



# SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER

August 2022

# From the Superintendent's Desk

Dear Parents:

It's an exciting time to be at the Virginia Military Institute. During our May 2022 graduation, I had the privilege to confer degrees upon more than 300 members of the Class of 2022. Due to the pandemic, their VMI experience was unlike any other. Through it all, however, these young leaders found a way to persevere. They led with honor, integrity, and resilience. They are a prime example of how VMI continues to deliver on its mission of educating and training leaders of character and citizen-soldiers who go on to serve our country and their communities.

VMI continues to be a highly ranked, national institution. Money magazine recently ranked VMI as the fifth best college in America. This is in line with other rankings from the U.S. News & World Report and the Wall Street Journal. Similarly, a recent survey of graduates' satisfaction of Virginia public colleges and universities ranked VMI as one of the top schools in the commonwealth. VMI graduates rank highly in the following categories:

- Progress toward long-term career goals.
- Undergraduate education worth the cost.
- Preparation for the workplace.

The success of the VMI experience is a combination of world-class academics, rigorous military training, and competitive athletics. Our Honor Code, Rat Line, and class and regimental systems have always and will continue to be the foundation of the experience. However, VMI needs to continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of the commonwealth and nation. A growing demand for science, technology, engineering, math, and health (STEM-H) majors, the impact of technology on pedagogy, and the need for co-curricular activities such as study abroad and internship experiences are all examples of changing trends in higher education.

Since I arrived at VMI 18 months ago, I have focused on five key outcomes outlined in the "One Corps. One VMI. A

Unifying Action Plan."

The plan was designed to advance the VMI experience, traditions, and culture to be more positive and inclusive in response to the challenges facing our commonwealth and nation. The five key outcomes are:

1. Honor. The VMI Honor Code must continue to be a way of life for each and every cadet and alumnus.
2. Diversity and inclusion. VMI must ensure that every cadet, regardless of race, gender, religion, or nationality, feels a part of the VMI legacy.
3. The VMI brand. The outward face of VMI should be built around young leaders of character who exemplify honor, civility, and service above self.
4. Competing and winning. VMI cadets must compete to win in the classroom, on the hill through their cadet life in barracks, and on the field of competition.
5. One VMI. VMI's strength is in its diversity of experiences, thought, abilities, and backgrounds. No single cadet's challenge is greater than another's. It is through the reliance on their fellow cadets that the Corps succeeds.

During the 2022–23 academic year, VMI will engage in an inclusive process to develop a new strategic plan that keeps in mind these five key outcomes while building on the solid foundation and successes of the Institute's current strategic plan, Vision 2039. The new strategic plan will guide the Institute as we continue to work to optimize conditions for academic success, advance and modernize new and existing academic



Maj. Gen. Cedric T. Wins '85

and athletic infrastructure, and establish an organizational structure and culture that enhances the VMI experience at every turn.

VMI is well-positioned to continue to be a national model in the development of future leaders. With a new strategic plan and an increased focus on enhancing the VMI experience, the Institute will continue to provide key leaders to our nation for many years to come.

I look forward to the leadership the VMI Class of 2023 will provide during the coming academic year. Working alongside the Institute's faculty and administrators, we will collectively ensure the 2022–23 academic year will, no doubt, be exceptional. Thank you for your continued support of VMI. Rah Virginia Mil!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cedric T. Wins". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Maj. Gen. Cedric T. Wins '85  
U.S. Army (Retired)  
Superintendent

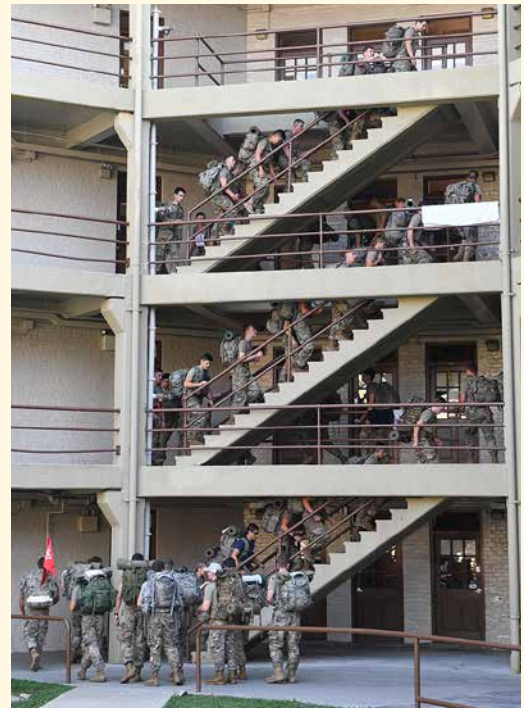


## Outcome: One VMI

VMI cadets have a high sense of public duty and will graduate with the skills to successfully lead in the military, government, and in the public and private sectors. Each are challenged academically, militarily, and athletically, facing constraints of time and resources, all in the pursuit of excellence.

Each cadetship starts with the Rat Line, an equal playing field for their first several months at VMI, with no group or individual having an advantage. The newest class on post will break out of the Rat Line together, and go on to participate in parades, community service, field training exercises, Ring Figure, and other events together. Traditionally, the entire Corps of Cadets participate in inauguration celebrations for the governor and president.

Cadets join together for many other events throughout the year. On the weekend marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in which almost 3,000 people lost their lives, including two VMI alumni, the Institute paid tribute to those individuals with a variety of observances involving many members of the VMI community, including marches and a wreath laying. Each year, several hundred cadets climb stairs in barracks in memory of the 343 firefighters, 61 law enforcement officers, and eight paramedics who were killed in the attacks, and many choose to carry the same weight of gear, 45 pounds, that a firefighter would have carried entering the World Trade Center.—VMI Photos by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.



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# Commissioning

Commissioning into the armed services is a goal for many cadets, and for good reason. With its emphasis on virtues such as honor, duty, and service, plus the obligation to take responsibility for self and others, a military career can serve as an excellent springboard to a civilian career later in life. Each year, over half the graduating class accepts a commission, and many VMI graduates make the military a career. Options are active duty, National Guard, or Reserves. At VMI, ROTC is an integral part of the Institute's mission to produce citizen-soldiers. Each cadet is required to take eight semesters of ROTC training, regardless of plans to commission. Army ROTC is the default unit for cadets who have not chosen an ROTC program. The discipline instilled by ROTC serves cadets well in all of their future endeavors. VMI's Army ROTC program is the largest in the country. It has won the prestigious MacArthur Award given by the U.S. Army Cadet Command several times in recent years. VMI Air Force ROTC is the seventh largest in the nation. Naval ROTC (Navy and Marine Corps) is one of the top commissioning units in the nation. It is also the second-largest NROTC commissioning source into the prestigious and challenging Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. The NROTC program also provides a pathway for select cadets who are interested in commissioning to the U.S. Coast Guard. With a multitude of service branches and career paths to choose from, all cadets should strongly consider commissioning, as military service is looked upon favorably by civilian employers, who highly value the skills that veterans offer. Cadets should be aware that waivers are available for a number of medical conditions, and that each branch of the service has different medical requirements. It is not uncommon for cadets entering VMI to



Cadets process into Foster Stadium for the Joint Commissioning Ceremony May 15, 2021.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

select an ROTC unit, only to discover some time later that they would prefer to be part of another. Cadets wishing to switch from one ROTC unit to another should make their wishes known as early in their cadetships as possible.

