



PHOTO ACCESS FOR PARENTS -

The U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs office provides command information to the installation and the public. One of the ways we do this is through social media venues such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. All information provided is official, but there is also fun stuff on there too. Did you know you can download photos from our Facebook page for free?

[Official USAFA Facebook site](#)

[Official USAFA Twitter site](#)

[Official USAFA Instagram site](#)

[Official USAFA Flick'r site](#)

Prep School Access:

<https://twitter.com/USAFAPrepSchool>

www.facebook.com/AFPrepSchool

<https://www.instagram.com/usafapreppofficial/>

We also want your Academy photos. Upload them to Instagram using #YourAcademy and #YourUSAFAPrep for the Prep School. You might see it on Facebook and Twitter. If you have any questions, please call the Public Affairs office at (719) 333-7731.

Cadet Class Statistics (as of 29 February 2020)

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2020	701	286	987
2021	767	293	1060
2022	794	278	1072
2023	784	305	1089
WING	3046	1162	4208

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

USAFA Parents,

One week ago, we began the orderly dismissal of nearly three-quarters of our cadet population, sending most underclass cadets home in an effort to mitigate the risks of spreading the COVID-19 virus within our confined cadet area. You, and all our United States Air Force Academy community, played a great role in safeguarding the health and safety of our cadets as they practice social distancing at home and at USAFA while continuing to take their courses online. This is a first in the history of our Academy, and as important members of the USAFA family we need your help to navigate this uncharted territory. We are expecting more individual responsibility of our cadets now than perhaps ever before. All cadets will resume their coursework via remote learning on Wednesday, 25 March. Courses will be taught synchronously (where all students "meet" on-line simultaneously with the instructor) and/or asynchronously (where the instructor posts course material and cadets complete work without being required to log in at a particular time). Faculty members have contacted the cadets to discuss the instruction format and requirements moving forward. Please encourage your cadet to establish a good study space and prepare for remote classes by sharing this helpful link:

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/d4894e0c-9a0e-4359-a0a5-f8344d8ea21e>

In every squadron the first class cadets, who have remained at the Academy, have each been assigned 4-5 underclass cadets to lead, mentor and coach through this process and they will check in with each cadet at least once per week. Underclass cadets will have the support of the firsties, their AOCs, and our entire USAFA leadership team, but our success will ultimately rely on them being proactive in their learning and staying engaged with USAFA. If cadets are

unable to complete assigned tasks and meet our expectations remotely, they can be called back to the Academy. No cadets were forced to leave our campus, and anyone can return to USAFA if they need to for personal or connectivity reasons.

Each aspect of cadet development will continue at home to the fullest extent possible, including the maintenance of physical fitness. Our Athletic Department staff has developed suggested daily workouts that can be completed in any location, and will provide these to all cadets in the near future.

At present there have been no positive cases of COVID-19 among our cadet population, but we have plans to take swift action should any cases occur. For our firsties and the other cadets remaining at USAFA, I have prohibited their departure from the installation in order to mitigate the risks of exposure outside of our gates. For the cadets and cadet candidates who have returned home, travel continues to be limited per Department of Defense order to a 100 mile radius of their home of record. Despite this radius, I must reemphasize that everyone should do all they can to limit outings to food and essentials, and travel only when absolutely necessary. You can help us continue to protect our cadets by adhering to the social distancing and isolation measures recognized by the CDC as the best means to prevent exposure.

I encourage you to stay up to date with communications to cadets from our Superintendent, Commandant, Dean and Athletic Director at <https://www.usafa.edu/news/coronavirus/>.

This situation changes daily and even hourly, but we will continue to do what is right for the health and safety of our cadets, their education and training, and the execution of our mission. I am proud of the conduct I have seen from our cadets, who are proving that they are well on their way to becoming the leaders our Air and Space Forces will soon need them to be. Once again, thank you for your support and partnership as we confront this challenge together.

Very Respectfully,
Jay Silveria

Air Force Academy to temporarily close to visitors starting March 13 *Staff report, March 12, 2020*



U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. – As a precautionary measure, and in response to the world and nationwide spread of COVID-19, the U.S. Air Force Academy will temporarily close to visitors as of Friday, March 13, 2020 at 5 p.m.

