

# **UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL**



## **CATALOG**

# THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

### *MISSION*

To motivate, prepare, and evaluate selected candidates in an academic, military, moral, and physical environment, to perform successfully and enhance diversity at USAFA

### *VISION*

Producing USAFA's best prepared 4<sup>th</sup> class cadets ready to succeed and lead



This handbook contains detailed information about the USAF Academy Preparatory School, its curriculum, and policies. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the Preparatory School reserves the right to make corrections and changes to the information contained in this and subsequent issues of the handbook to meet the varying needs of the United States Air Force and the Preparatory School. This handbook should not be considered a contract between the USAF Academy and any prospective cadet candidate.

*Current as of August 2008*

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Colonel Todd M. Zachary

**COMMANDER USAF ACADEMY  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

**COMMANDER'S FOREWORD**

The U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School provides a special opportunity for selected young men and women to earn an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Graduation from the Prep School's challenging program will increase the student's potential for admission and successful completion of the Academy's rigorous academic, military, athletic, and character programs.

Students at the Prep School come from three sources: Regular airmen who are on active duty, airmen who are part of the Reserve component, and civilian high school graduates. All students are enlisted into the Air Force and placed on active duty to attend the Prep School. Approximately 240 students between 17 and 22 years old begin the 10-month program in mid July. The Prep School program emphasizes the same four mission elements as at the Academy--

academic, military, athletic, and character development. The academic program includes three subject areas: English, mathematics, and science. It begins with a review of high school and rapidly expands to cover the equivalent of a college year of study in these areas. Additionally, students participate in military training, physical conditioning, athletics, and character development.

To earn an appointment to the Academy, students must complete Prep School graduation requirements, meet Academy entrance requirements, be recommended for an appointment by me, and be selected by the Academy Board. Superior professional leadership training, an outstanding academic education, and a highly successful career as an officer in the Air Force await those who are offered Academy appointments.

**CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

Students who accept the offer of an appointment to the Prep School from the USAF Academy Admissions office will receive a letter from the Prep School Commander advising them of reporting dates. The letter also contains instructions concerning travel and items to bring.

All appointed candidates will receive information packages detailing the amount of money they should bring with them to cover initial expenses. Much of the equipment required for students' schooling will be furnished by the government. However, there will be some expenses (e.g., athletic clothing, textbooks, test fees, activity fees, yearbook fees, and miscellaneous personal items) for which students will be responsible. Appointees are required to sign a statement agreeing to pay for these items. All appointees enter the Prep School with a military rank. Prior-enlisted candidates will be paid in accordance with their current rank; all others will be paid 35% of Second Lieutenant's pay. All are subject to the

Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Students must reapply for appointment to the Air Force Academy. To ease this process, students will be advised of nomination procedures shortly after arriving at the Prep School. Students will be informed of other Academy admissions requirements throughout the year.

Because of limited parking space, financial liability, and the highly demanding schedule at the Prep School, students are not permitted to have automobiles. Cars may be rented for off-duty time if desired.

Students may bring some civilian clothing--both summer and winter--for wear during off-duty privileges. They may bring a small radio. Students are not permitted to bring large electronic equipment or any type of television set. Televisions are provided in dormitory lounges, but are not permitted in the rooms.

The entire Prep School program is highly challenging and requires consistent effort across four mission elements--academics, military, athletics, and character development.

#### **CADET CANDIDATE ACTIVITIES**

##### **Typical Day**

The cadet candidate's typical day is very demanding. It consists of Students academic classes, military training, individual and team sports, and a mandatory study period each evening. In addition, they must fit in all the normal activities of life: eating, sleeping, cleaning their rooms and dorms, washing clothes, etc. Students must learn to plan their time and organize their efforts in order to successfully complete each day's activities.

##### **Typical Daily Schedule**

6:00 AM	Reveille/Hygiene/Details
6:15 – 7:15	Breakfast
7:30- 8:45	1 <sup>st</sup> Academic Period
8:50 -10:05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Academic Period
10:10–11:25	3 <sup>rd</sup> Academic Period
11:40-12:40	Lunch
12:40-1:40	Military Training
1:45-2:45	Extra Instruction
3:00-5:30	Athletics
5:45-6:45	Dinner
7:00-10:00	Academic Call to Quarters
10:00 PM	Lights Out/Taps

##### **Leaves and Passes**

Cadet candidates may take leave (vacation) during Thanksgiving, winter holidays, and spring break. Proficient students may have the privilege of departing from the Prep School grounds on many weekends but will be required to stay in the local area. Students who perform satisfactorily in all phases of their instruction may continue to receive weekend privileges.