## Army ROTC

[www.goarmy.com/rotc](http://www.goarmy.com/rotc)

VMI's Army ROTC is by far the largest of the three ROTC units on post and offers a wide variety of career paths. There are 17 basic branches in the Army, ranging from Infantry to Cyber Warfare. Within each branch are numerous career opportunities for cadets. Cadets of all majors are welcome to seek a commission in the Army. Scholarships are available for both high school seniors and current cadets. For additional information on how to apply for four- and three-year scholarships, visit the website.

Cadets commissioning with an Army scholarship will be required to serve four years of active duty, followed by four years remaining on active duty, or four years in the Army Reserve or the Army National Guard. Cadets with or without a scholarship can also commission directly into the Army National Guard or the Army Reserve, which allows them to pursue a civilian career while serving

their country on a part-time basis. At VMI, 75 to 80% of cadets commissioning into the Army are selected for active duty, while the remainder choose to serve in the National Guard or Reserve. At the May 2022 commissioning ceremony, 114 cadets were administered the oath of office, commissioning them as

second lieutenants. Army ROTC classwork stresses leadership training, Army structure, and functions. Army field training emphasizes physical training, marksmanship, land navigation, and tactical missions. The Army offers a wide variety of summer training opportunities for cadets, including Airborne School, Air Assault School, Cadet Troop Leader Training, Department of Defense-sponsored study abroad and more. Army ROTC cadets can also apply for internships with government organizations such as the National Security Agency, the Army Medical Department, and the Defense Forensic Science Center. All of these summer programs are optional. Cadets who have been contracted into the Army must attend Advanced Camp, held at Fort Knox, Kentucky, the summer before their 1<sup>st</sup> Class year.

## Navy/Marine Corps ROTC

Naval ROTC offers a wide variety of career paths in both the Navy and the Marine Corps. More than 45 VMI cadets commissioned into the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps during fiscal year 2021. Prospective and current VMI cadets interested in commissioning in the Navy or the Marine Corps should be aware that NROTC scholarships covering the cost of either tuition or room and board are available for graduating high school

seniors through rising 2<sup>nd</sup> Class cadets. Cadets interested in a NROTC scholarship must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 in order to be considered for the scholarship. Generally speaking, cadets must have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher in order to be competitive for a NROTC scholarship. Cadets of any major may seek a commission in the Navy or Marine Corps, however, the Navy prefers science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors for its future officers. Cadets who are not awarded a NROTC scholarship may still commission into the Navy or Marine Corps by being selected for the NROTC College Program Advanced Standing (AS) program. Both groups will commission into the Naval service following graduation from VMI.

Navy-option NROTC cadets spend their classroom time building a solid foundation for their careers by learning leadership, naval history, naval customs and traditions, navigation, basic seamanship, naval engineering, and naval weaponry. Outside of the classroom, they practice survival swimming skills in the pool, hone their navigation, seamanship, and ship handling skills using the Conning Officer Virtual Environment (COVE) ship simulator, and learn the

fundamentals of fixed-wing aviation using a state-of-the art flight simulator. Marine-option cadet classroom time begins by studying Marine Corps history and the 11 Marine Corps leadership principles. They then progress through the NROTC syllabus exploring amphibious warfare, maneuver warfare, and the evolution of warfare with an emphasis on their relevance in today's complex operating environment. Outside of the classroom, future Marine officers receive world-class training including day and night land navigation, leadership reaction courses conducted on the VMI North Post, and small unit leadership exercises—all of which serve to sharpen the cadet's ability to think and act during periods of physical and mental duress.

### Air Force ROTC

Commissioning numbers are strong for VMI's Air Force ROTC, with approximately 30 new second lieutenants commissioning into the Air Force and four new second lieutenants commissioning into the Space Force in 2022. The Air Force welcomes cadets from all majors, although academic standards are high. The Air Force often offers preferred scholarships to specific majors like electrical engineering and some foreign languages. There are approximately 44 different occupational specialties within the Air Force, which includes the newly established U.S. Space Force. At this time, all cadets wishing to join either the Air Force or Space Force should join Air Force ROTC. Cadets wishing to become pilots should be aware that while private flying lessons are valuable, and do contribute to selection, they are not a requirement.

Air Force ROTC now has both 2-D and virtual reality flight simulators, which can help prospective pilots decide if a pilot slot is the right fit for them. In addition, Air Force ROTC cadets have the opportunity to fly with the



Air Force cadets participate in activities on the Parade Ground for fall field training exercises in October 2021.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

Civil Air Patrol from the airports located in Roanoke and Lynchburg, Virginia.

Recently, the Air Force has been granting fewer scholarships to college students, although this change has not affected the number of scholarships granted to high school students. High school seniors and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Class cadets must meet minimum score requirements on the SAT and ACT. All applicants for an Air Force ROTC scholarship must have at least a 3.0 grade point average, though the SAT scores lower from 1240 for high school scholarships to 1100 for in-college scholarships. ACT drops from 26 in high school to 22 in college. Scholarship applicants should be aware that there is a national competition for scholarship money. Factors determining the awarding of scholarships include commander's ranking, physical fitness, and grade point average. Parents should be aware that the AFROTC scholarships cover the full amount of tuition at VMI, but none cover the cost of room and board. The Space Force is now offering scholarships for high school seniors only. Graduating seniors that commission incur a 4-year active duty service commitment in either the Air Force or Space Force.



An Army ROTC cadet participates in fall field training exercises in the woods of the Goshen Boy Scout Camp in October 2021.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

# Facilities

The Institute continues to advance with renovations, enhanced safety measures, transportation improvements, and new construction projects: Preston Library underwent a \$19.2 million renovation to upgrade the facility and provide more study spaces; the Lackey Park parking lot became available for cadet vehicles; VMI Police moved into their modern headquarters on Letcher Avenue; Foster Stadium has a new video board; and post access via Jordan's Point was improved with a new two-lane bridge and sidewalk. Projects on the horizon include a renovation and expansion of Nichols Engineering Building that will provide more laboratory and study space, and a phase II of the Center for Leadership and Ethics, which will add another building and parking structure behind Marshall Hall.

## Aquatic Center

The Corps Physical Training Facility Phase III, the Aquatic Center, is a \$44 million project that began in December 2020, and is expected to be complete by the end of the fall semester of the 2022–23 academic year. The Aquatic

Center, which will replace the more than 50-year-old pool in the Cocke Hall Annex, will contain an indoor 50-meter swimming pool, two 1-meter springboards, two 3-meter springboards, a 5-meter dive platform, and seating for 570 spectators. The pool is large enough to be divided into three sections, making diving, water polo, and competitive swimming possible simultaneously.

State funding—about three-quarters of the total cost of the facility—was included in the biennial budget proposed by Gov. Ralph Northam '81. The remainder of the overall cost of the project came from private donations. When the Aquatic Center is complete, it will bring an end to the phased approach for athletic facility renovations and additions that began in 2014, which included renovations of Cormack and Cocke Halls and the building of the Corps Physical Training Facility, which opened in the fall of 2016. Each building provides significant and enhanced indoor fitness training elements for cadets, as well as home to the Institute's NCAA track and wrestling teams. The buildings also offer venues for ROTC and individual

cadet physical training in inclement weather. Altogether, the three phases of the Corps Physical Training Facility cost \$164 million.

## Superintendent's Quarters

The renovation of the Superintendent's Quarters at 412 Parade, the most comprehensive in more than 25 years, includes updates to the historic home's electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems, plus painting and other home maintenance tasks. The house will be accessible for those with mobility challenges. A ramp will be built from the sidewalk to a side door, and a first-floor bathroom will comply with current accessibility requirements. Because the Superintendent's Quarters is one of the oldest buildings on post, and is listed both as a National Register property and as a National Historic Landmark, its renovation has been undertaken in consultation with architectural historians at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Cadets, faculty, staff, and other guests are welcomed to the home for special events throughout the academic year.



