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Cadet Class Statistics (as of 31 January 2020)

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2020	703	286	989
2021	767	293	1060
2022	796	279	1075
2023	790	307	1097
WING	3056	1165	4221

58 International Cadets are counted in the Cadet Wing Strength, but do not count in the Fiscal year Strength.

Academy brings back MTIs as CW refocuses on training fundamentals



Story by Jennifer Spradlin, Jan. 29, 2020

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. – For the first time in a decade, the Academy will have permanent military training instructors on the Cadet Wing staff to enhance the military training program here.

“I want this to be the nation’s most disciplined, professional and future-focused military training organization,” said Brig. Gen. Michele Edmondson, commandant of cadets.

In 2004, the Academy created the Academy Military Trainer program. The role of AMTs quickly evolved into a mentorship and leadership support function to squadron air officers commanding. After 2009, when the last MTI transitioned from the Cadet Wing, their role in training was reduced to weeklong training sessions before Basic Cadet Training.

As part of ongoing training evaluation, the commandant, who previously commanded the 737th Training Group at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, identified the need for MTIs to bring their expertise back to the Academy.

“The Air Force has invested significant training in our MTI corps and as a result, the MTIs we develop today have incredible maturity, leadership experience and a deep understanding of what training ‘right’ looks like,” Edmondson said.

Five MTIs are slated to join the Cadet Wing by March as preparations for BCT ramp up. Master Sgt. Marcus Coley, the first MTI, has arrived and is working with cadet training officers to improve their squadron training sessions.

“I see our role as providing guidance to the cadets and making sure accountability is a core part of their daily interactions,” Coley said. “There needs to be a balance between making corrections and the follow-up, mentorship piece [of leading].”

Coley spent more than three years at Lackland training newly enlisted Airmen and military training instructors. He said emphasis on proper wear of the uniform and drill and ceremony is key to establishing self-discipline. He also championed transparency and respect and dignity while addressing infractions.

“There are different ways to get someone’s attention other than doing push-ups, and I’m just excited to share my training expertise with the cadets here,” he said.

As part of its new training plan, the Cadet Wing will also leverage experts in the Athletic Department to lead and plan physical conditioning for recruits during BCT to reduce injuries and better prepare the cadets to meet Air Force standards.

“We’re looking to see that consistency in training across the squadrons so that all cadets have the same opportunity to succeed here,” Edmondson said.

Updating Our Alma Mater to Celebrate All of Us



WASHINGTON D.C. — As a second-generation airman and an Air Force Academy graduate, I cherish our storied heritage and the sacrifices of all the trailblazers who made our Academy and the Air Force what they are today. As the 21st chief of staff, I am equally proud of today’s exceptional men and women who make us the greatest Air Force on the planet.

Holding dear these two unmistakable realities — our rich heritage and who we are today — underpin my decision to update the U.S. Air Force Song. I have authorized Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria ’85, USAFA superintendent, to use a new version of the third verse of the U.S. Air Force Song, our Alma Mater, that better reflects the reality of today’s force by celebrating all who have — and will — step up to serve.

Most of us can remember standing in Falcon Stadium or at Clune Arena facing West Point or Annapolis cadets following a spectacular win at 6,000 feet. Over the past two years, I have been honored to attend the women’s service academy volleyball tournament played at the Pentagon. Our team crushed the competition last year. At the end of the match, I stood with our brave women and sang our Alma Mater.

These are the women we will ask to go into combat and fight just as women have done for a generation. Yet this version of the song, their Alma Mater, was not about them. The version we all sang offered, “a toast to the host of the men we boast.” Across the court stood athletes from Annapolis, which changed its alma mater in 2004, and those from West Point, whose song changed in 2008. It is time for us to change.

Last year, a team of airmen and cadets at the Academy updated the lyrics based on bedrock principles. Our song must reflect our history, the inspiring service and accomplishments of all who’ve served, and the rich diversity that makes today’s Air Force indisputably the strongest and most capable in the world. While I’ve asked Gen. Silveria and our Air Force Academy to lead this change, we’ll also take a hard look at whether further updates may be warranted for the other verses of the song.

Valid as this rationale is, these changes will draw notice and spark debate. The Air Force song is such a powerful and enduring touchstone that has been sung at countless funerals and ceremonies. Changing it will elicit emotions and opinions.

This is why I must be clear. In making this decision, I respect the views of others who will not agree. But I also know with absolute certainty and clarity that these changes are about adding to, not subtracting from, who we are. Changing the lyrics in no way diminishes the history and accomplishments of men or dilutes our eternal gratitude for their sacrifice and bravery.