However, a student who has academic, military, or other deficiencies may be limited to the school area on weekends. The Military Training Commander will determine when students may wear civilian clothing off-duty or off base.

After graduation, cadet candidates who are selected to enter the Academy will have approximately 45 days without duty until the cadet class reports in late June-early July to the Academy. During this time they will be in excess leave status. They will not be paid but will continue to have medical insurance and will remain under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Upon entering the Air Force Academy, cadet candidates will be relieved from active duty and readmitted as cadets.

## **Religious Activities**

The Prep School accommodates the constitutional right for the free exercise of religion of all military members. Students of all faiths (or no faith) are supported through the Chaplain Service personnel assigned to the Prep School. Cadet candidates may attend Protestant or Catholic services at the Community Center Chapel. Jewish services and all other faiths are accommodated through the support of the Community Center Chaplains. Students are also permitted to attend other religious services at churches or places of worship in the local community. Chaplains of all major faiths are available to provide the privilege of total confidentiality (AFI 52-101, 4.1) in counseling.

## **Extracurricular Activities**

A number of recreational facilities are available to cadet candidates during off-duty time. Available close to the Prep School campus are a bowling alley, hobby shop, library and recreation center. The Academy sponsors many recreational events through an active special services program. These events include Prep School home and away varsity games, Academy athletic competitions, ski trips, banquets, and special activities. Cadet candidates may also participate in Prep School yearbook preparation or special class events.

The Academy has a number of recreational facilities which are open to cadet candidates during the weekends, including swimming pools, tennis courts, and golf courses. The Academy area consists of some 18,000 acres of land located in the foothills of the Rampart Range of the Rocky Mountains. There are many open areas that are suitable for hiking, backpacking, and other outdoor activities. Mountain stream and lake fishing can be enjoyed on the Academy as well as many other places

nearby. Riding stables are only a short walk from the Prep School, and the riding area is one of the most beautiful in the region.

## **Local Area Activities**

The Prep School is in close proximity to Colorado Springs and approximately 50 miles South of Denver. Airports in each city provide easy travel to any place in the nation. Local restaurants, nightspots, movies, and shopping centers offer plenty to do during off-duty time. Denver, the metropolitan city of the Rocky Mountain region, is the center for major league sports, cultural expositions, and various types of entertainment. Denver is the access city to many Colorado ski resorts such as Vail, Aspen, Keystone, Breckenridge, Monarch Pass, and Copper Mountain. Many students arrange their own weekend ski trips or go with base-organized weekend trips.

Colorado Springs--just south of the Academy--is a beautiful city located at the foot of the renowned Pikes Peak, which rises over 14,000 feet. Scenic areas abound throughout the city and the mountain foothills. Colorado Springs, with a population of approximately 500,000, is also the home of the famous Broadmoor Hotel and the site of the Olympic Training Center, which attracts athletes from throughout the country.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

### **Civilian Candidates**

Admission to the Prep School from civilian life is normally limited to those individuals who obtained a nomination to the United States Air Force Academy during the current year but were not selected for direct appointment. Candidates selected are primarily those whose records indicate that they have the potential for the Academy but need additional academic preparation to

improve their chances for admission. Candidates are offered Prep School appointments by the Academy Admissions Office.

When admitted to the Prep School, civilian candidates will become Airmen Basics in the Air Force Reserve. An airman who is disenrolled from the Prep School will be discharged from the Reserve with no further service obligation to the Air Force. Please call the Academy Admissions Office at 719-333-2520 with any questions.

### **Military Personnel**

Appointments to the United States Air Force Academy are available for qualified enlisted members of the Air Force Regular, Guard, and Reserve components.

Air Force personnel who want to attend the Prep School prior to entering the Academy should take the following steps:

Visit the Base Education Office and read AFI 36-2021, "Air Force Academy Preparatory School." Ask for Air Force Form 1786, the application for a nomination to the Academy and an appointment to the Prep School. Complete the form and give it to your unit commander. The Form 1786 and a letter of recommendation must be forwarded by the unit commander to arrive at the Cadet Admissions Office by 31 January. If your base does not have the information available, contact the Academy Admissions' office at DSN 333-2520.