The final roof beams of the Aquatic Center were placed in March 2022.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.

## Chessie Nature Trail Bridge

Runners, walkers, and cyclists on the VMI-owned Chessie Nature Trail can now complete the 7.2-mile journey from Lexington to Buena Vista uninterrupted with the new 210-foot bridge. Trail users previously took a detour onto Stuartsburg Road after the footbridge over South River had been washed away by Hurricane Isabel in 2003. The bridge, along with a new parking area, updated landscaping, and benches, was unveiled in December 2021. It can withstand winds up to 140 mph. The \$2.1 million project was possible because of the generous support of local partners, including the City of Buena Vista, the City of Lexington, Rockbridge County, and partners from the Federal Highway Administration’s Eastern Federal Lands Access Program. The Chessie Nature Trail is used frequently by the VMI community for training and exercise.



Representatives from several municipalities that made the Chessie Nature Trail bridge possible, including Mayor Frank Friedman, representing the City of Lexington; Dan Lyons, representing Rockbridge County; Kristina Ramsey, representing the City of Buena Vista; and Maj. Gen. Cedric T. Wins '85, VMI superintendent, join together to cut the ribbon on Dec. 10, 2021.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.

## Scott Shipp Hall

In January 2022, VMI celebrated the completion of a \$43 million Scott Shipp Hall update. The five-year project included a 28,000-square foot expansion and a complete renovation of the

previously existing 68,000-square foot space. The building is home to multiple departments’ classrooms and offices, including history, economics, international studies, and English, rhetoric and humanistic studies, and has a photography lab, an art studio, a 70-seat auditorium, and courtyards for outdoor study. It also holds a 3,600-square foot space for

the John A. Adams '71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis. Cadet needs were priority in the design.

## Safety and Security Enhancements

The goal of the Post Wide Safety and Security project is to set up a system of vehicular gates and barricades that could be deployed as needed to shut down post or the area around the Parade Ground in the event of an emergency or to provide additional safety during cadet training. Wiley|Wilson, a Lynchburg-based architectural and engineering firm, is working on the \$10 million project, which will be underway later in 2022.

Barracks safety will also be improved in coming years with the replacement of exterior doors and hardware, the replacement of windows and window frames in portions of barracks, an upgraded camera system, and updates to the technology within barracks. The plan is for these projects to begin in 2023.



An aerial view of Scott Shipp Hall shows the new addition to the building.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

# Cadet Life

## Blue Book

The Blue Book contains the rules and regulations that govern cadet daily life, from matriculation to graduation. Cadet knowledge and understanding of “status”—right place, right time, right uniform, doing the right thing—is a constant and continuous point of emphasis. It is the responsibility of all cadets to know when they are in an “all right” status and when to place themselves on report. Cadets should refer to the Blue Book with frequency and ask questions if unsure of rules or procedures.

## Honor Code

Cadets live by the VMI Honor Code, which states that “A cadet will not lie, cheat, steal, nor tolerate those who do.” The honor system is a single-sanction system which means if a cadet is found guilty of a breach of the Honor Code, it results in dismissal. The Honor Court is comprised of fourteen 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class cadets and is responsible for educating cadets on the Honor Code. In addition to education, the Honor Court is responsible for adjudicating reported violations of the Honor Code.

## Dating

VMI’s military-based regimental system operating in the close quarters of barracks requires strict rules about relationships within the Corps. No cadet may date another cadet within his or her chain of command. Since the focus of the 4<sup>th</sup> Class year is training, all dating within the Corps is prohibited during the 4<sup>th</sup> Class year.

## Motor Vehicle Use for Cadets

VMI restricts most cadet use of automobiles, and the Institute expects consistent and continued parental support for these policies. Only 1<sup>st</sup> Class cadets with full class privileges are authorized to register, maintain, and operate a motor vehicle in Rockbridge County. However, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Class cadets who are active members of drilling Reserve



Cadets take a break from dancing to pose for a photo during the Midwinter Formal in February 2022.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.

or National Guard units outside of Rockbridge County may request permission to store a car in VMI designated parking areas for the sole purpose of attending drill.

Upon returning for the start of the fall semester, 1<sup>st</sup> Class cadets must register their vehicles. All cadet vehicles will be housed at the Lackey Park parking lot north of post, which was complete in the summer of 2021. No cadets will be allowed to park their vehicles on

post. Shuttle services from post to the Lackey Park lot are available. Parents are reminded that parking fines and penalties for unauthorized vehicles or non-registered cadet vehicles are strictly enforced. Also strictly enforced will be the 15-mile-per-hour postwide speed limit and parking in unauthorized spaces generally marked by yellow stripes. Exceptions are made for major conferences and Corps events.



Employees in the laundry department help keep the Corps of Cadets looking their best.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.



## Use of Social Media

[www.vmi.edu/ITApproUse](http://www.vmi.edu/ITApproUse)  
[www.vmi.edu/G071](http://www.vmi.edu/G071)

Social media is a vital way to communicate with the VMI community, families, friends, and prospective cadets, offering instant access to information. VMI social media accounts share important announcements, compelling stories, stunning photography, and the achievements of cadets, alumni, faculty, and staff.

It is important for parents to read and understand VMI's standpoint on social media and the proper use of technology

in General Order 71. It is known that social media is constantly monitored by law enforcement, media organizations, and others. If a post to any social media site, such as Jodel or Snapchat, is perceived as threatening, discriminatory, or otherwise inappropriate, the consequences can be serious for the cadet who made the post. Though cadets may believe they are posting anonymously, the source of a post can be discovered, opening that cadet up to legal action being taken against them or dismissal from the Institute. Parents should remind their cadets that social media sites such as Instagram, TikTok, Twitter,

and LinkedIn are checked by employers to screen applicants for hire and by the federal government for security clearances. Careless posts could possibly be used as the basis to deny a cadet employment or the security clearance needed for employment in the future. A good rule for social media posts is, "If you wouldn't want your family to see it, you shouldn't post it." Parents are encouraged to follow official VMI accounts, listed on page 19, to ensure they are receiving accurate information. Parents should also be wary of unofficial social media accounts that may spread misinformation.

## Post Safety

### Weapons

[www.vmi.edu/G025](http://www.vmi.edu/G025)

VMI's weapons policy is governed by state law, which prohibits possessing, carrying, or storing any weapon by any person, except a police officer, in any building on post and at any event held on post. This restriction applies to everyone: cadets (except where authorized by the Cadet Weapons Policy), parents, faculty, staff, and the public. Cadets are not allowed to bring personal weapons onto VMI property unless they are current members of the skeet or marksmanship clubs and have the appropriate permit. Other exceptions to this policy are very rare. Cadets who

wish to bring a privately owned weapon to VMI for official business must submit a permit to the superintendent through the Commandant's Office.

