



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY  
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USNAINST 1531.51B  
2/ADAA  
8 Aug 2017

USNA INSTRUCTION 1531.51B

From: Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy

Subj: CLASS STANDINGS

Ref: (a) COMDTMIDNINST 5400.6T  
(b) ACDEANINST 1531.60A

1. Purpose. To publish instructions regarding the overall, academic, and military standing of midshipmen.
2. Cancellation. USNAINST 1531.51A
3. Scope and Applicability. All faculty, staff, and midshipmen attending the U.S. Naval Academy.
4. Background. This instruction is a revision of its predecessor in order to clarify the calculations used for determining orders of merit. Policies regarding the Superintendent, Academic Dean, and Commandant's Honor Lists appear in section 9.3 of reference (a).
5. Class Standings and Overall Order of Merit
  - a. Class standings are based upon the Overall Order of Merit (OOM), which is a rank ordering of all midshipmen's Aggregate Multiple (described in 4.c below). The midshipman with the highest Aggregate Multiple in a class is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the class, and the midshipman with the lowest Aggregate Multiple is ranked last in the class. Upon graduation, those midshipmen in the top 10 percent of their class are awarded their degrees "With Distinction." Those below the top 10 percent who achieve at least 75% of the maximum Aggregate Multiple are awarded their degrees "With Merit."
  - b. Members of the first class whose graduations are delayed because of failure to complete requirements on time are assigned class standings based on the Aggregate Multiple among those graduating on the same date but after all those who graduated earlier. Appointments as commissioned officers will be effected on the date of graduation. Dates of rank will be assigned per current U.S. Navy and Marine Corps regulations and policies.
  - c. The OOM for a class is determined via the Aggregate Multiple, which is computed by weighting performance in designated areas by certain coefficients as indicated in Table I (Table of Coefficients) below. The multiple for each factor in Table I is obtained by multiplying the coefficient of that factor by either (1) the Semester Quality Point Ratio (SQPR) or (2) the mark or (3) the numerical value of the letter grade \* (See reference (a)). The Semester Multiple is the sum of the multiples assigned for a given semester. The Annual Multiple is the sum of the multiples assigned for a given academic year. The Aggregate Multiple is the sum of the Semester Multiples to date. In computing the final Aggregate Multiple at the end of the first class year, no more than eight Semester Multiples will be included. For midshipmen who repeat one or more semesters, a weighted Aggregate Multiple will be used.

**TABLE I**  
**TABLE OF COEFFICIENTS FOR OVERALL MULTIPLE COMPUTATION**

Factor	4/C year Semester		3/C year Semester		2/C year Semester		1/C year Semester		Total	Percent
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>								
Academic and Professional Courses**	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0	248.0	64.48%
Physical Education	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	25.6	6.66%
Athletic Performance		3.0		3.0		3.0		4.0	13.0	3.38%
Aptitude***	7.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	68.0	17.68%
Conduct	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	30.0	7.80%
<b>TOTAL</b>									<b>384.6</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

\* **NOTE 1:** Alternate procedures for the following two situations in which the multiple cannot be calculated as specified above shall be followed:

(1) For students participating in Semester Study Abroad Program, the current cumulative quality point ratio (CQPR) shall be used in place of SQPR along with a standard coefficient of 31. This exceptional procedure does not apply to midshipmen participating in U.S. Service Academy Exchange Program (SAEP) since actual grades are transferred.

(2) If an individual's Semester Multiple cannot be determined because of his/her extended absence during a semester for approved reasons, then the average of the available multiples is substituted for the missing multiple for purposes of service assignment. If such an individual is able to complete the graduation requirements on time, then the same substitution shall be made for purposes of determining the final class standing.

\*\* **NOTE 2:** A higher or lower academic coefficient shall be assigned to a semester in accordance with the following:

(1) 28 is assigned for a program of fewer than 15 semester hours unless (5) applies or the situation is covered by Note 1. In general, midshipmen enrolled in fewer than 15 semester hours are also ineligible for honors list consideration, as described in references (a) through (c).