While we understand this action will be disappointing to some, your health and safety as well as that of our military, civilian personnel, family members and base community is our top priority.

There are no reported cases of COVID-19 on the Academy; however, USAFA leadership will continue to evaluate the situation and take risk-based measures to safeguard our base community as well as our visitors.

This restriction does not impact access for on-base residents, Air Academy High School students and faculty, Department of Defense ID card holders, or anyone conducting official business. Gate hours also remain unchanged.

Visit <https://www.usafa.edu/news/coronavirus/> for more Air Force Academy coronavirus information.

AF Academy senior capstone increases awareness of banned substances



Cadet 1st Class Melissa Brunkal speaks to a class of law students at the Air Force Academy, Feb. 25. She and Cadets 1st Class Alex Hankhouse, Hailee Macias and Isaac Turner presented their capstone project concerning Defense Department and Air Force drug policies and familiarizing cadets and Airmen with the DOD banned substances list.

Story by Ray Bowden, photos by Trang Le, Feb. 5, 2020

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Four law students hope their senior capstone project helps cadets at the Air Force Academy make smart decisions about products containing ingredients and substances banned by the Defense Department.

Cadets 1st Class Alex Hankhouse, Melissa Brunkal, Hailee Macias and Isaac Turner designed their capstone to educate cadets about products containing Cannabinol - "CBD," - and industrial

hemp, marketed in a variety of products including oils, syrups, health supplements, lotions and clothing.

"Read the ingredients," Brunkal said. "You might be familiar with a brand, but you might not be familiar with all of their products. You could be using an illegal substance and not even know it."

Article 112a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice bans service members from using illegal substances, including hemp material and CBD often found in products.

See the Defense Department's list of banned substances here:

<https://www.opss.org/dietary-supplement-ingredients-prohibited-department-defense>

"There's more to the Air Force's policy on drugs than the prohibition of [marijuana], LSD, cocaine and other well-known drugs," Macias said. "It's important to pay attention to everything you're putting into your body and to understand the discipline, rehabilitation and treatment policies the Air Force has in place."

Purchasing products containing banned ingredients is easy these days as products containing CBD and hemp material are readily available in the U.S.

"Hemp seeds are so popular in consumer goods and at restaurants that I have to second-guess everything and read labels everywhere," Brunkal said. "In high school, I worked at a grocery store with a juice bar that I love. I can't go there and order a smoothie bowl anymore because the granola they use had hemp in it."

Regardless of popular opinion or product, any use of CBD or hemp material is still illegal in the military, the cadets said during their presentation. They devised a publicity blitz featuring a bulletin they'll place across the campus containing QR codes - two-dimensional barcodes - cadets and faculty can scan to learn more about the DOD's drug policy and the latest prohibited substances list.

"This list contains numerous substances so be sure to be familiar with the more common ingredients and review it regularly," Hankhouse said.

The best first step a cadet can take is to educate themselves on DOD and Air Force drug policy and strike up a conversation with their peers, Turner said.

"I never want anyone to have to say they didn't know something is a policy," he said.

Macias said that conversation occurs regularly across campus.

"[Cadets] know that while our friends back home are free to indulge as they please, we are more restricted as to what we can and cannot put into our bodies," she said. "I've had many conversations about the implications of drug abuse at the Academy and across the Air Force. Those conversations rarely expand beyond the 'big dogs' of the drug world, and I feel there needs to be more education about resources pertaining to the more unknown illegal substances."

Hankhouse said his interest in the capstone stems from the reports of illegal drug use across the DOD.

"We should do a better job about educating people," he said. "I wanted to use my knowledge of the law to help in this way."

The cadets routinely worked with the Air Force Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention program staff during their capstone.

"They focused us on the education piece and showed us the resources," Brunkal said. "We're very thankful for their involvement."