### Alcohol and Drug Use

[www.vmi.edu/G002](http://www.vmi.edu/G002)  
[www.vmi.edu/G053](http://www.vmi.edu/G053)

Preventing underage drinking is one of the major goals of VMI's alcohol and drug use policy. Not only is underage drinking illegal, but it is also quite dangerous. All new cadets must complete "Alcohol eCheckup To Go," an online training program, before matriculation. Throughout the year, the Center for Cadet Counseling offers events focused

on substance use/abuse prevention to increase cadets' awareness of the dangers of alcohol abuse. Cadets caught with alcohol in barracks are automatically referred for substance abuse education offered by the counseling center. Though strict rules, stiff penalties, and constant briefings deter most cadets from serious alcohol incidents both on and off post, parents should remind cadets of the risks associated with infractions of these rules. Disciplinary actions following a first violation, either on or off post, include several months of confinement, many hours of marching, demerits, and conduct probation. Cadets involved in two alcohol-related offenses are eligible for suspension. A third offense may result in suspension. Without parental support, VMI cannot prevent underage drinking and alcohol abuse. Parents are urged not to make local houses available to cadets as locations for parties or to make alcohol available to underage cadets or to any cadet in violation of Institute regulations. This includes tailgating, where alcohol is prohibited for everyone. VMI maintains a zero-tolerance stance in regard to the illegal use of drugs. The use of illegal drugs and the illegal use of prescription medications by cadets will normally result in automatic dismissal. General Order 53, Policy on Prohibiting Controlled Substances and



Cadets participate in a changing of the guard ceremony in April 2022.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

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Drug Paraphernalia, authorizes VMI to randomly test cadets on a periodic basis for the presence of illegal drugs and controlled substances.

## Security in Barracks

[www.vmi.edu/G063](http://www.vmi.edu/G063)

VMI utilizes closed-circuit cameras in barracks as a law enforcement and security tool. The cameras are used to optimize the abilities of the cadet guard team's and the officer in charge's to be aware of unusual or suspicious activity and to provide a record should a violation of the law take place. Cadets in the guard room can see the arches on the closed-circuit TV. The officer in charge, a member of the commandant's staff, can see the courtyards and the stoops, but cannot see into any cadet rooms. Footage can be requested only under certain conditions and following specific procedures outlined in General Order 63. Doors to cadet rooms are authorized to be locked from Taps to Reveille Sunday through Friday, and on Saturday from Taps to 8 a.m. Sunday morning. The cadet guard team uses radios to report unusual or suspicious activity. All cadets, whether on guard duty or not, are expected to be aware of



Moe proudly stands with Chris Friski and Neil Gibson, VMI police officers, at a community event in August 2021. —VMI Photo by Eric Moore.

their surroundings and report unusual or suspicious activity.

## Emergency Management

[www.vmi.edu/cadet-life/health-and-safety/emergency-management](http://www.vmi.edu/cadet-life/health-and-safety/emergency-management)

VMI is committed to informing the community of an emergency, disaster, or potential disaster immediately upon determining the nature of the

emergency. It is important to take an active role in staying informed. VMI takes a proactive approach to effective communication through the VMI Mass Notification system, which allows VMI to instantly send emergency information to users via text message, cellphone call, e-mail, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone call, and post-wide public address system to its community. This is a no-cost, opt-in service. All cadets, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to participate in this program by signing on to Post View and registering on the emergency contact information link. VMI encourages everyone in the VMI community to sign up for this service to receive immediate alerts when threatening situations may arise such as natural disasters, fires, bomb threats, or acts of violence.

## Reach Out App

The VMI Reach Out app provides users with safety and security information. The home page on the app displays icons that direct users to information, reporting contacts, and services they may need. Users need only tap the icon to access information concerning police, emergency services, the Title IX coordinator, chaplain, infirmary, and cadet counseling. The app also provides direct hotlines for support organizations such as Project Horizon, which assists

## Outcome: Diversity and Inclusion

A diverse and inclusive VMI begins with the Corps of Cadets being part of traditions, being respectful of all, and having meaningful cultural experiences. It's also in how VMI recruits the best talent in faculty, coaches, and administrative staff.

In the last academic year, cadets and employees had the chance to attend many events that enhanced the way they look at the world. Maj. Gen. Marti Bissell spoke during Women's History Month about her 34-year military career, offering guidance on inspiring others through leadership and handling mistakes. During Black History Month, the VMI community could attend various speaker events and participate in an art competition hosted by the Promaji Club. The VMI Gender Diversity and Inclusion Program hosted several events throughout the academic year that focused on bias, stereotypes, mentorship, and allyship. An annual Lunar New Year celebration allows participants to learn about Asian culture and try Asian foods and games.

Lt. Col. Jamica Love, chief diversity officer, was included in Virginia Business' "100 People to Meet in 2022." This annual list introduces readers to a list of Virginians in categories like "Angels," "Innovators," "Educators," and "Go-Getters." Love was featured in the "Impact Makers" category. Each person on the list is chosen for making an impression on how he or she is improving the way people live and work in the commonwealth. —VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.



victims of dating, domestic, and sexual violence. The app can be downloaded free of charge from the Apple app store and from Google Play. Search for the "Reach Out Editions" app, download it, and select "Virginia Military Institute" when prompted. VMI encourages all cadets to have this safety app on their mobile phones.

## Sexual Misconduct Prevention

[www.vmi.edu/G002](http://www.vmi.edu/G002)

[www.vmi.edu/G016](http://www.vmi.edu/G016)

The abuse of alcohol and sexual misconduct often go hand in hand,

with alcohol being involved in a large percentage of sexual assaults that occur on college campuses. As with alcohol abuse, VMI takes a proactive stance on preventing sexual misconduct, emphasizing safe choices, responsible behavior, and concern for the welfare of others. Throughout their cadetships, cadets receive training on bystander intervention and sexual misconduct prevention. The Institute has a memorandum of understanding with Project Horizon, ensuring that its resources are available to cadets, faculty, and staff, and that all are informed of its services. The Center for Cadet Counseling and the chaplain's office are also available 24/7 for cadet

support. VMI's policies concerning alcohol abuse and sexual misconduct are outlined in General Orders 2 and 16 and apply to cadets and employees, on and off post. Outside the judicial system, the maximum penalty for cadet violations of either policy is normally dismissal from the Institute. Cadets are encouraged to report offenders to school officials or law enforcement, as VMI is committed to upholding victims' rights when a crime occurs. New cadets and their parents should familiarize themselves with both orders prior to matriculation.

# Health and Wellness

## Infirmary

540-464-7218

[www.vmi.edu/infirmary](http://www.vmi.edu/infirmary)

A modern infirmary, with 24-hour nursing, is located on post. The infirmary offers full primary care services in a confidential setting. A doctor and nurse practitioner are available daily. There is no charge for infirmary visits or the medical care provided there. All medical conditions that must be treated off post are treated at the cadet's expense. Emergencies are referred to the local hospital, Carilion Rockbridge Community Hospital. Cadets and parents should ask their family medical providers to inform the infirmary of any mental or physical health concerns that may affect cadets while at VMI. Cadets are permitted to keep personal prescriptions and over-the-counter medications in their rooms. Many routinely prescribed medications are available on post at no charge. A team of local orthopedists visits VMI weekly to treat and assess cadet injuries, both sports and non-sports related. Those visits are billed to the cadet's insurance carrier. Free flu shots are offered to cadets in the fall and the Institute will regularly communicate opportunities for COVID-19 vaccines. Both are highly encouraged to minimize the spread of illness in the tight living conditions of



Jenny Crance, nurse practitioner, visits with several cadets during the Health and Wellness Fair in September 2021. —VMI Photo by Eric Moore.

barracks. It is strongly recommended that any cadet not covered by parents' health insurance purchase a personal health insurance policy. Each cadet is automatically enrolled in an accident insurance policy which will cover up to \$5,000 for an injury incurred while participating in official VMI activities. All international students are assessed a mandatory health insurance fee which covers the cost of a student medical insurance policy. Call the VMI Infirmary at 540-464-7218 for additional information.