These new lyrics speak more accurately to all we do, all that we are and all that we strive to be as a profession of arms. They add proper respect and recognition to everyone who serves and who has served. This respect and recognition is not only appropriate, it is fully earned.

There are plenty of inspiring examples of courageous women leading us in combat and in service. Col. (Ret.) Martha McSally, Class of 1988, was the first woman in the Air Force to serve as the commander of any combat aviation squadron, to include fighters and bombers. She now serves as a U.S. senator from Arizona.

Capt. Amy Lynn Svoboda, Class of 1989, is another. Her squadron's training officer, Svoboda was killed flying her A-10 during a night training mission. While a cadet, she was a member of the women's volleyball team, and every year the Amy Svoboda Award is given to the player who best exemplifies selfless service.

Let me share as well the story of Maj. Adrianna M. Vorderbruggen, Class of 2002 and a highly regarded special agent with the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations, who was killed in 2015 by a suicide bomber while stationed in Afghanistan. She was one of six airmen killed in the attack at Bagram Air Field in what was the single deadliest attack since 2013. All served with OSI or Air Force Security Forces.

This is who we are. We will never forget our history. Our song embodies our ethos and must be inclusive of all who raise their right hand and take the solemn oath to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. We freely take this oath without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

When I walk the sacred grounds of Arlington National Cemetery this Memorial Day as I do every year and visit the airmen killed under my command as the Combined Forces Air Component Commander in the Middle East, I will visit men and women buried side by

side. Such is the nature of combat. It does not discriminate. Neither should we.

NEW VERSE III

Here's a toast to the host

Of those who love the vastness of the sky,

To a friend we send a message of the brave who serve on high.

We drink to those who gave their all of old,

Then down we roar to score the rainbow's pot of gold.

A toast to the host of those we boast, the U.S. Air Force!

Diverse speakers, common goals: NCLS speakers share hopes for better tomorrow



Story by Jennifer Spradlin, Photos by Josh Armstrong & Trevor Cokley, Feb. 21, 2020

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. – Two Olympic athletes and a human rights activist talked to cadets about overcoming adversity during the Air Force Academy's National Character and Leadership Symposium Feb. 20.

New York Times bestselling author Ishmael Beah was a child soldier during the Sierra Leone War in West Africa and sisters Jocelyne and Monique Lamoureux overcame sexism and inequality to negotiate a fair contract for women hockey players.

Beah grew up in a remote village. He loved rap, recited Shakespeare for his parents and only knew of war from pirated Hollywood movies. At 13, the Revolutionary United Front launched a coup to overthrow the Joseph Momoh-led government. He lost his parents, two brothers and many friends in the violence.

Beah was forced to fight in an all-boy military unit in brutal conditions for three years before UNICEF, an international humanitarian organization, intervened. He later moved to the U.S., finished his education and wrote a memoir about his experiences as a child soldier, *A Long Way Gone: A Story of Redemption and Hope*.

“I wrote my first book to provide context to the violence and to show the beauty of the human spirit. Even amidst war, to show we were still humans – we played, we laughed,” he said.

Beah took the advice of his late father to overcome the emotional burden of the war.

“[He] said, if someone is alive, there’s a possibility for good to come into their life. I was still alive, and I had to figure out what to do [with the opportunity],” he said.

Beah became UNICEF’s first Advocate for Children Affected by War and continues to speak on human rights.

Leveling the Playing Field



The Lamoureux sisters grew up in a hockey household and dreamt of becoming Olympic athletes. By 2017, they were widely decorated, senior members of the

national team when they risked their careers to join a boycott in favor of equitable wages for women hockey athletes. It meant they might have to sit out the World Championship game that year, which the U.S. was hosting in Michigan, and lose their spots on the 2018 Olympic team.

“We knew what we were worth, and we collectively decided we weren’t going to play unless significant progress was made,” Jocelyne said.

A deal was reached less than a week ahead of the Championships. Despite the setback, U.S. won that competition and the gold medal in the 2018 Olympics. Jocelyne scored the winning shootout goal to help the team defeat Canada, who had bested them in two previous Olympics.

“When we think about our careers, and we think about the platform that being an Olympic athlete provides us, we saw it as our duty to try to level the playing field,” Jocelyne said. “It would have been a wasted opportunity not to make a difference, to [work toward] creating a more inclusive environment for the next generation.”

The Lamoureux sisters recently launched a charitable foundation, which provides hot meals to unprivileged children.

