ACADEMIC DEAN AND PROVOST INSTRUCTION 1531.77A

From: Academic Dean and Provost

Subj: SUMMER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT POLICY

Ref: (a) USNAINST 1531.51A Class standings and Merit Lists

1. Purpose. To publish instructions regarding the summer school enrollment policy.

2. Cancellation. ACDEANINST 1531.77

3. Background

   a. The academic program at the Naval Academy is designed to be completed in eight semesters during the fall and spring of four consecutive years. Summers are structured principally to provide midshipmen with essential professional training and leave. However, during the 13 weeks between the end of the spring semester, commissioning week and the start of fall semester classes, a limited number of courses are offered in summer school. Dates and details for each academic year will be published in ACDEANOTE 1531, Summer School Administration.

4. Summer School

   a. Summer School Purpose. Summer school courses are offered to give midshipmen an opportunity outside the regular academic year to satisfy academic requirements for graduation. Some midshipmen who attend summer school are required to do so. Often they are directed to repeat a failed course. Some midshipmen attend voluntarily to improve a D grade. Others seek to lighten their academic burdens in future semesters. A few take courses during the summer to study in their majors at a greater depth or to avail themselves of other academic opportunities.

   b. Summer School Enrollment. The summer school courses offered may be taken by midshipmen as directed by the Academic Board or during their leave periods. Any midshipman who has not successfully completed all the required courses for fourth class year must make up the deficiency in the summer following fourth class year, unless excused by the Academic Board. This includes those who are one course behind the matrix because of taking SM005 (Pre-calculus Mathematics). Midshipmen may not defer a required course scheduled for the fall or spring semester to the summer unless authorized to do so by the Academic or Advisory Boards.

5. Status of Midshipmen Enrolled in Summer School

   a. Mandatory Academic Board Status. Certain midshipmen are directed to attend summer school by the Academic or Advisory Boards. Midshipmen in this
mandatory category typically have unsatisfactory CQPRs, are behind schedule in their major matrices, have failed a course in which a pre-requisite course is needed to stay on matrix, and may be in danger of not graduating with their class. These midshipmen have the highest priority for enrollment in summer courses.

(1) Normally, mandatory status will be assigned by the Academic Board, but a member of the Advisory Board may also enter a request for a midshipman to enroll in a summer course in a mandatory status. Requests for midshipmen to be assigned mandatory status may be made at any time. These requests are subject to review by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (ADAA), the Director of Academic Advising (DAA), and the Director, Division of Professional Development. All three must consider the midshipman’s need for academic recovery, the individual’s requirements for professional training, and the desire to allow the midshipman some leave during the summer. Midshipmen may not withdraw from mandatory summer school without approval from the ADAA.

b. Mandatory Commandant Status. Upon approval by the Commandant of Midshipmen, select varsity athletes may be excused from one block of professional training (PTE) to attend summer school. The purpose for doing so is to afford these midshipman athletes a reduced academic load while they are in-season and to reduce classroom absences during the fall and spring semesters. These athletes typically forego leave to practice or train for their sport.

(1) Midshipmen in this category have second priority for enrollment in summer school classes. The Director of Athletics, through the Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA), requests summer school in lieu of professional training for a limited number of these midshipman athletes and, after approval by the Commandant, forwards the approved list to the DAA for approval by the ADAA for enrollment. Although in mandatory status, a midshipman may choose not to take advantage of this opportunity if it impedes with special summer training opportunities. A midshipmen may withdraw from Commandant Mandatory Summer School without approval, but the student should first inform his/her academic adviser.

(2) If enrollment in summer school does not reduce the midshipman’s semester academic load, the midshipman will not be placed in mandatory summer school. That is, if a rising 1/C has 30 credits or fewer remaining to graduate or a rising 2/C has 60 credits or fewer remaining to graduate, that midshipman will not receive mandatory summer school.