## Mental Health

540-464-7667

[www.vmi.edu/counseling](http://www.vmi.edu/counseling)

The Center for Cadet Counseling, located on the second floor of the post hospital, stands ready to assist cadets with their mental health needs. Among the center's many offerings are health and wellness programs; free, confidential individual assessment and

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counseling; crisis intervention; and consultation. The professional and licensed staff at the Center for Cadet Counseling view cadets from a strength-based perspective and routinely encourage cadets to develop resilience skills to help them bounce back more quickly from adversity and the rigors of the VMI system. Frequent health and wellness topics of interest to cadets include maintaining emotional wellness, resilience, stress management, substance abuse prevention, and building healthy relationships. For more information, call 540-464-7667.

## Nutrition

[www.vmi.edu/about/offices-a-z/auxiliary-services](http://www.vmi.edu/about/offices-a-z/auxiliary-services)

Parkhurst Dining, which manages all of the Institute's food service operations,

emphasizes fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Crozet Hall offers gluten-free and allergen-free options for cadets, along with vegetarian fare. Proper nutrition is vital for all cadets, but especially for new cadets, who are adjusting to the rigors of the Rat Line, while also adjusting to the physical challenges of military training and the intense demands of college-level academics. Parents should encourage their



Matriculants get food in Crozet Hall during Matriculation Week.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

cadets to take nutrition seriously and to seek help if necessary.

# Extracurriculars

At VMI, opportunities for cadet engagement in sports and activities abound. Options are varied, and if a cadet would like to start a new club, he or she is welcome to do so. All club sports and activities are cadet-run, providing members of the Corps with a wide variety of leadership roles.

## NCAA Sports

VMI competes in Division I of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), and several sports had very strong seasons during the 2021–22 academic year.

Athletic highlights include the football team posting back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1961–62 and contending again for the Southern Conference crown. Linebacker Stone Snyder '23 earned his second consecutive Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Year award. The basketball team posted 16 wins, the most since 2014, and the Keydets participated in the College

Basketball Invitational Tournament. Cameron Hall celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December 2021 with a reunion of former players and coaches. Women's soccer team captain Whitney Evers-Roberson '22 was selected to attend



Whitney Edwards-Roberson '22 corner kicks the ball back into play during the Aug. 26 game against Iona College on Patchin Field.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.

the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum in Houston, Texas in November 2021. VMI hosted the SoCon Indoor Track and Field Championships for the fifth consecutive year and Jordin Poindexter '22 was named male outstanding meet performer. Men's soccer's Broden Schull '22 led NCAA Division I in saves for the third consecutive year. And the baseball team opened the 2022 season with a win over No. 23 ranked Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

The Institute fields men's teams for baseball, basketball, cross country, football, lacrosse, rifle, soccer, swimming and diving, track and field, and wrestling. For women, NCAA sports offered are cross country, rifle, soccer, swimming and diving, track and field, and water polo. In addition to scholarship and recruited athletes, there are tryouts at the start of each NCAA season for cadets of all classes to earn a place on VMI's NCAA teams.

## Club Sports

VMI offers numerous club sports, including but not limited to basketball, lacrosse, golf, and running. In many

cases, VMI offers both NCAA and club versions of a sport, so cadets who are not NCAA athletes can still participate in their chosen sport. This is true for wrestling, basketball, lacrosse, and soccer. All club sports welcome beginners, so parents should encourage their cadets to try something new. There is no additional fee for participation in club sports. In the spring of 2022, club sports attracted more than 600 cadets. Club sports are well coached and well resourced.

## Clubs and activities

Cadet activities are as varied as cadets themselves. Music is very much a part of life at VMI, as evidenced by the Regimental Band, Institute Brass, the Pipe and Drum Band, Glee Club, and more. Band Company is one of the 10 companies which make up the Corps of Cadets, and any cadet is welcome to participate in the Regimental Band.

Community service is a key theme of many cadet activities such as EMTs, Lexington Firefighters, Building BRIDGES, and more. Other clubs, such as the Fishing Club and Ducks Unlimited, mix service with enjoyable activities. Still others, such as VMI Theatre, are primarily about fun and camaraderie.

## Outcome: Competing and Winning

Cadets are put through challenges that are meant to build resiliency, character, and leadership qualities, which will allow them to compete and win, in the classroom, on the playing field, in the line of duty, and beyond.

This past year, two Naval ROTC Marine Option midshipmen, Allie Sassaman '22 and Kasey Meredith '22, were selected for Cyberspace Officer contracts in the Marine Corps. Especially competitive contracts, these midshipmen secured two of only five contracts given nationally. Sassaman was an international studies major from Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, triple minoring in national security, Chinese, and Asian studies. Meredith, regimental commanding officer for the 2021–22 academic year, was an international studies major and Spanish minor from Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Michael Hoffmann '22 and Christopher Soo '22 were recognized by Army ROTC Cadet Command as top cadets in the nation, with Hoffmann ranking No. 5 and Soo No. 7. Soo and Hoffmann embody the finest attributes of a VMI cadet through their efforts and the example they set for others.

VMI's Ethics Team turned in its first-ever win, defeating three of the five federal military colleges—the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Military Academy—at the 2021 Military Ethics Case Competition, hosted by the Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership at USNA and funded by the Class of 1964. The Keydet team, led by Benjamin Ashmore '21, cadet in charge, was unable to travel to the Naval Academy due to COVID-19 precautions and so participated via Google Meet with a pre-recorded presentation, followed by a round of live judging.—

*VMI Photo by Eric Moore.*



No matter what activity a cadet might enjoy for relaxation and fellowship, chances are good it can be found at VMI.

## Religious Observance

The primary mission of the VMI chaplain's office is to support and accommodate the religious convictions of all cadets regardless of their faith. Many

cadets participate in faith communities in and around the Lexington area, and the chaplain's office serves as point of contact to facilitate these relationships. Part of the affiliation with local faith communities includes "adopt-a-rat" programs, which are organized through the individual churches and fellowships. An on-post, nondenominational chapel service is held each Sunday evening during the academic year, and various

faith-based fellowships and meetings take place each week. The chaplain's office also provides opportunities for mission trips, conferences, and retreats for various faith groups throughout the course of the academic year. Above all, the chaplain's office works to accommodate the religious needs of all cadets and provides pastoral care and mentoring, regardless of religious affiliation.



The VMI Jiu Jitsu club team practices with the team from Virginia Tech in February 2022.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

# Academic Support

VMI's academic support offices have one purpose: to further cadet success. All cadets are encouraged to take advantage of the assistance provided. There is no extra charge for any academic support service at VMI.

## Office of Career Services

311 Carroll Hall

[www.vmi.edu/academics/support/career-services](http://www.vmi.edu/academics/support/career-services)

The Office of Career Services seeks to meet the needs of every cadet, whether commissioning or non-commissioning, with activities, workshops, and individualized counseling designed to identify and build upon career-related strengths and interests. Staff with the Office of Career Services are available throughout the cadetship to assist not only with identification of strengths and interests, but also internship placement, résumé writing, and job interviews. Emphasis is placed on preparation for long-term career development and life design.

Online resources available to all cadets include Handshake, where cadets can receive personalized job recommendations, register for events, and schedule appointments with a career counselor. The Office of Career Services also offers a full complement of online tools designed to identify a wide variety of careers possible for each major. For cadets interested in graduate study, the office has partnered with The Princeton Review to prepare for entrance exams such as the GRE, LSAT, MCAT, etc. This partnership offers cadets and alumni prep courses at a highly discounted rate.

Each fall and spring, VMI hosts a Career Fair, with a wide mix of employers represented. The Office of Career Services can assist cadets in making the most of this opportunity with mock interviews, guidance on the proper use of social media, and more.