To watch video of this year’s NCLS speakers, visit www.youtube.com/USAFAOfficial

PREP SCHOOL INFORMATION

Below is the Point of Contact for questions for our Preparatory School Candidate parents.

Central Email for Prep School Questions:
PrepInfo@usafa.edu, or phone (719) 333-2583

Website: <https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/>

FACEBOOK:
<https://www.facebook.com/USAFAPrepSchool/>

Mail: HQ USAFA/PS
5229 Cedar Drive, Suite 117
USAF Academy, CO 80840-3100

Prep School 2019-2020 Academic Calendar:
https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PL_2019-2020_Calendar.pdf

Gift Cards order phone numbers:
Cadet Store (Base Exchange) (719) 472-1953
10 FSS: (719) 472-7930

HELPFUL WEBSITES and POCs

Parent Information Link:
<https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>
Graduation Information Link:
<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/>

AOG's Event Calendar Link:
www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events

Academic Calendars Link:
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>

Cadet Curriculum Handbook:
(also outlines summer programs available for cadets in what year):
<https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/CHB.pdf>

Cadet Major listing:
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/majors-minors/>

Cadet Clubs:
<https://www.usafa.edu/cadet-life/clubs/>

Cadet Survival Guide: Go to
www.usafasupport.com and click Arnold Hall

Cadet Media:
www.usafasupport.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media

Admissions:
(parents can help us recruit future cadets):
www.academyadmissions.com/

Sports Schedules:
www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/

Base Cadet Treats (Flower Shop):
(719) 472-8589
petalsnblooms.com

Hometown News Release (must have CAC card):
<https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public>

Life Touch photos:
POC: Sherri Peloso <http://lifetouch.com/>
1 (800) 426-9533 extension 128 or 241

UPCOMING DATES:

19 – 21 Feb 20	National Character and Leadership Symposium (NCLS)
12 – 14 Mar 20	2023 Recognition
20 – 29 Mar 20	Cadet Spring Break, released LMD, Return by 7:00pm on 29 Mar 20
21 – 29 Mar 20	Prep School Spring Break, Return by 7:00pm on 29 Mar 20
29 – 1 May 20	Prep School Finals
11 – 15 May 20	Cadet Finals
17 May 20	Prep School Baccalaureate
18 May 20	Prep School Graduation/Parade
22 May 20	2021 Ring Dance 6:00 – 10:00 pm (Mitchell Hall/Arnold Hall)
28 May 20	2020 Class Graduates https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/
30 May 20	1st Summer Session Begins
20 Jun 20	1st Summer Session Ends/ 2nd Summer Session Begins
25 Jun 20	2024 Class In-Processes
26 Jun 20	2024 Swearing In Ceremony (time TBD)
4 Jul 20	4 th of July Holiday (2024 BCT training continues)
31 Jul 20	2024 BCT Graduation (not for parents) Cadet Wing only
1 Aug 20	3 rd Summer Session Ends/BCT Ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm
6 Aug 20	Cadets Classes Start
4 -7 Sep 20	2020 Parents Weekend https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/
19 Sept 20	Football Game at Purdue
12 Oct 20	Columbus Day No Classes
11 Nov 20	Veterans Day No Classes
24 – 29 Nov 20	Cadets Thanksgiving Break Return by 7:00pm 29 Nov 20
5 -6 Dec 20	Deans Weekend
7 -11 Dec 20	Cadet Finals
14 Dec – 3 Jan 21	Cadet Winter Break Return by 7:00 pm on 3 Jan 21
18 Jan 21	Martin Luther King Holiday No Classes
15 Feb 21	Presidents Day No Classes
24 – 26 Feb 21	National Character & Leadership Symposium (NCLS)
11 – 13 Mar 21	2024 Recognition
19-28 Mar 21	Cadets Spring Break Return by 7:00 pm 28 Mar 21
8 – 9 May 21	Deans Weekend
10 – 14 May 20	Cadets Finals
26 May 21	2021 Graduation
31 May 21	Memorial Day Holiday
29 May 21	1st Summer Session Begins
19 Jun 21	1st Summer Session Ends/ 2nd Summer Session Begins
24 Jun 21	2025 Class In-Processes
4 Jul 21	4th of July Holiday (BCT continues)
10 Jul 21	2nd Summer Period ends/3rd Summer Period Begins
31 Jul 21	3 rd Summer Session Ends/BCT Ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm

Parent Liaison Contact Info:
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 Parents' Liaison
 Phone: (719) 333-3828,