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Cadet Class Statistics (as of 30 June 19)

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2018	3	0	3
2019	13	1	14
2020	712	289	1001
2021	779	302	1081
2022	815	282	1097
2023	832	323	1155
WING	3154	1197	4351

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



By Jennifer Spradlin, July 19, 2019

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — What does the Air Force Academy have to do with man’s first flight to the moon?

A lot, actually, if you ask Gary Payton, a NASA astronaut and distinguished visiting astronautics professor at the Academy.

“We’re preparing cadets for a space domain that has transitioned from a sanctuary – pretty much since the Apollo era – to what is now considered a warfighting arena,” he said.

He’s right. In 2019 alone, two cadet-designed satellites are slated to join a collection of U.S. space assets.

FalconSAT-8 will carry a new thruster and other Defense Department experiments. Payton said programs like these are part of a growing number of space efforts involving cadets.

Payton was on the all-military crew for the Space Shuttle *Discovery*’s STS-51C mission, which launched Jan. 24, 1985. The three-day mission was the only time Payton left the Earth’s orbit.

Payton said it’s no surprise there’s a renewed interest in space, especially as July 20 marks the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission.

“The mission led to a wave of interest in [related fields] as well as the development of new technology like the computer microchip,” he said.

Payton said President John F. Kennedy’s directive to reach the moon by the end of the 1960s’ created the drive for the U.S. space program.

“It’s been said John Kennedy reached into the 21st Century and that’s really true,” he said.

Since his space flight, Payton has regularly been consulted by senior government officials to discuss the development of a space force or unified space command.

For all this, the 1971 Academy graduate said teaching cadets is close to his heart. He said today’s cadets are far more advanced than he and his classmates ever were.

“The amount of experience cadets get in all phases of engineering from designing to hands-on building and

managing satellites in orbit is about equal to what I had as a captain,” he said.



U.S. Air Force Academy Cadets Zack LaRocque, left, and Evan Place, dig post holes to place a sign at the Therapeutic Riding Institute. LaRocque, Place and 18 other cadets traveled to Spring Valley, Ohio, July 6, to volunteer with the institute. (U.S. Air Force photo/John Van Winkle)

By John Van Winkle, 88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs, July 18, 2019

SPRING VALLEY, Ohio – Twenty Air Force Academy cadets hit the farm July 6, helping the Therapeutic Riding Institute prepare its new Spring Valley location for operations.

The cadets were visiting Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as part of an Academy immersion program designed to provide cadets with a greater understanding of different Air Force missions and the multitude of career paths available.

Community service is also part of the Academy experience, with cadets averaging 30,000 volunteer hours per year. Cadets demonstrated that Air Force core value of Service Before Self, July 6, by spending the day working outdoors at the Therapeutic Riding Institute, a volunteer-driven community service nonprofit organization.

For participants ages 5 and up, the Institute’s therapeutic riding programs are a recreational activity that provides opportunities for physical, emotional and cognitive benefit through horseback riding equine-assisted activities and therapies.

Cadets lent a hand to the center by helping it get its first permanent location ready for business.

“This is huge for us. For the last 46 years, we have operated out of 14 different locations – leased locations,” said Christine Pirot, director of development for the Institute. “And it’s just within this last month that we have purchased our very own home.”

“This is the first time we’ve ever owned managed and operated our own facility, and just like anytime you buy a new house, you’ve got to get in there and clean it up and get it situated the way you want it situated. To have the cadets out here helping us by getting the fences and barns ready for the horses, this is a really big deal for us. They even installed our sign. They made things official today for this non-profit.”

The institute moved to its new 23-acre location earlier this year with six horses. The new facility will allow the institute to serve its current students, and room for twice as many horses, providing the opportunity for potential expansion. potentially expand

“It’s definitely a Service Before Self type of deal, and we’re putting in some good work that’s going to a good cause,” said Cadet Christian Burgoyne of Cadet Squadron 35. “The Institute’s staff told us about their new facility and how working with horses helps people, and it was pretty heartfelt. I feel really good about the work we’re doing, and I’m very happy to sweat a little bit more.”

Sweat is something Burgoyne got to do, trimming weeds along the exterior fences of the 23-acre facility, in the 90-plus degree heat. Other cadets cleared and sometimes excavated their way to the fences, leveled the ground in horse stalls, trimmed shrubbery, loaded and transported gravel, sifted through donated materials, and repaired horse stalls and gates.

The cadets even put their Academy experience to work, by sifting through tent materials to setting up a tent. During basic training at the Academy, cadets must march five miles and set up a tent city, then live and operate out of that tent city for more than a week. This time, they didn’t have to sleep under the tent, but made sure the tent was fully functional. Additionally, they left directions for volunteers to repeat the process.

That tent will be used for the institute’s upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony

“On July 13th, we’ve got our official ribbon-cutting and we’ve had volunteers that have been with us for decades and worked a lot of their lives with us,” said Pirot. “To be able to do this ribbon-cutting is something that is truly meaningful to a lot of people in our community.”



Feature story: AF Academy cadets take educational journey to Normandy, pay tribute to D-Day

By Ray Bowden, July 17, 2019

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Cadets from the Air Force Academy spent two weeks of their summer break near the beach, but it probably wasn’t the shoreline you’d expect.

They went to Normandy, France, to pay their respects to the 160,000 allied troops who crossed the English Channel on D-Day, June 6, 1944, to begin clawing-back Europe from Nazi control.