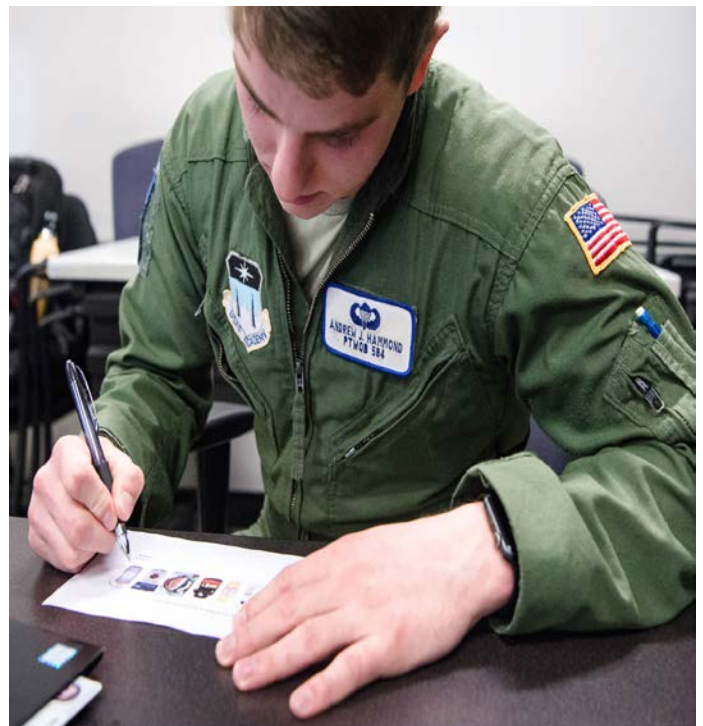
Law professor John Hertel directs the Academy's legal studies capstone course.

"Their capstone presentation hit all the right marks," he said. "They did what I was hoping for and exceeded expectations."

Hertel is investigating the potential a video presentation of the capstone may have for the Air Force at-large when it comes to raising awareness about banned substances.

"I hope the information provided through our presentation and our promotion will get the ball rolling for increased education and awareness of other illegal substances people might not even consider," Macias said.

More Capstone Photos by Trang Le



Cadet Andrew Hammond takes a quiz to see how many over-the-counter products containing Cannabinol – or "CBD" – he can identify during a capstone project presented by law students at the Air Force Academy, Feb. 25. Use of those products is banned by the Defense Department

The Capstone Team



Left to right: Cadets 1st Class Isaac Turner, Alex Hankhouse, Hailee Macias and Melissa Brunkal post for a group photograph after presenting their capstone project concerning Defense Department and Air Force drug policies, Feb. 25.

Cadets continue their education online during COVID-19 outbreak



U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet 1st Class Edward Lopez. Story by Ray Bowden, March 25, 2020

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo — Online distance learning for nearly 3,000 Air Force

Academy cadets sent home to their friends and families will start March 25.

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria released all but the senior cadets and a few underclassmen-and-women from campus to increase the seniors' chance of graduating on time and to promote the health of the base population.

"Ultimately, the deciding factor was recommendations from our public health officials and the inability to execute social distancing for over 4,000 cadets on campus," Silveria said earlier this week.

With the student body decreased by roughly 75 percent, most senior cadets have their own dorm room, including Cadet 1st Class Edward Lopez, an astronautical engineering major.

Lopez said the faculty and staff are taking care of him and the other cadets while he attends classes "online" in a study room or in Fairchild Hall.

"It's been going well. There's just a tiny bit of a learning curve," he said.

Lopez supports Silveria's priorities of getting the seniors to graduation even if he doesn't know what form that event might take.

"I'm very appreciative, both as a 'firstie' and a future officer," he said. "We're all working well together, pressing forward and adjusting."

Brig. Gen. Linell Letendre, the Academy's dean, said linking 4,000 cadets to online distance learning has gone well. She's been communicating with cadets on or off base, and knows there may be some computer hiccups ahead during what she called "a soft start."

"The real proof of online learning success starts with classes," she said. "My expectations are the same for online distance learning as they are when cadets are in residence: completing their work with honor and integrity, finishing their work on time, and communicating with their

instructors. On average, only one or two cadets in each squadron had any issues attending classes remotely and most issues have been resolved."

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

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

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:

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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