Complete the Pre-candidate Questions (PCQ), which the Academy Admissions Office will send when the application is received. Airmen meeting the minimum requirements based on an evaluation of their PCQ, receive a candidate kit and information on further processing requirements from the Admissions Office.

Write to the high school last attended and request a copy of high school transcripts be sent to the Director of Admissions, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200, USAF Academy CO

80840-2200. Also request transcripts from any preparatory school or college attended.

Take either the College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the test from American College Testing (ACT) Assessment Program.

Military personnel selected for admission to the Prep School will be notified of the date they are to report. Selection is based on academic records, extracurricular activities, military performance, and medical examination.

If appointed, airmen must agree to extend their enlistment prior to enrollment if it will expire before 1 July of the year they will enter the Academy. Airmen will be assigned to the Prep School in their current grade.

Members of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps are not eligible to apply for the Academy nomination under the Air Force Regular and Reserve categories. Members of these services who want to enter the Air Force Academy or the Prep School may apply for a nomination from a member of Congress. Details of application and eligibility are outlined in AFI 36-2021, "U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School," which is available to all services.

### **Academy Admission**

All cadet candidates re-compete for an appointment to the Academy. Students are required to compete under all nominating categories for which they are eligible, including Congressional. Additionally, students take the following Academy entrance examinations while at the Prep School: the Cadet Fitness Assessment (CFA) and admissions exams (SAT and/or ACT). There is no minimum achievement that will guarantee cadet candidates an appointment to the Academy, but historically over 75% of those who enter the Prep School earn an appointment. That percentage is significantly higher than other nomination

categories.



a quiet but relaxed atmosphere. In such an academic environment, all cadet candidates must realize that they are students first and other interests are secondary.

The Prep School is geared to the best interests of the student. Each academic department is dedicated to helping students succeed academically. Instructors are available upon request to provide extra instruction, both during specified class periods and by appointment. If students experience difficulty in any subject area, problems are identified early enough for students to seek additional instruction.

Courses taken at the Prep School are normally not transferable for college credits, although former students may request a copy of their student transcript at any time after their departure.



## ACHIEVING SUCCESS

### Academic Requirements

The Prep School is not high school – students will be taking college level courses and be expected to perform at the college level. The standards are high, the grading is tough, and the pace is fast. Finals are given at the end of each quarter, and a normal week may include up to eight timed quizzes or major exams.

Every course requires daily homework. The average student spends three to four hours per day studying Sunday through Thursday, plus five to ten hours during the weekend. TV is off limits during study hours, and the dormitories are maintained in

### Preparatory School Graduation Requirements

To successfully complete the Prep School program, a student must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Exhibit satisfactory conduct and personal integrity.
- (2) Meet the physical requirements.
- (3) Meet the academic grade-point average (GPA) requirements:
  - a. A 2.0 cumulative GPA.

b. Satisfactory performance in each academic discipline—English, Math and Science.

c. Minimum academic requirements are subject to change.

### **Air Force Academy Appointment Requirements**

Appointment to the Air Force Academy is a highly competitive process. Air Force Academy appointment requirements are generally higher than Preparatory School graduation requirements to ensure a reasonable probability of success at the Air Force Academy. To be competitive for an appointment after completing the Prep School, a student must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Meet all Prep School graduation requirements.
- (2) Pass the Cadet Fitness Assessment (CFA).
- (3) Demonstrate an aptitude for success at the Academy.
- (4) Demonstrate an aptitude for commissioned service and leadership.
- (5) Be recommended by the Prep School Commander to the Academy Board.
  - a. An overall 2.5 cumulative GPA at the Preparatory School is used by the Commander as a minimum guideline which has historically ensured a reasonable probability of academic success at the Air Force Academy.

b. Additionally a 2.0 cumulative GPA in English, Math, and Science at the Prep School is used as a guideline to gauge readiness in each of the respective academic disciplines at the Air Force Academy.

- (6) Be approved by the Academy Board.

### **Candidate Separation**

Failure to maintain certain standards can result in disenrollment from the Prep School

at any time during the year. Approximately 75% of the students who enter the Prep School complete the requirements, graduate, and are offered appointments to the Academy.

The Commander of the Preparatory School may disenroll a cadet candidate at any time if one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Failure to maintain academic, physical fitness, military standards, or standards of integrity.
- (2) Failure to meet medical requirements.
- (3) Unsatisfactory conduct.
- (4) Retention is not considered to be in the best interest of the Air Force.
- (5) Lack of desire for an Academy appointment.
- (6) Failure to maintain basic eligibility for an appointment.

