RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS AGREEMENT BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

James Madison University (JMU) and Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from BRCC to JMU as they pursue their educational goals and a career in the U.S. Army through the JMU Army ROTC program. In an effort to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of military science courses and programs offered by our institutions, we do hereby enter into the following memorandum of understanding.

BACKGROUND

The JMU Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program is a 4-year college curriculum that produces Officers for the Regular Army, the Army Reserves and the Army National Guard. Admission is open to all college students who meet the mental, moral, and physical qualifications and who attend James Madison University or Blue Ridge Community College. Education goes beyond the classroom as it is designed to provide students with the basic concepts and principles of military art and science while developing the student's leadership, personal integrity, honor, responsibility, and appreciation for national security. These objectives establish a sound basis for future professional development and effective performance as commissioned Officers in the U.S. Army.

The JMU Army ROTC program is dynamic, exciting and challenging, yet still flexible enough to accommodate student needs. All aspects of a student's environment are addressed including the academic, physical, extracurricular, social and interpersonal. The Army ROTC program at JMU is one of the finest in the nation and has consistently been ranked near the top 5 percent of more than 270 ROTC programs in the nation.

As a member of the Duke Battalion (JMU's Army ROTC unit), students can participate in the Color Guard, Ranger Group, Scabbard and Blade Military Honor Society, Cannon Crew, and the Army 10 Miler Team.

The academic course of instruction is the Duke Battalion's primary concern and includes a 39-hour minor program in addition to lots of exciting training. Students may choose any academic major program of study, and participate in ROTC in conjunction with that program. The military science course of study is in addition to the student's normal academic program of study; military science courses make relevant electives for many JMU majors/minors.

CADETS are students who have been determined eligible for and are enrolled in the ROTC program (class and lab). CADETS must complete the ROTC enrollment paperwork (as listed below under 'Documentation for ROTC Enrollment'), and can compete to contract into the program. Upon meeting all contracting requirements, CADETS can contract and move into the Advance Course (300-400 level curriculum). Cadets compete against other Cadets for a contract; there are only a limited number of contracts in each class.

STUDENTS are those who are enrolled in the military science classes but are ineligible to contract. STUDENTS may be deemed ineligible to contract because they refuse to fill out the ROTC enrollment paperwork, do not meet the medical standards to commission, or just want to take the classes for extra electives and leadership training to help them in their civilian careers. STUDENTS (as defined in this paragraph) are never enrolled in the Advanced Course (MSCI 300 or 400 level courses).

The 100 and 200 level Military Science courses (Basic Course) are open to freshman and sophomore students at James Madison University and Blue Ridge Community College. Typically, incoming BRCC

freshman students will enroll in MSC 111 (2 credit lecture) and MSC 196 (2 credit leadership lab) and incoming JMU freshman students will enroll in MSCI 101 (2 credit lecture) and MSCI 100 (2 credit leadership lab). This begins the progression through the Professional Military Education curriculum needed in order to complete the requirements to commission. There is no military obligation incurred by taking 100- and 200- level military science courses.

Students transferring to JMU must be contracted in order to enroll into the Advanced Course (300 and 400 level military science classes).

The JMU Military Science 300 and 400 level courses are limited to contracted **CADETS only** who have completed the basic course requirements and are contracted in ROTC according to Army regulations.

INCOMING FRESHMEN

Enrolling in the basic military science classes is the first step to earning a contract with ROTC. Students must meet all other eligibility criteria in order to be a full contracted Cadet, and on their way to becoming a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army upon graduation.

Documentation for ROTC Enrollment (Not required until first day of class)

In order to become a Cadet once enrolled in the military science course, students must submit a series of completed documents, which are provided by the ROTC instructor to students on the first day of class.

Contracting Requirements

In order to earn a contract with the United States Army ROTC Duke Battalion, students must meet all eligibility requirements and provide proof of citizenship (or application for citizenship), pass an Army physical examination, undergo a criminal background check, and complete all required paperwork. Students desiring to contract with ROTC must meet eligibility and competitive requirements. Here are some basic requirements:

- Be a US Citizen
- Be at least 17 years old, but not older than 31
- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 (3.0 to be competitive)
- Pass the Army Physical Fitness Test (with 180 of 300 points 240 to be competitive)
- Pass the Army's medical exam
- Complete the 100 level Basic Courses

Remaining requirements can be found in Army Regulation 145-1.

Meeting all physical and academic qualifications does not guarantee that a Cadet will be contracted. The contracting decision remains with the Department Head of JMU's Military Science Department or the Professor of Military Science of any Army ROTC program in the nation.

Physical Requirements

In order to contract into the ROTC program, students must not only be mentally fit, but physically fit as well. The physical fitness program consists of training 3 days a week (M/W/F) from 0550 to 0700. Participation in the physical fitness program is mandatory for all **contracted Cadets**, and all JMU and BRCC ROTC Cadets/students are strongly encouraged to attend the physical fitness program to improve their fitness level and get to know how the Army Physical Fitness Program works and get to know the other Cadets and Cadre better.

Army Physical Fitness Test - The APFT consists of push-ups, sit-ups, and the 2-mile run. Cadets are required to pass the APFT.

