contracting and/or scholarship decisions
 - 5x Board Members (Field Grade Officer, Company Grade Officer, Senior NCO, University Staff, Senior Cadet)
 - Regularly scheduled at beginning of each semester (ad hoc boards conducted, when necessary)
 - Cadets only compete against peers in graduating cohort
- Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)
 - Upperclassmen use ONLY college CGPA
- Cadet Fitness Assessment/Army Combat Fitness Assessment (CFA/ACFT)
 - **Most recent** fitness test administered by NLB
 - Coordinate with Cadre, if score is not available
 - Score is based on percentage of max of respective grading scale
- Instructor Observation Points (IOP)
 - Subjective evaluation of Cadets by NLB Cadre member
 - Score based on direct observations, using uniform criteria
- Cadet Background Experience Form (CBEF)
 - USACC Questionnaire



Spring 2024 Order of Merit List

Upperclassmen

Penn State Nittany Lion Battalion OML - Spring 2024															Raw Administrative Scores							OML Score	
Demographic Information															Raw Administrative Scores							OML Score	
Ran	PSU ID #	Camp	Residen	Comm Datr	Msn S	CCIMM Major	ADM	STEM	Line	ARNG GRFI	USAR GRFI	Nurs	Medical Status	CGPA	AGPA	ACFT	CSSF	SAL Activiti	Instructor Ra	Instructor Points	CBEF	OML Score	
1	933289943	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026	FINANCE GENERAL	2	No	X				DODMERB Pending	3.74	3.74	534	3.90	10.50	42/65	4	10	78.00	
2	966690175	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026	Masters - Education		No		X			DODMERB Qualified	3.31	3.31	568	2.97	35.00		7	6.53	77.44	
3	945160532	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026	Economics		No	X				DODMERB Pending	3.10	3.10	540	2.97	20.00		10	6.53	74.16	
4	966160556	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026	ENGR CIVIL	4	Yes	X				No Status	2.62	2.88	521	3.00	10.00	56/65	2	9	64.64	
5	946831046	UP	R	8-May-2026	2026	Business?		No	X				No Status	3.49	3.49	460	3.30	8.25	60/62	1	6.53	64.41	
6	935997193	UP	NR	15-May-2026	2026	ENGR CIVIL	4	Yes		X	X		DODMERB Pending	3.03	3.33	494	3.10	13.25	49/62	3	2	61.75	
7	999487466	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026	HORTICULTURE	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	2.70	2.70	467	2.40	5.00	29/65	6	7	59.53	
8	904604739	UP	NR	16-May-2025	2025	HISTORY	1	No	X				DODMERB Qualified	2.64	2.64	449	2.70	6.50	46/60	3	6.53	57.36	
9	908284756	UP	NR	15-May-2026	2026	CRIMINOLOGY	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	2.29	2.29	450	2.70	16.00	61/62	1	7	55.23	
10	907372780	UP	R	8-May-2026	2026	CRIMINOLOGY	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	2.69	2.69	497	2.20	3.00		3.65	5	55.05	
11	916112362	UP	NR	15-May-2026	2026	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	2.96	2.96	466	1.80	0.00	60/62	1	8	50.05	
12	962958583	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026			No	X				No Status	3.42	3.42	497	2.00	17.50		3.65	6.53	38.61	
13	980525268	UP	R	15-May-2026	2026	NO MAJOR	1	No			X		DODMERB Pending	2.06	2.06	460	1.90	0.00	62/62	1	1	36.55	
		Incoming Cadet																					
																							Score unavailable and/or substitute metric applied

First-Year Students

Penn State Nittany Lion Battalion OML - Spring 2024															Raw Administrative Scores							OML Score	
Demographic Information															Raw Administrative Scores							OML Score	
Ran	PSU ID #	Camp	Residen	Comm Datr	Msn S	CCIMM Major	ADM	STEM	Line	ARNG GRFI	USAR GRFI	Nurs	Medical Status	CGPA	AGPA	ACFT	CSSF	SAL Activiti	Instructor Ra	Instructor Points	CBEF	OML Score	
1	999835386	UP	R	14-May-2027	2027	FINANCE GENERAL	2	No	X				DODMERB Qualified	3.86	3.86	587	4.80	11.75	1/65	10	10	89.83	
2	990078653	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	ENGINEERING MGT	2	No	X				DODMERB Qualified	3.96	3.96	586	4.40	8.25	43/65	4	10	81.95	
3	987350075	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	GENERAL STUDIES	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	3.32	3.32	574	4.00	9.75	12/65	9	9	79.25	
4	999525611	UP	NR	24-Dec-2027	2028	ENGINEERING MGT	2	No	X				DODMERB Qualified	3.49	3.49	564	4.00	6.50	38/65	5	10	77.28	
5	959633778	UP	R	14-May-2027	2027	Aerospace Engineering	4	Yes	X				DODMERB Pending	3.43	3.77	96.1	3.30	20.00		3.65	6.53	75.09	
6	964123786	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	PREMED	3	Yes	X				DODMERB Pending	3.56	3.92	503	3.50	7.50	21/65	7	5	73.95	
7	984554378	UP	R	14-May-2027	2027	Nursing	5	Yes	X			X	No Status	3.94	4.33	497	3.10	3.75		3.65	6.53	72.51	
8	946589773	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	CYBER OPERATIONS	3	Yes	X				DODMERB Pending	2.69	2.96	492	2.80	7.50	40/65	4	6.53	62.22	
9	918288449	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	BIOLOGY	3	Yes	X				DODMERB Qualified	2.61	2.87	415	2.90	11.25	44/65	4	7	61.51	
10	984974622	UP	R	14-May-2027	2027	CRIMINOLOGY	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	2.75	2.75	497	2.80	4.00	46/65	3	7	59.25	
11	946434368	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	PSYCHOLOGY	1	No	X				DODMERB Pending	2.62	2.62	499	2.70	11.75	41/65	4	4	57.93	
12	904940323	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	FORENSIC SCIENCE	1	No	X				MEPS Qualified	2.59	2.59	509	2.40	1.00	32/65	4	7	57.75	
13	950389832	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	POLITICAL SCIENCE	1	No		X			MEPS Qualified	3.07	3.07	464	2.10	3.00	55/65	2	6.53	56.56	
14	942476187	UP	NR	14-May-2027	2027	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY	1	No	X				DODMERB Qualified	3.20	3.20	450	2.00	3.50	65/65	1	6.53	55.78	
15	919774130	UP	R	14-May-2027	2027	HEALTH SERVICES ADMIN	2	No	X				No Status	2.60	2.60	491	2.60	3.00	49/65	3	4	54.18	
16	972713638	UP	NR	24-Dec-2027	2028	ENGR - COMPUTER SCIENCE	4	Yes	X				DODMERB Qualified	2.31	2.54	492	2.70	8.50	53/65	2	2	52.16	
		Incoming Cadet																					
																							Score unavailable and/or substitute metric applied



Questions?





Contact Information

- Professor of Military Science (PMS)
 - LTC Daniel Gross: djg6131@psu.edu / 814-863-0368
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 - Ms. Jen Miller: jum17@psu.edu / 814-863-0368
- MSL 1 Instructors/Advisors
 - CPT Jonathan Berry: jmb10085@psu.edu / 814-863-0368
 - CPT Chelsey Kellum: csk5435@psu.edu / 814-863-0368
- Virtual Office Hours
 - [Most accessible mechanism to connect with us](#)
 - Tuesdays/Thursdays: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 - Wednesdays: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