No matter their plans after graduation, cadets should visit the Office of Career Services as early in their cadetships as possible.



Michael Dongjieux '05 with Fulcrum Collaborations explains job opportunities with Tianxin Zhou '22 at the spring career fair in Marshall Hall.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.

## Miller Academic Center

[www.vmi.edu/mac](http://www.vmi.edu/mac)

The Miller Academic Center (MAC) provides the tools and resources needed to help cadets achieve their academic goals. Group study sessions, Academic Saturdays, academic coaching, and virtual tutoring are among many of the services available through the MAC. Cadets who consistently utilize the MAC during their time at VMI will learn to set and achieve specific academic goals through guided instruction on time management and learning strategies.

Parents should remind their cadets that asking for help is not a sign of weakness. The transition from high school to college is not easy due to faculty expectations that students be able to process, synthesize, and apply the course content in a variety of ways.

MAC staff is available by appointment. Please use the online scheduling system WCONLINE at [www.vmi.mywconline.net](http://www.vmi.mywconline.net) for appointments.

## Writing Center

215 Carroll Hall

[www.vmi.edu/writingcenter](http://www.vmi.edu/writingcenter)

The Writing Center extends and complements classroom instruction by

working with cadets at any stage of the writing process, from planning a paper to polishing a final draft. Cadets at any level and in any discipline are encouraged to use the center's services either online or in-person. Professional and cadet consultants offer feedback on all forms of writing, including essays, lab reports, electronic portfolios, honors theses, oral presentations, and creative writing. While adhering to the VMI Honor Code and work-for-grade policy, the consultants help cadets develop the skills necessary to edit and proofread their own writing.

## Mathematics Education and Resource Center (MERC)

600 level, Preston Library

[www.vmi.edu/merc](http://www.vmi.edu/merc)

The Mathematics Education and Resource Center's mission is to support the Corps of Cadets in their pursuit of mathematical studies, engage VMI faculty and staff in their goals of maintaining rigor and excellence in their respective disciplines, and work with the community in their desire for productive, inspired, and healthy citizens. The Open Mathematics Laboratory (OML) is free and open to all cadets in need of help with mathematics.

Professional adult and STEM-major cadet tutors assist with math assignments from a variety of classes, including but not limited to Math That Matters, Calculus and Analytic Geometry, Fundamentals of Matrix Algebra, Probability & Statistics for Engineers, and Differential Equations. Scheduled one-on-one tutoring is available Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–noon. Additionally, walk-ins are welcome, no appointments necessary, Monday–Thursday noon–4 p.m., and Sunday–Thursday 6 p.m.–11 p.m.

## Office of Disabilities Services

540-464-7667  
[www.vmi.edu/ds](http://www.vmi.edu/ds)

The Office of Disabilities Services (ODS) is committed to meeting the ethical and legal responsibilities to ensure equitable educational access for cadets with documented disabilities. ODS supports cadets' development of academic, life, and leadership skills in a manner that fosters self-awareness, self-determination, and self-advocacy. It also serves as a resource to the VMI community by promoting awareness and understanding of disability issues in higher education.

Cadets with documented disabilities are encouraged to schedule a meeting with the director of ODS as early as possible to allow adequate time for review of documentation, to allow for a thorough assessment of academic needs, and to familiarize new cadets with administrative procedures.

For more information, call 540-464-7667 or visit [www.vmi.edu/ds](http://www.vmi.edu/ds).

## VMI Center for Undergraduate Research

[www.vmi.edu/vcur](http://www.vmi.edu/vcur)

The mission of the VMI Center for Undergraduate Research (VCUR) is to promote and facilitate faculty-mentored undergraduate research and foster the development of a culture of undergraduate research at VMI.

VCUR operates on the premise that some of the most enduring, meaningful academic experiences of college students come through opportunities

to be mentored one-on-one by faculty outside the classroom, while also believing in the merit of research and other inquiry-based experiences within a more traditional classroom setting. VCUR programs include an annual Undergraduate Research Symposium held on post for cadets to present their research; the Summer Undergraduate Research Institute for cadets interested in participating in mentored research during the summer; and a program to provide funding support to cadets presenting their research at professional meetings, conducting research in the field, or purchasing research supplies.

## Center for Leadership and Ethics

[www.vmi.edu/cle](http://www.vmi.edu/cle)

VMI's Center for Leadership and Ethics (CLE) educates, engages, and inspires the Corps of Cadets, as well as faculty and staff, in leadership and character development and shares insights gleaned from VMI's programs with a broader national audience.

The CLE's programming falls into three broad mission sets: cadet co-curricular programs, curricular leader development, and strategic engagement. These mission sets provide opportunities to develop new skills and enhance leadership learning.

Cadet co-curricular programs focus on engaging and inspiring members of the Corps of Cadets. Several programs incorporate experiential learning, critical thinking, and engagement opportunities.

The CLE conducts leader development programs for cadets and employees. LEAD 344 Leadership in Organizations, a mandatory core curriculum class for all cadets, falls under the direction of the Center's director, Col. Dave Gray, with sections

taught by a multi-disciplinary group of tenured and adjunct faculty known as Leadership Fellows. The CLE conducts a progressive series of core professional development programs and workshops to support employees. These sessions enhance interpersonal communications, supervisory skills, teaching, and leadership skills.

The CLE is the proponent for several resources that educate, engage, and inspire cadet leader development system, including:

- VMI Leader Journey—This publication provides an overview of the VMI system of leader development across the entire cadetship.
- Cadet Leadership Opportunities Inventory—This publication lists every cadet leadership position by class year and role with descriptions, qualifications, and how to apply.
- Career Competency Module—This manual provides a handy reference for all life-skills topics covered in the online course.

Strategic engagement involves CLE conferences, speakers, and symposiums to examine issues of national importance. Strategic engagement is essential to VMI culture and emphasizes

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Retired Army Staff Sgt. David Bellavia, the first and only living Iraqi Freedom veteran to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, speaks at the Leadership and Ethics Conference in November 2021.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin.

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networking and a mutual exchange of ideas across our community.

- The VMI Leader Journey podcast— This podcast features leadership insights gleaned from cadets, alumni, and VIP speakers. Begun in the fall of 2019, the interviews explore leadership practices and provide another means of emphasizing the annual leadership theme and VMI's system of leader development.
- Conferences, symposia, and speaker series—These events engage outside professionals, subject matter experts, and leading practitioners with the VMI community. These activities are free for cadets, faculty, and staff with some free to the general public as well.

The annual Leadership Conference will take place Oct. 31–Nov. 1, 2022 and is titled “Principled Dissent: Navigating Moral Challenges” as part of the year-long leadership theme “The Courage of Convictions.” The conference is open to all interested adults and attracts the attention of faculty and students of a diverse array of military and civilian colleges, members of the public and private sectors, military leaders, and nonprofit audiences. Through the participation of attendees and speakers, VMI leads national conversations on diverse themes of leadership and ethics in modern society.

The website has links to social media channels, details on upcoming events, and other resources. The CLE's YouTube channel has recordings of speakers from past events.

## Requirements to Graduate

[www.vmi.edu/G066](http://www.vmi.edu/G066)

All cadets should familiarize themselves with General Order 66, which outlines the requirements that must be met for cadets to participate in commencement and receive degrees during the ceremony, traditionally held May 16 of each year.

This does not impact or change the “10-hour rule.” This only applies to cadets being able to sit on the floor and cross the stage during the May 16 commencement ceremony.