JMU ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students transferring from BRCC to JMU must meet standard admissions requirements at JMU for transfer students, but may also be admitted under the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) currently in effect between JMU and BRCC. Please consult the JMU Office of Admissions Transferring from a Virginia Community College web page at

https://www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-VCCS.shtml for information concerning transfer admission standards and the transfer application process.

ACCEPTANCE AND APPLICATION OF MILTARY SCIENCE TRANSFER CREDIT

Students in the Army ROTC program at BRCC who meet JMU transfer requirements will be awarded equivalent credit for military science classes as indicated below.

	JMU Course	JMU Credits	BRCC Course	BRCC
				Credits
Freshman	MSCI 100	2	MSC 196	2
Year	MSCI 101	2	MSC 111	2
	MSCI 100	2	MSC 196	2
	MSCI 102	2	MSC 112	2
Sophomore	MSCI 200	2	MSC 296	2
Year	MSCI 201	2	MSC 211	2
	MSCI 200	2	MSC 296	2
	MSCI 202	2	MSC 212	2

Placement credit for the Basic Course may be awarded through multiple programs including: prior military service, basic training, or successful completion of the Army ROTC Basic Camp at Ft. Knox, KY.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BRCC

BRCC will:

- 1. Register JMU Army ROTC instructors as BRCC instructors.
- Schedule BRCC MSC courses as appropriate each semester at the same time/location as JMU
 MSCI courses and register interested BRCC students in these courses. JMU Army ROTC
 instructors will teach MSC courses at the JMU Army ROTC center.
- 3. Provide JMU and the JMU Army ROTC unit a list of the students enrolled in each MSC course at BRCC.
- 4. Disseminate accurate information to prospective transfer students regarding the general conditions of this Army ROTC MOU. Those provisions include the conditions for acceptance to JMU and notification that acceptance to the university does not guarantee acceptance to any particular major program of study nor does it guarantee that a Cadet will be contracted.
- 5. Provide academic advising services to assist BRCC students in choosing courses for the Army ROTC program. The BRCC Student Services Division will train advisers to provide appropriate and accurate advising services related to students' plans to apply to JMU.
- 6. Notify the Vice Provost for Academic Development at JMU when situations arise that warrant BRCC faculty and JMU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
- 7. Collaborate with JMU to promote the Army ROTC MOU among prospective and current BRCC/JMU Army ROTC

- BRCC students.
- 8. Develop a Career Studies Certificate in Leadership that will include all 100 and 200 level BRCC MSC courses.
- 9. Provide use of the BRCC Recreation Center for BRCC and JMU ROTC students when needed at no additional cost to BRCC or JMU students.
- 10. Provide parking passes and visitor IDs if needed for JMU ROTC students at no cost.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF JMU

JMU will:

- 1. Provide BRCC adjunct applications for each JMU Army ROTC instructor and provide transcripts for each instructor.
- 2. Provide BRCC with the times/locations for each of the MSCI courses scheduled each semester. Location for MSCI (and MSC) classes will be Memorial Hall room 1125 unless otherwise indicated.
- 3. Provide parking passes for BRCC students for each semester for access to Memorial Hall and to JMU University Recreation (UREC) facilities.
- 4. Provide access to BRCC students to UREC facilities (including pool facilities) for ROTC related activities only.
- 5. Provide BRCC with any changes to JMU military science courses that would impact this agreement. An annual review will be conducted by JMU MSCI Department Head to ensure that this information is shared with BRCC on a timely basis.
- 6. Disseminate accurate information to prospective transfer students regarding the general conditions of this Army ROTC MOU. Those provisions include the conditions for acceptance to JMU and notification that acceptance to the university does not guarantee acceptance to any particular major program of study nor does it guarantee that a Cadet will be contracted.
- 7. Provide academic advising services to Army ROTC students during the term prior to transfer to assist these students in making a smooth transition from BRCC to JMU.
- 8. Notify the appropriate individual at BRCC when situations arise that warrant BRCC faculty and JMU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
- 9. Collaborate with BRCC to promote the Army ROTC MOU among prospective and current BRCC students.
- 10. Provide no less than five (5) and no more than nine (9) class spots for BRCC students per academic year. Once a BRCC student starts his/her MSCI 100 level classes, he/she will keep his/her seat until he/she completes the 100 and 200 level courses or until he/she withdraws. If there is not enough interest from BRCC students, the remaining seats will be released back to JMU students a week prior to the beginning of the semester/term.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

- 1. BRCC will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the agreement at BRCC. JMU will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of this agreement at JMU.
 - Representing JMU will be the Vice Provost for Academic Development and the Dean of Admissions.
 - Representing BRCC will be the Vice President of Instruction and Student Services and the Dean of Student Services.
- 2. Both parties are to communicate the conditions of this agreement to their respective clientele (external and internal constituents). JMU and BRCC will review this agreement every three years and make adjustments or amendments as deemed appropriate to maintain the integrity of each institution as well as for the improvement of the transfer process and student articulation. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing agreement.
- 3. The agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice should be given at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination, and students who entered under the agreement may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

Approval of Agreement:

Dr. Robert Young

Vice President of Instruction and Student Services

Blue Ridge Community College

Date

Dr. Marilou Johnson

Vice Provost for Academic Development

James Madison University

Date