Disenrollment from the Prep School for any of these reasons will result in withdrawal of candidacy for the Academy. A cadet candidate who entered from active duty and who is eliminated from the school or fails to obtain an Academy appointment will be made available for immediate reassignment. A civilian disenrolled from the school will be discharged from the U.S. Air Force and sent home.



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### **Regular Airman Information (Enlisted Candidates)**

Regular airmen who enter from the enlisted corps may find the following information useful as a new or prospective cadet candidate at the USAF Academy Preparatory School.

1. Regular airmen retain their rank and are paid accordingly; however, grade insignia must be removed from all uniforms while attending the Prep School. Specially designed shoulder boards will be worn by all students. Regular airmen are considered for promotion, through the grade of E-4, the same as in the Regular Air Force, except the Prep School does not permit below-the-zone promotion to the grade of E-4.

2. Regular airmen in grades lower than E-4 will be considered for promotion in the normal manner.

3. Regular airmen disenrolled from the Prep School program are sent to the local Military Personnel Flight (MPF) Outbound Assignments Section where they may forecast for a base of their choice. However, the needs of the Air Force will determine re-assignment actions. It normally takes the MPF four-to-six weeks to obtain an assignment after a regular airman disenrolls. Regular airmen are normally returned to duty in their primary Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC). Regular airmen who were in the middle of a technical school prior to coming to the Prep School normally are not returned to the technical school; they are usually retrained into a new AFSC at their next duty station. Regular airmen cannot obtain information such as next duty assignment and/or AFSC, until they disenroll from the Prep School program. However, they may inquire at the MPF as to whether their AFSC is under- or over-manned Air Force wide.

4. Regular airmen are required to complete about two weeks of Prep School basic training along with reserve airmen.

5. There are no special privileges for Regular airmen while attending the Prep School. All students are treated equally.

6. Regular airmen must bring their complete military clothing issue. Any uniform not serviceable must be replaced at the individual's expense **immediately** upon arrival.

### **Reserve Airman Information (Civilian Candidates)**

When admitted to the USAF Academy Preparatory School, civilian candidates will become Airmen Basics in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. Reserve airmen may find the following information useful as a new or prospective student at the USAF Academy Preparatory School.

1. Reserve airmen who attend the Prep School are called to active duty for the period of time necessary to complete the Prep School program. For retirement purposes, this active duty time is counted the same as if they enlisted in the regular Air Force. A reserve airman called to active duty to attend the Prep School is not considered a regular airman.

2. Reserve airmen will receive a designated rate of pay as determined by Congress (currently 35% of Second Lieutenant's pay).

3. Reserve airmen who disenroll from the Prep School are discharged from the United States Air Force with no obligation to serve in the inactive Reserves. AFI 36-2021

4. Reserve airmen receive an issue of military clothing upon arrival at the Prep

School. Any clothing items that are lost or damaged after the initial issue must be replaced at their own expense.



## **ACADEMIC CURRICULUM**

The Preparatory School divides the academic year into four quarters (Fall I, Fall II, Spring I, and Spring II). The academic year consists of approximately 80 lessons and each quarter consists of approximately 20 lessons.

Each lesson is on a two-day block schedule designated a “M” and “T” day. Thus one lesson is completed over the course of a M and T day cycle. Class length is 75 minutes and there are three class periods each day (designated as M1, M2, M3; T1, T2, T3).

The Prep School curriculum requires courses from each of 3 disciplines: English, Math, and Science. A typical student will take approximately five courses each quarter and normal course load in each term consists of one English course, two mathematics courses, one science course, and either a learning skills course or social science course.



## **Academic Advising**

Each student is assigned an academic advisor at the beginning of the year. The academic advisor monitors the student’s progress, reinforces study skills and time management techniques, and motivates the student to help him or her achieve their best academic performance. Students are required to meet with their academic advisor on a regular basis.

## **Department Of English**

The mission of the Prep School English Department is to teach cadet candidates to read, think, write, speak, and listen effectively at the collegiate level. The emphasis, however, is on improving their writing skills.

The English Department conducts the Nelson Denny Reading Exam to determine who our most at-risk readers are. Those students scoring in the bottom ten percent will take a non-credit reading course in either the second or third quarter.