Cadets are responsible for meeting all degree and graduation requirements. In order to receive their degrees, cadets must have a conduct record that is satisfactory to the superintendent, be confirmed by the academic board, and complete all course requirements and grade point average requirements. They also must have been in residence at VMI for at least three years.

If there is concern that a 1<sup>st</sup> Class cadet may not meet degree requirements in time to graduate May 16, the cadet should be aware of the “six-hour rule” and the “10-hour rule.”

Cadets who are within six credit hours of completing degree requirements may submit an appeal to the Committee on Academic Appeals, which will consider the appeal if there are demonstrated extenuating circumstances, and if the cadet is a full-time student at VMI in the semester preceding graduation, with a 2.0 or above cumulative and major GPA, and provides proof of summer preregistration in approved classes. Approval of an appeal is exception based and will be granted only under conditions of very clear extenuating circumstances. If the committee grants the appeal, the cadet

will be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony May 16, but will not receive a degree until requirements have been met. Cadets who are within 10 credit hours of completing degree requirements, with a cumulative and major GPA of at least 2.0, have six semesters in residence at VMI, and are in good disciplinary and academic standing may complete the remaining hours at another college and transfer the credits to VMI. These cadets will receive their degrees after graduation requirements have been met.

## Financial Literacy

[www.vmi.edu/about/offices-a-z/financial-aid/financial-literacy](http://www.vmi.edu/about/offices-a-z/financial-aid/financial-literacy)

Financial literacy is an important part of understanding financial aid, personal finances, and debt management for cadets. VMI strives to educate and prepare cadets with tools and resources to help build their money management skills. From educated choices on student loan amounts to sustainable payment plans, VMI is here to provide guidance on the path to pay for college.



Members of the Class of 2022 toss their gloves in the air after being dismissed from duty and finishing their tenure at VMI.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.



## International Programs/ Study Abroad

[www.vmi.edu/ip](http://www.vmi.edu/ip)  
[www.vmi.edu/G073](http://www.vmi.edu/G073)

The Office of International Programs (OIP) provides cadets with the global perspective and cultural competence required to operate in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world. OIP does so through individual advising to help cadets choose an international program that best fits their personal, academic, and career goals. International programs include semester study abroad, summer study abroad, military academy exchanges, internship and research opportunities, and cultural exchanges and study tours that are open to all cadets, including STEM majors, NCAA athletes, and those who hold rank in the Corps. Cadets interested in participating in an international program can do so as early as the summer after their 4<sup>th</sup> Class year. They are encouraged to come by OIP at the beginning of the fall semester to learn more about their options and, if they decide to pursue it, notify their academic advisors of their plans as soon as possible.

Each request to study abroad is considered individually and approval is based on pandemic-related restrictions in the host country and VMI's International Travel Policy, General Order 73.

In academic year 2019–20 (the last year before COVID-19 shut down the program), 163 cadets studied in or visited 22 different countries: Argentina, Belgium, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lithuania, Morocco, New Zealand, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Taiwan (ROC), Tanzania, United Kingdom, and Vietnam. In spring 2021, five cadets studied abroad (Lithuania, Great Britain, Greece) and three cadets spent the Fall 2021 semester abroad in Spain and in Ireland.

Semester study abroad requires a minimum grade point average of 2.5. Summer study abroad requires a cadet to be in good academic standing (cumulative GPA of 2.0).

Important dates for study abroad:

### Outcome: The VMI Brand

The VMI Brand is what alumni, parents, local and national leaders, and potential employers come to expect of VMI cadets: individuals carrying themselves with honor, civility, and humility. The VMI Brand is how the local community sees the Institute and how VMI is represented in corporations, on the battlefield, and beyond.

During spring field training exercises (FTX) in 2022, cadets dedicated more than 4,400 hours volunteering with nonprofit organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Lime Kiln Theater, Special Olympics, and the SPCA. Cadets throughout the year also do individual or group fundraisers, food drives, and volunteer projects to benefit organizations like Project Horizon, Operation Enduring Warrior, Feed the Need, and Rockbridge Area Relief Association.

VMI, in partnership with Virginia Department of Health, hosted seven COVID-19 vaccine clinics during the spring semester, which were open to the public. When the vaccines became available in early 2021, VMI provided tables, chairs, and volunteers to make mass clinics available to the Rockbridge area.

VMI reaches the community in other ways through parades and the Cadet Battery. The Cadet Battery is a group of guns fired by a team of cadets of the same name, which has existed since 1848, except for a small period between the end of the Civil War and 1875. The original Cadet Battery consisted of six guns made especially for VMI in 1848. The equipment has evolved quite a bit, but the original guns can still be seen on post in front of Old Barracks. Today, the Cadet Battery does not participate in live fire drills or tactics. Instead, they are used for retreat firings at the end of the day to salute the colors, in salute parades, and to support Breakout.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.



- Spring and summer program application cycle opens: Aug. 30.
- Study Abroad Fair: Sept. 23, 6–8 p.m. on the second floor of Crozet Hall.
- Spring semester program deadline: rolling until filled but usually middle to late October.
- Summer program deadline: registered by mid-January and committed by mid-February.
- Fall semester program deadline: rolling until filled but usually middle to late April.

The cost of study-abroad programs varies greatly, and it is important to note that financial aid, institutional aid, and scholarships follow cadets when they go overseas on semester study abroad programs. This is not always the case for summer study abroad; however, VMI

offers a number of partial scholarships that are available through a competitive process. There are also scholarship opportunities for Pell Grant recipients and numerous national scholarship opportunities for cadets interested in pursuing immersive critical language programs.

Additionally, VMI has expanded its military exchange programs and there are now opportunities available in the U.K., France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, South Korea, and Taiwan. The only additional costs are travel expenses. Cadets interested in pursuing any of these scholarship or exchange opportunities should contact Lt. Col. Todd Goen at 540-464-7350, [goentl@vmi.edu](mailto:goentl@vmi.edu), or Patricia Hardin at 540-464-7421, [hardinpd@vmi.edu](mailto:hardinpd@vmi.edu) for more information.

# Visiting the Institute

## Parades

The Corps of Cadets marches in full parade on many Friday afternoons and certain Saturday mornings during the school year. These parades—military reviews of the cadet regiment by the superintendent—are open to the public and display the level of discipline, order, and uniformity the cadets train hard to achieve. Visitors can witness one of the longest-held traditions at VMI on most Friday afternoons at 4:35 and select Saturday mornings at 10:30. For the full schedule of parades, check the calendar at [www.vmi.edu](http://www.vmi.edu).



Cars are lined up on the Parade Ground during a Fall 2021 football game for tailgating.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin

## Parking

Parking spaces around the Parade Ground not otherwise designated may be used by visitors to the Institute, although visitors should be aware that

ongoing construction can limit the availability of on-post parking. Free parking is also available on city streets. The two-hour time limit does not apply

on weekends. No parking is allowed on Diamond and Randolph streets as spaces on those streets are reserved for residents, and violators will be ticketed.

On home football game days, off-post parking will be available, with locations and times to be posted on the VMI website. A shuttle service will run continuously between the parking lot and Cameron Hall.

## Game Day

[www.vmi.edu/gameday](http://www.vmi.edu/gameday)

Game day tailgating is one of VMI's most memorable traditions. Tailgaters must use the Jordan's Point entrance and, in good weather, may park on the Parade Ground for a fee. McKethan Park is also typically open for football tailgating for a fee. Visitors are discouraged from bringing pets onto post, except for service dogs. Additional details and updates are found at the Game Day website.