(3) If athletic participation changes and a midshipman is no longer a member of a varsity sport, the student will be withdrawn from summer school.

c. Voluntary with Preference Status. A midshipman’s academic adviser or the senior academic adviser for the midshipman’s major may enroll a midshipman in Voluntary with Preference status if summer school is necessary for a midshipman to remain on matrix when the midshipman is pursuing a special program in which future credit is not guaranteed, such as studying abroad. Midshipmen in this category have third priority for enrollment in summer classes and this status requires the midshipman to enroll in summer courses in lieu of leave. A request for voluntary with preference status is
normally entered prior to summer training assignments to minimize summer training changes. The summer training office will not normally allow changes in summer training obligations for those in Voluntary with Preference status.

d. Voluntary Status. Any midshipman may voluntarily sacrifice leave to attend summer school. Midshipmen enroll in summer courses in lieu of leave for many reasons: to advance in their majors, to lighten a future academic load, to take more courses, to repeat courses with a grade of a D, to achieve certain academic goals such as a language minor, a double major, entry to the Voluntary Graduate Education Program or the Trident Scholar Program, among other reasons.

(1) These midshipmen have the lowest priority for the limited enrollment slots available in summer school courses. Midshipmen may, however, indicate in their summer cruise requests that leave be scheduled so that they might take a particular summer course. Midshipmen make requests for summer courses via the MIDS module called Summer School - Preregister after the summer cruise schedule is known to the midshipmen but before the desired course is scheduled to begin.

(2) Midshipmen may withdraw from voluntary summer school by contacting the DAA, and may be forced to drop their summer course due to changes in summer training obligations and/or to accommodate midshipmen in mandatory status. Summer training will coordinate with the DAA to process a drop if it is necessitated by summer training changes.

e. Precedence. The enrollment of a midshipman in a course whose capacity has been reached is allowed only if there is another midshipman enrolled who has a lower priority. In that case, the midshipman with lower priority will be dis-enrolled and placed on a waiting list. Among those midshipmen with the same priority, described in subparagraphs a-d, precedence will be given according to the time of the request made in MIDS.

6. Responsibilities of Midshipmen. Midshipmen are responsible for knowing their cruise, summer school, and leave schedules. Midshipmen should not assume that simply because they desire to attend a summer course that they may do so, nor should they assume that their status in summer school is what they desire or that their summer training schedule is not subject to change. Information about the status of midshipmen in summer school is available from the MIDS module called Summer School - Query Schedule. It is essential that midshipmen consult this module to verify their status. Midshipmen must report any conflicts or errors concerning their summer schedules immediately to the DAA and/or the Summer Programs Officer, as appropriate.

7. General Remarks About Summer School

a. Enrollment Guidelines. The pace of instruction in summer school is more intense than it is during the spring and fall semesters. Each day of summer school is nearly equivalent in its coverage to a full week of a regular fall or spring semester. Therefore, a midshipman may not start the class more than two days late. Elective surgery (PRT, dental, etc.) must not be scheduled during summer school. Midshipmen may not enroll in more than one summer course at a time, nor may midshipmen have other obligations during summer school (such as Plebe Detail or a sport’s blocker -- a sport’s blocker
may be dropped by contacting NAAA). Mandatory summer school takes precedence over an NAAA sports blocker. Midshipmen in mandatory status may not withdraw from a summer school class at any time. A midshipman enrolled in voluntary status may not withdraw from a summer school class after the last week of instruction has begun.

b. Academic Standards. Failure to achieve a quality point ratio (QPR) of at least 2.00 during summer school, failure of any course during summer school, and failure to meet stipulations made by prior Academic Boards, qualifies the midshipman for separation from the Academy and requires a positive decision on the part of the Academic Board for a midshipmen to be retained. That is, those midshipmen are separated by the Academic Board and may be retained by waiver, retained at record review, or retained after an appeal. Summer school performance has no direct effect on a midshipman’s order of merit (OOM). See reference (a) for details.

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By direction

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