## **Course Descriptions**

**Eng 100, Preflight (Fall I).** This half-credit learning skills course is designed to help the students take responsibility for their

education, make better decisions, manage their time more effectively, and use the study tools that they learn about. Though administered and largely taught by the English Department, faculty are drawn from across all disciplines, indeed, from the athletic department and the military training staff as well as from the academic faculty.

**Eng 101, The Personal Essay (Fall I).** The first course in the English sequence reacquaints students with the fundamentals of writing and the writing process. We begin with a hard-hitting review of sentence construction and punctuation. Later, students read essays that serve as models for their own reflective essays. The assignments are designed to allow students to focus on a subject they already know well—themselves—while they brush up on the basics of sentence, paragraph, and essay construction.

**Eng 102, Arguments (Fall II).** Building on English 101, this course focuses on writing arguments. Students compose three well-organized essays, each supporting an arguable claim. Students will grapple with contemporary issues and will be introduced, in a limited way, to research and documentation.

**Eng 103, Research (Spring I).** The course reviews research methodology and goes into more detailed instruction on evaluating sources, incorporating borrowed material into one’s writing, and documenting that material correctly using Modern Language Association standards. Performance on the final research paper is a key measure for assessing a student’s readiness for success at the Academy.

**Eng 104, Literature, Leadership, and Character (Spring II).** The capstone course takes character and leadership as the focal points. Students read and analyze literature dealing with the course subject matter. Assignments include an explication paper and a reflective paper, both of which deal in

some way with issues of character or leadership.

**Eng 105 Constitutional History (Fall II, Spring I, or Spring II).** To help improve the performance of Prep School graduates in social science and history courses at the Academy, English 105 combines instruction in reading skills with a history course in a subject of general importance. The course director consults with history department faculty at the Academy and periodically brings in guest speakers from that department. The course is taught to a third of the students per quarter beginning in the second quarter, giving each student a 5-course load in one of those three quarters.

**Eng 106, Reading (Fall II or Spring I).** This course will work on the reading skills of our most at-risk readers, as measured by the Nelson-Denny Reading Assessment. Most work will be done in class to avoid overloading this group of students.

**Enrichment Program (both spring quarters).** A small number (6-8) of our best performers in the fall semester are selected to take English 111 at the Academy in the spring semester. Successful completion of English 111 results in course validation credit upon entry to the Academy. Students enrolled in English at the Academy, do not take English 103 or English 104 at the Prep School.



## Department Of Mathematics

The mission of the Prep School Mathematics Department is to prepare cadet candidates to succeed in first-year Academy mathematics and technical courses, and to provide a solid mathematics background for students to build on during all four years at the Academy. The mathematics curriculum provides instruction in a spectrum of mathematics topics, including algebra, trigonometry, calculus, and engineering mechanics. Three tracks – Skills, Regular, and Honors – tailor the math program to the individual needs of the cadet candidate.

### Course Descriptions

**Math 111, Algebra (Fall I).** This is the first course in a three-course algebra sequence (Math 111, 112, and 113). It focuses on the building blocks of arithmetic and algebra. Topics include the real number system, integer and rational exponents, the order of operations, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, and radicals. We also introduce the student to the algebra of functions, linear equations with modeling, graphing, symmetry, and transformations.

**Math 110. Algebra Skills (Fall II).** This is a fundamentals course in essential arithmetic and algebra skills. Particular emphasis is placed on consistently applying good math techniques and problem solving methods. Topics include the real number system, rational numbers and rational expressions, exponents and radicals, factoring, applications problems, and literal equations. This course is offered after Math 111 in which basic algebra skills are assessed and concurrently with Math 112. It is only offered to those students assessed to need additional instruction in basic algebra skills.

**Math 112, Algebra (Fall II).** Continuing with algebra, this course includes additional

topics from functions, equations, graphing, and inequalities. We revisit linear equations and models, then move on to complex numbers, quadratic equations, quadratic functions and models. The second portion of the course includes inverse functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs, applications and models, and we finish with growth and decay.

**Math 113, Algebra (Spring I).** The third term of algebra will include polynomial functions and models, polynomial division, rational functions and their graphs, polynomial and rational inequalities, variation and applications. We also cover systems of equations and the conic sections.

**Math 114, Math Applications (Spring II).** This is an introductory course in the mathematical modeling of engineering mechanics and statics. Topics include units of mass and weight, free-body diagrams, vectors, forces, moments, equilibrium, systems of equations, and truss analysis. This course provides preparation for Engineering Mechanics, a core course at USAFA.