## Outcome: Honor

A cadet's honor is their most guarded possession. In the first moments of their cadetship, they are taught the words to the VMI Honor Code: A cadet will not lie, cheat, steal, nor tolerate those who do.

Christopher Hulburt '22, the peer-elected valedictorian, was involved in many leadership roles and clubs during his cadetship, but he is especially proud of being a prosecutor on the Honor Court. "Being prosecutor is a meaningful and important task at VMI. It isn't fun, but for the VMI Honor Code to have meaning, to be able to trust my fellow cadets as well as the alumni, violators of the honor code, must be prosecuted," said Hulburt.

In 2021, a photo of a \$100 bill went viral on social media when Brady Biller '21 posted the photo from the Guard Room on his last ever shift as night officer. The money was picked up in barracks in the middle of the night and turned in, in hopes the owner could reclaim it. Biller emphasized how easy it would have been for that cadet to take the cash without being seen, but he credits VMI with the character and integrity that was displayed that night.

The traits of civility, self-discipline, and honor are built upon at VMI while creating lifelong memories with brother rats.—VMI Photo by H. Lockwood McLaughlin



# Planning

## Furlough Protocol

Cadets and families should always schedule travel times, family events, and medical appointments to avoid conflicts with Corps requirements and responsibilities. Cadets seeking internships and summer jobs must not accept positions requiring a start earlier than May 16.

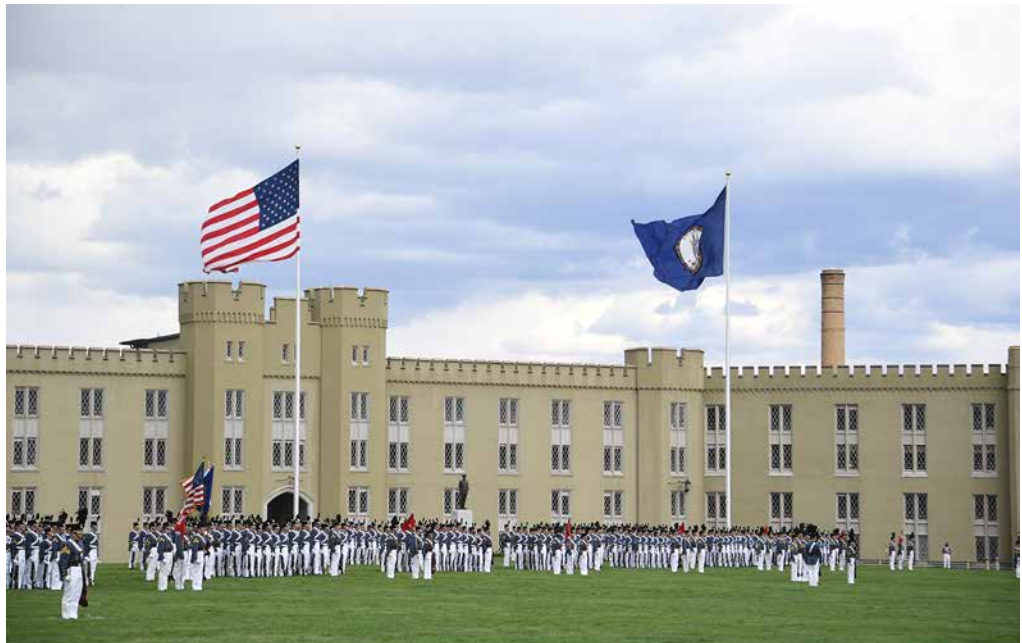
Make plans and take particular care to build in adequate travel time to meet VMI's departure and arrival requirements. Cadets may use Academic Days only to extend a furlough and may not depart VMI until their scheduled classes are completed. Note that cadets' individual exam schedules may vary; talk to your cadet before scheduling end-of-semester travel.

**Get up-to-the-minute information about weather, traffic, parking, and more on your cell phone. Text the word "Keydet" to 772-95.**

# Critical dates—Academic Year 2022–23

Dates subject to change. Additional dates for the academic year, including furloughs, will at [www.vmi.edu](http://www.vmi.edu) as they become available. Any changes to the calendar will be noted on the website.

Matriculation	Aug. 20
Fall classes begin	Aug. 30
Family Weekend	Oct 7–8
Founders Day	Nov. 11
Ring Figure	Nov. 18
Exams	Dec. 16–21
December Commissioning Ceremony	Dec. 20
December Graduation	Dec. 21
Spring classes begin	Jan. 17
Exams	May 6–11
Commissioning Ceremony	May 15
Commencement	May 16



Cadets participate in the retirement parade April 8, 2022.—VMI Photo by Kelly Nye.

## Connect with VMI

-  [facebook.com/vmi1839](https://facebook.com/vmi1839)
-  [@virginia\\_military\\_institute](https://instagram.com/@virginia_military_institute)
-  [@vmi1839](https://twitter.com/@vmi1839)
-  [vminews.tumblr.com](https://vminews.tumblr.com)
-  [linkedin.com/school/virginia-military-institute](https://linkedin.com/school/virginia-military-institute)

**For the most accurate information and event updates, please visit [www.vmi.edu](http://www.vmi.edu).**

Additional photos and videos can be found on Flickr and YouTube.





Front cover and back cover—VMI Photos by Eric Moore and Kelly Nye.

# Important Contacts



## Must dial the 540 area code.

Contact a Cadet (Visitor Center)  
 ..... 540-464-7306

## Academic Information

Dean of the Faculty ..... 540-464-7212  
 Academic Advising ..... 540-464-7741  
 Registrar ..... 540-464-7213  
 Summer Session Office ..... 540-464-7319

## General Information

Admissions Office ..... 540-464-7211  
 Athletic Ticket Office ..... 540-464-7266  
 Visitor Center ..... 540-464-7306  
 VMI Bookstore ..... 540-464-7637  
 VMI Museum ..... 540-464-7334

## Cadet Support

Guard Room ..... 540-464-7294  
 Athletic Advising ..... 540-464-7722  
 Chaplain's Office ..... 540-464-7390  
 Infirmary ..... 540-464-7218  
 Cadet Counseling ..... 540-464-7667  
 Financial Aid ..... 540-464-7208

Information Technology ..... 540-464-7341  
 Anonymous Reporting ..... 540-464-7702  
 Inspector General/Title IX ..... 540-464-7072  
 Office of Career Services ..... 540-464-7560  
 Postal Services ..... 540-464-7745  
 "The Bomb" (VMI yearbook) ... 540-464-7325  
 Writing Center ..... 540-464-7045

## Administrative Offices

Cadet Accounting ..... 540-464-7217  
 Chief of Diversity ..... 540-464-7789  
 Chief of Staff ..... 540-464-7104  
 Commandant's Office ..... 540-464-7313  
 Dean of the Faculty ..... 540-464-7212  
 Deputy Commandant and Officer-in-Charge  
 ..... 540-464-7314  
 Office of the Superintendent .. 540-464-7311  
 Sergeant Major, Corps of Cadets  
 ..... 540-464-7293  
 VMI Police (non-emergency) .. 540-464-7017

## ROTC Programs

U.S. Air Force ..... 540-464-7354  
 U.S. Army ..... 540-464-7351  
 U.S. Navy/Marine Corps ..... 540-464-7275

## Parents Council

John and Kathy Peila  
 ..... [parentscouncil@vmi.edu](mailto:parentscouncil@vmi.edu)

## To mail a package:

Cadet (followed by name)  
 510 Burma Road  
 Virginia Military Institute  
 VMI Box (followed by box number)  
 Lexington, VA 24450

## To mail cards and letters:

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 VMI Box (followed by box number)  
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