The two-week academic journey took the cadets and some of their faculty to Normandy where the allied campaign, Operation Overlord, occurred. The group also participated in the D-Day 75th Anniversary memorial ceremonies honoring World War II veterans and European allies, featuring addresses by French President Emmanuel Macron and U.S. President Donald Trump.

Perhaps most importantly, said Lt. Col. Eugene Richter, deputy director of the Academy's Geospatial Sciences Program, cadets met with D-Day veterans who helped liberate France in June 1944. The veterans shared their recollections of the landings and the days that followed.

The trip also provided an once-in-a-lifetime academic opportunity for the students of military history and military geography, Richter said.

“Walking the beaches and hedgerows where the battle for France unfolded, and reflecting on the heroism and sacrifices which occurred in those exact locations, gave us a first-hand understanding no film or textbook could ever replicate,” he said.

At the Normandy American Cemetery, cadets stood by the gravesites of U.S. service members and spoke about their bravery and loss.

“It opened my eyes to how much sacrifice and pain was shared through the battles of D-Day,” said Cadet 1st Class Molly Brabant.

Allied casualties that day are estimated to be 10,000.

“Visiting famous battle sites, seeing the geographic evidence of the bombing and shelling and interacting with decorated veterans, made everything about Operation Overlord come to life,” Brabant said.

Cadet 2nd Class Robert Maxwell said he was impressed by the level of respect between the two countries.

“The moment President Macron thanked the American veterans was the most moving part of the memorial ceremony,” he said.

The trip changed Maxwell's view of the scope of D-Day.

“Learning about it is one thing, but seeing the beaches in person greatly changed my perspective,” he said. “It made me realize how hard an objective D-Day was from a logistics standpoint.”

Cadet 1st Class Daniel Smith said the best way to learn history is to physically experience it.

“Nearly every street corner in Normandy is the same as it was in 1944, and each step further inland was an equally important part of the invasion,” he said. “I met dozens of World War II veterans who contributed to this invasion, each providing their own personal stories, fears, and triumphs from D-Day. My continuing research into the D-Day invasion will be forever informed by the veterans I met.”

The allied landing at the beaches of Normandy remains the largest sea-to-land invasion in history.



U.S. Air Force Academy — (U.S. Air Force photo/Trevor Cokley)

By Judith Cara, July 15, 2019

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.— Astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin and Michael Collins blasted away from Earth on a Saturn V rocket on July 16, 1969. On July 20, Armstrong and Aldrin set foot on the moon, the first humans to do so. The three returned to Earth on July 24.

Celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the lunar landing are planned around the world. Whether you remember that day or have experienced it only through videos and stories, visit the Air Force Academy's Planetarium July 20 to view “*Apollo 11: First Steps Edition*,” a cinematic experience that showcases the real-life moments of humankind's first steps on the moon.

The filmmakers reconstruct the exhilarating final moments of preparation, liftoff, landing and return of this historic mission — one of humanity's greatest achievements and the first to put men on the

moon. With a newly-discovered trove of never-before-seen footage and audio recordings, “*Apollo 11: First Steps Edition*” joins Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins, the Mission Control team and millions of spectators around the world, during those momentous days and hours in 1969 when humankind took a giant leap into the future.

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/PL
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

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:
(just a listing of clubs and POCs, not a schedule of where they may be):
<https://www.usafa.edu/cadet-life/clubs/>

Cadet Survival Guide: Go to www.usafasupport.com and click Arnold Hall or go to the below link:
<http://nebula.wsimg.com/0c9d0bf12f8b6a1ca725ae69871b531b?AccessKeyId=C7760A2EE485D3702028&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

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

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

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:

12 Jul 19	Field Day (2023 Class) (no parent contact, but parents can watch)
13 Jul 19	Rodeo (no parent contact)
14 Jul 19	2 nd Session Ends/3 rd Session Begins
17 Jul 19	Prep School In- Processing
20 Jul 19	DDO (Doolie Day Out) Cadets can call home and will have cell phones
21 Jul 19	March out to Jack's Valley (Parents can come to cheer C4Cs)
31 Jul 19	March back from Jack's Valley (Parents can come to cheer C4Cs)
1 Aug 19	2023 Class should get laptops
2 Aug 19	2023 BCT Graduation (not for parents) Cadet Wing only
3 Aug 19	3 rd Session Ends/ BCT ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7pm
6 Aug 19	Acceptance Day Parade, 9:00am, parade field
6 Aug 19	Prep School Classes Begin
8 Aug 19	Cadet Classes Begin
30 Aug – 2 Sep 19	2019 Parents Weekend https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/
5 Oct 19	Football Game against NAVY (away)
14 Oct 19	Columbus Day Holiday (no classes)
2 Nov 19	Football Game against ARMY (Home)
11 Nov 19	Veterans Day Holiday (no classes)
26 Nov – 1 Dec 19	Thanksgiving Break Leave after LMD; return by 7 pm on 1 Dec 19
9 – 13 Dec 19	Cadet Finals
16 Dec 19 – 5 Jan 20	Cadet Winter Break; Return by 7:00pm on 5 Jan 20
20 Jan 20	Martin Luther King Holiday (no classes)
17 Feb 20	Presidents Day Holiday (no classes)
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
11 – 15 May 20	Cadet Finals
28 May 20	2020 Class Graduates
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

Parent Liaison Contact Info:

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