(2) 32 is awarded for the successful completion of a 19 semester hour program. Repeated courses do not count toward the bonus.

(3) 33 is awarded for the successful completion of a 20 or more semester hour program. Repeated courses do not count toward the bonus.

(4) 34 is awarded for Trident Scholars.

(5) 33 is awarded for the completion of authorized graduate courses at other institutions (e.g., as part of participation in Voluntary Graduate Education Program) provided the semester program including the work completed at USNA is determined to be a full load by the Academic Dean and Provost. In these cases, the previous semester's SQPR is used in the computations.

(6) 32 is awarded in the second term of the first class year for the completion of at least six semester hours of course work above that required by the major matrix in either the major discipline or in areas considered to enhance the major. Repeated or validated courses do not count for the bonus; however, course validation may permit a midshipman to take additional courses which do count toward a bonus. The Department Chair involved will report those qualifying to the Registrar.

\*\*\* NOTE 3: The first semester aptitude grade for midshipmen of the third, second, and first class is a measure of military performance during the first semester and the preceding summer.

6. Academic Order of Merit. The Academic Order of Merit (AOM) is based upon the CQPR. The midshipman with the highest CQPR has an AOM of 1, and subsequent lower CQPRs are rank ordered accordingly.

7. Military Order of Merit. The Military Order of Merit (MOM) is based upon the Cumulative Military Quality Point Rating (MQPR). The midshipman with the highest MQPR has a MOM of 1, and subsequent lower MQPRs are rank ordered accordingly. The MOM is not included on standard transcripts of records.

a. Military Quality Point Rating

(1) Quality Points: The point value of each factor listed in Table II is computed by multiplying the semester coefficient for the factor by the score or the numerical equivalent of the letter grade received, where:

$$A = 4 \quad B = 3 \quad C = 2 \quad D = 1 \quad F = 0$$

(2) Military Quality Point Rating (MQPR). The military quality point rating is calculated by dividing the total military quality points earned in a given period by the sum total of the coefficients within the same given period. The Semester MQPR includes only those professional endeavors for that semester. The Cumulative MQPR includes all professional endeavors to date at the Naval Academy (except for original grades of repeated professional courses).

TABLE II  
TABLE OF COEFFICIENTS FOR MILITARY MULTIPLE COMPUTATION

Factor	4/C year Semester		3/C year Semester		2/C year Semester		1/C year Semester		Total	Percent
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>								
Physical Education	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	25.6	16.78%
Athletic Performance		3.0		3.0		3.0		4.0	13.0	8.52%
Aptitude*	7.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	68.0	44.56%
Conduct	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	30.0	19.66%
Professional Courses**	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	16.0	10.48%
<b>TOTAL</b>									<b>150.6</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

\* NOTE 1: See Note 3 of paragraph 4 above.

**\*\* NOTE 2:** The Professional Course Coefficient is applied to the product of the course credit hours and numerical equivalent of the grade received. The Professional Course Coefficient is applied to only those professional courses that every midshipman must take. The grades for those semesters with more than one such professional course will be the weighted average of all professional courses taken during the semester. The professional courses that every midshipman must take are:

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE NAME	CREDIT HOURS
NE203	Ethics and Moral Reasoning	3
NL110	Preparing to Lead	2
NL310	Leadership: Theory and Applications	3
NL400	Law for the Junior Officer	2
NN210	Basic Navigation	2
NN310	Advanced Navigation	2
NS101	Fundamentals of Seamanship	2
NS43X	Junior Officer Practicum	2
ES300	Naval Weapons Systems	3

8. The Overall Order of Merit (OOM). The Academic Order of Merit (AOM), and the Military Order of Merit (MOM) are often used as information in the evaluation of midshipman performance, especially for potential selection for or participation in special competitive programs and opportunities at USNA. It is noted that the OOM is not a direct function of the AOM and MOM, and these rankings are not necessarily bounded by one another. Here fore, care should be exercised in interpreting and using these rankings.

9. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

10. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, SECNAV, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will automatically expire 5 years after effective date unless reissued or canceled prior to the 5-year anniversary date, or an extension has been granted.

  
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