

Department of English and Philosophy

Past Event

During the period 16-30 July, the Department of English and Philosophy conducted an Academic Individual Advanced Development trip titled “The Genealogy of the Warrior.” Sponsored by the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic (CAPE), this experience involved Cadets Lee Wakeman ('12; Art, Philosophy and Literature major), Grant Matthews ('12, APL major), Nick Pyskir ('13, APL major), and John Cronin ('13, American Politics major). Along with faculty leaders MAJ Chris Case and MAJ Bob Underwood (philosophy instructors and CAPE Fellows), the cadets explored the historical, cultural, and philosophical context of the warrior in classical civilization and the transformation from warrior-based societies to societies protected by professional armies. Their studies focused on the conflict between Rome and Carthage and the Roman Army and the Germanic Tribes. They investigated the tension between the two identities in the context of a republic defending itself from an empire (in the former case) and an ancient insurgency fought between a highly regulated classical society and a warrior culture on its frontier (in the latter). The trip’s goal was to deepen the cadets’ understanding of their identity as future professional Soldiers and warriors.

Highlights of the AIAD include the following: cadet- and faculty-run sessions with the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment (Vilseck, Germany) to discuss and capture recent experiences in Afghanistan for CAPE; a march around Rome’s ancient city walls with faculty from the NATO Defense College; a tour of the beach at Anzio and the US cemetery and memorial at Nettuno; a briefing on current Libya operations from RDML Fogo at the US Sixth Fleet Headquarters; and a tour of the current operations cell at the Joint Forces Headquarters at NATO South. The cadets also attended a presentation given by MAJ Case, MAJ Underwood, and Dr. David Rodin (University of Oxford) on the impact of the ethics of armed conflict on the laws of war at the Headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.



Cadets and faculty with the US Sixth Fleet Commander, VADM Harris, in Naples.



Cadets and Dr. David Rodin with Angela Gussing, Director of Operations for the ICRC.