**Math 121, Trigonometry (Fall I).** This first course in trigonometry includes the six trigonometric ratios, right triangle trigonometry with applications, the unit circle, radian and degree measure, arc length and angular velocity, and the trigonometric functions and their graphs. This course also includes verifying and employing trigonometric identities, and solving trigonometric equations with applications.

**Math 122, Trigonometry (Fall II or Spring I).** Continuing the study of trigonometry, the topics of this course include the inverse trigonometric functions, the Law of Sines and the Law of Cosines, polar coordinates, vectors, and vector operations.

**Math 123, Introduction to Calculus (Spring I or Spring II).** We begin the study of calculus with an introduction of limits, evaluating limits, the concept of continuity and one-sided limits, and infinite limits. From this foundation the student moves into differentiation. Topics covered in this portion of the course include the definition of the derivative, the tangent line problem, and basic rules of differentiation. Particular emphasis is placed on correct algebraic manipulation of the equations involved in solving calculus problems.

**Math 124, Principles of Differential Calculus (Spring II).** This course completes the introductory study of differential calculus. The topics covered include: higher-order derivatives, rates of change, the product and quotient rules, the Chain Rule, implicit differentiation, related rates, extrema on an interval, increasing/decreasing functions, and optimization. Students who take Math 110 will not take Math 124.

**Math 141 (Honors), Freshman Differential Calculus (both spring quarters).** Cadet candidates who are top performers in Prep School math classes have the opportunity in the spring semester to take the full differential calculus course with the 4-degree cadets at the USAF Academy. In this course these students will be challenged with a complete freshman-level course in differential calculus. This semester long course takes the place of Math 123 and 124 at the Preparatory School.



## Department Of Science

The mission of the Prep School Science Department is to prepare cadet candidates to succeed in first-year Academy science courses and to provide a solid scientific and analytical background to build on during all four years at the Academy. This is accomplished through a curriculum which focuses primarily on chemistry and provides the study skills and problem-solving techniques unique to the area of scientific inquiry.

### Course Descriptions

**Sci 131, Principles of Science (Fall I).** This course is an introduction to fundamentals in science. This lab intensive course stresses graphing, data tables and interpretation of information.

**Sci 132, Fundamental Chemistry I (Fall II).** This course is the first in a series of three that introduces nomenclature, stoichiometry and predicting reactions. Topic specific laboratories are essential for complete understanding.

**Sci 133, Fundamental Chemistry II (Spring I).** This course is the second in a series of three that covers gas laws, thermochemistry and quantum mechanics.

**Sci 134, Fundamental Chemistry III (Spring II).** Topics in the final course cover periodic trends, VSEPR, intermolecular forces and colligative properties.

**Sci 142 – 144, Regular Chemistry (Fall I-Spring II).** This year long program substitutes for Sci 132-134 for more advanced students. It covers all of Sci 132 – 134 with the additional topics of kinetics and equilibrium. Graphing and data analysis is included throughout the course. Although all students will take a placement exam at USAFA, the top students in the regular track will have a higher likelihood of receiving validation credit at USAFA.

**Sci 153 – 154, Physics I (Spring I and Spring II).** Physics Mechanics course. This course covers Newtonian Physics with the opportunity to validate Physics 110 at USAFA through demonstrated proficiency on the final exam. Topics include kinematics, Newton's Laws, rotational motion, conservation of energy and conservation of momentum. These two courses substitute for Math 113 and Math 114 for more advanced students.

## DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

The Athletic Department at the Prep School is designed to prepare cadet candidates for the rigors of athletic competition and physical conditioning required of all Academy cadets. Because we feel that fitness plays an integral part in the development of cadet candidates, it is important that students begin to integrate an exercise routine into their daily schedule prior to arrival. Recommended exercises include sit-ups, push-ups, pull-ups, and any other exercises which emphasize upper-body strength and endurance. Distance running is recommended, gradually working up to three miles a day as a minimum. In addition,

sprint/interval training should also be incorporated into your preparation.



Be aware that the Prep School is located at about 7000 feet above sea level, and the endurance requirements at this altitude may be greater than those to which some people are accustomed.

The Prep School athletic program is comprised of three main areas--physical conditioning, intramural events, and intercollegiate athletics. Each student will be involved in one of these areas at all times during the school year. Physical conditioning and intramural events start during Basic Military Training (BMT) and continue until graduation. These programs consist of mandatory physical conditioning, running, and team competition.

