

# Revised Academic Program Goals

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*Approved by the Academic Board and Superintendent 25 April 2013*

**The Overarching Academic Goal:** Graduates integrate knowledge and skills from a variety of disciplines to anticipate and respond appropriately to opportunities and challenges in a changing world.

**Communication:** Graduates communicate effectively with all audiences.

1. Listen actively, read critically, and develop an informed understanding of the communications of others.
2. Speak and write using Standard American English.
3. Effectively convey meaningful information to diverse audiences using appropriate forms and media.
4. Communicate in a foreign language.
5. Use sound logic and relevant evidence to make convincing arguments.

**Critical Thinking and Creativity:** Graduates think critically and creatively.

1. Identify the essential aspects of a situation and ask relevant questions.
2. Integrate knowledge and skills from a variety of disciplines.
3. Make meaningful connections and distinctions among diverse experiences and concepts.
4. Reason both quantitatively and qualitatively.
5. Think innovatively and accept risk to pursue solutions in the face of ambiguity.
6. Value reflection and creativity; envision possibilities.

**Lifelong Learning:** Graduates demonstrate the capability and desire to pursue progressive and continued intellectual development.

1. Demonstrate the willingness and ability to learn independently.
2. Engage successfully in deliberate self-directed and collaborative learning experiences.
3. Pursue self-awareness and embrace the responsibility for personal intellectual development.
4. Pursue knowledge in areas of personal or professional interest.

**Ethical Reasoning:** Graduates recognize ethical issues and apply ethical perspectives and concepts in decision making.

1. Understand the intellectual foundations of ethical principles.
2. Recognize ethical components of problems and situations.
3. Examine and evaluate different ethical perspectives, principles, and concepts in context.
4. Apply ethical perspectives and concepts in solving complex problems, including those found in military settings.

**Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics:** Graduates apply science, technology, engineering, and mathematics concepts and processes to solve complex problems.

1. Apply mathematics, science, and computing to model devices, systems, processes, or behaviors.
2. Apply the scientific method.
3. Collect and analyze data in support of decision making.
4. Apply an engineering design process to create effective and adaptable solutions.
5. Understand and use information technology appropriately, adaptively, and securely.

**Humanities and Social Sciences:** Graduates apply concepts from the humanities and social sciences to understand and analyze the human condition.

1. Understand, analyze, and know how to influence human behavior.
2. Analyze the history, diversity, complexity, and interaction of cultures.
3. Analyze political, legal, military, and economic influences on social systems.
4. Engage in and reflect on cross cultural experiences.
5. Integrate the methodologies of the humanities and social sciences in decision-making.

**Disciplinary Depth:** Graduates integrate and apply knowledge and methodological approaches gained through in-depth study of an academic discipline.

1. Apply disciplinary tools, methods of inquiry, and theoretical approaches.
2. Identify and explain representative questions and arguments of their chosen disciplines.
3. Recognize limits of a discipline as well as areas in which it contributes to intellectual inquiry and problem solving.
4. Synthesize knowledge and concepts from across their chosen disciplines.
5. Contribute disciplinary knowledge and skills as a part of a collaborative effort engaging challenges that span multiple disciplines.