Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) classes are offered on an elective basis. Students may take the basic courses and summer training without obligation for military service. Students who desire to pursue advanced courses may complete the ROTC program and compete for commissions in the U.S. Army, Army Reserves, or Army National Guard. A minor in Military Science is offered and 2, 3, and 4-year merit-based scholarships are offered.

Army ROTC is a unique college elective. It takes no more of your time than would most other college courses. The credits received from ROTC classes go toward your degree. And when you graduate, you’ll receive a degree and a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Enrollment in the ROTC program is traditionally a four-year program in which an incoming freshman enrolls during the first semester in college. However, enrollment can still be achieved up through the end of the second year in college. Basic Course ROTC credit and Advanced Course enrollment can be achieved in a few different ways:

- Sophomores can compress the Basic Course into one year.
- Sophomores with JROTC experience meet the requirements of the first year of the basic course.
- Sophomores can attend the Leader’s Training Course during the summer preceding their junior year.
- Veterans, Army National Guardsmen, and U.S. Army Reservists can enroll directly into the Advanced Course at the start of their junior year.
- As a basic course cadet, classroom studies will include military history and organization, lessons in resource and time management, and a general introduction to the Army. The basic course lab will include introductory marksmanship, confidence training on the ROTC Leadership Reaction Course, tactical paintball, and an introduction to Army physical fitness. And, the basic course counts as a required Kinesiology 215 credit.

As a junior in the advanced course lab time will be spent honing your leadership skills and preparing you to excel at Advanced Camp, which you will attend during the summer between your Junior and senior years. At advanced camp, you will be asked to handle the complex tasks of a unit leader and will be tested on your newly developed soldiers’ skills.

Returning from Advanced Camp as a senior, your management skills will continue to be tested. As you prepare to graduate from college, your leadership skills will be sharpened as you bear the responsibility of preparing the next class of juniors for their summer at Advanced Camp. And when you graduate from college, you are ready to be a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army.

ROTC is normally a minor taken in conjunction with a major of the applicant’s choice. Applicants are encouraged to pursue a major (B.A. or B.S.) supportive of their military career. Typical core curriculum transfer credit follows. Students seeking the B.A. will be required to complete the universities foreign language block while those seeking the B.S. will take more science. Proper selection of foreign language and/or science may further the applicants career goals. Courses in mathematics should be selected as required by the major.

Explore the many advantages offered by pursuing a career as an Officer in the U.S. Army by contacting the SHSU Department of Military Science (ROTC) (https://www.shsu.edu/academics/military-science/) at 936-294-4994.

The Core Curriculum (catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/) at Sam Houston State University (to be used by all incoming students as of fall 2014) contains 42 semester credit hours, encompassing nine component areas. Each component area has a minimum credit hour requirement and a selection of specific courses that may be used to satisfy the requirement. The Core Curriculum (catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/) details Sam Houston State University courses and their Texas Common Course Number (TCCN) equivalents for college transfer students which comprise SHSU’s core curriculum.

Many SHSU disciplines including the sciences, business, and education require specific courses from the SHSU core as degree specific graduation requirements. To minimize cost and time to complete degree requirements always select SHSU/transfer core courses specified as degree requirements in your intended major. If you have not decided on a major, select core courses supporting your intended area of academic concentration.

Prior to enrolling in core classes, students are encouraged to review specific degree requirements for their major. Selection of major-specified core courses reduces the total number of hours required for graduation.

If you do not see a Texas Common Course Number (TCCN) mapping a specific core course to your transfer institution, please go to Transfer Course Equivalency Guide (https://ww2.shsu.edu/regr27wp/) and select your institution from the drop-down menu. The result will list all currently mapped transfer courses from your institution to SHSU courses.