The intramural program allows for team competition, offering a variety of team events to include soccer, volleyball, swimming, racquetball, walleyball, flag football, and softball. At the end of BMT each cadet candidate will take a Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA), which includes pull-ups (flexible arm hang for females), kneeling basketball throw, push-ups, sit-ups, shuttle run and a mile run, which the student must eventually pass to be accepted into the Air Force Academy.

Intercollegiate athletics at the Prep School compete with universities, state colleges, junior varsity teams, and top rated junior college teams. Our varsity athletic teams include football, men's and women's basketball, and women's volleyball.

As the school year progresses, the emphasis shifts toward helping students focus on specific fitness areas so that they may enter the Cadet Wing meeting the fitness standards required for appointment. A personalized program and close supervision are two ways we will help students reach their conditioning goals.

The Prep School Athletic Department's philosophy is based on the belief that athletics should be enjoyable, and coaches try to make sports a learning and a stimulating experience. The coaches are genuinely interested in the student as a person and a player. They believe that athletics should be based on teamwork, effort, discipline, and sportsmanship.



Athletic facilities at the U.S. Air Force Academy are second to none, and Prep School athletes utilize many of these in their training and competitions. Athletic trainers are available to attend to any injuries, which

might occur and later assist with rehabilitation. There is also an orthopedic surgeon on call, and the on-site athletic trainer provides up-to-date medical treatments with the most modern equipment available. Students needing a physician's attention are taken to one of two facilities located on base--the U.S. Air Force Hospital or the Cadet Clinic.

## **DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY TRAINING**

Military training is a part of every day life at the Prep School. This training is designed to prepare cadet candidates for the military programs at the Academy. Through this training, students develop initiative, a sense of responsibility, leadership, and management skills. Failure to satisfactorily complete the military training program can result in disenrollment from the Prep School.

### **Basic Military Training**

Basic Military Training (BMT) takes place during the first seventeen days at the Prep School. During BMT, cadet candidates receive their basic indoctrination to the military. This includes information on the organization of the Air Force, military customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, U.S. Air Force Academy history, Core Values, the Honor Code, and proper wear of the uniform.



Throughout the year, cadet candidates undergo uniform, personal appearance, and room inspections on a regular basis. Marching to meals is a regular practice. Students are graded on their marching proficiency through participation in drill competitions. They also attend military training classes throughout the academic year. Cadet candidates receive a military grade based on military bearing and overall performance.

In late spring the students will participate in a capstone training event. The Transition Exercise (TX) reinforces the importance of teamwork while competing in physically challenging events. TX also gives insight into what is expected as an Academy cadet during Basic Cadet Training.

### **Leadership/Followership Training**

The Prep School student body is led by cadet candidates under the direction of the Department of Military Training. This department includes highly qualified Air Force officers and non-commissioned officers.

The student body is organized into a Cadet Candidate Group to provide practical leadership experience at the group, squadron, and flight levels. All students compete for the opportunity to perform in leadership positions. Cadet candidates in command positions are responsible for the discipline, supervision, and welfare of their classmates.

This training helps prepare all cadet candidates for the Academy; however, the Prep School does not attempt to parallel the fourth class military system of the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Wing.

## **CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**

Character development is the process that builds and reinforces the traits that form a cadet candidate's commitment to personal excellence and produces quality officers to lead the Air Force. The minimum standards of ethical behavior are encompassed in the Air Force Academy's Core Values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do. Since Core Value education is woven throughout all aspects of the cadet candidates' lives, students are expected to internalize varied aspects of the Core Values by the time they enter the Academy as freshmen. The overall strategy for the Prep School reflects that we will "Promote readiness for and growth towards the Academy's Character Development Outcomes."

Implementation of this program is through a yearlong comprehensive process. The Honor Code, human relations, and voluntary opportunities for spiritual development are important aspects of this program. All cadet candidates must accept the Honor Code when entering the Preparatory School; the Honor Code states: "We will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does." Students must also live by principles of character that extend beyond the Honor Code.

Character development training starts during BMT and continues throughout the entire year. Cadet candidates also have the opportunity to participate in community service projects, honor and ethics symposiums, and distinguished visitor testimonials, as part of the continuous character development process.



## **CLOSING**

This catalog provides information about the Air Force Academy Preparatory School. If you desire more information about the Preparatory School, please contact us at:

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