BOV New Member Orientation

BG Robert W. Moreschi

Office of the Dean of Faculty

19 August 2024

Academic Mission

It is the mission of the VMI Academic Program to educate cadets in a rigorous academic environment that encourages life-long learning and develops citizens of character who anticipate, respond, and lead in a complex and changing world.

Academic Vision

The VMI Academic Program offers cadets a rigorous curriculum with the purpose of producing educated and internationally engaged citizens of character.

Its components are a broad four-year core curriculum and nationally recognized majors in engineering and computer science, natural sciences, mathematics, arts and humanities, and social sciences.

It recruits, develops, and graduates cadets of exceptional talent, intellectual curiosity, and character, who possess a commitment to service and respect for others.

Its faculty is renowned for its teaching excellence, mentorship of cadets, scholarly engagement, commitment to service, and encouragement of undergraduate research.

Its environment includes state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, technologies, and instructional materials, first-class programs of academic support, and an organizational climate characterized by collegiality, cooperation, and respect.

ONE CORPS.
ONE VMI.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

BG Robert W. Moreschi

Deputy Superintendent for Academics &
Dean of the Faculty

Ms. Olivia Fowler
Executive Assistant

Dean's Staff		Academic Department Heads and ROTC Commanding Officers		Other Program Staff

COL Rob McDonald
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Director, Honors Program

CAPT Mike Sebastino
Associate Dean for Academic Administration & Planning

COL Troy Siemers
Applied Mathematics

COL Dennis Foster
International Studies

COL Niccole Gatliff
Registrar

MAJ Molly Kent
Director, Undergraduate Research

Mrs. Marthe Honts
Administrator, Sponsored Programs

COL Ashleigh Smythe
Biology

COL Jay Sullivan
Mechanical Engineering

COL Christina McDonald
Director, Institute Writing Program

LTC Allyson Pierce
Director, Miller Academic Center

COL Jay Johnson
Director, Summer Sessions

COL Stan Smith
Chemistry

COL Abbey Carrico
Modern Languages & Cultures

LTC Ammad Sheikh
Director, Career Services

COL Troy Siemers
Director, Math Education and Resource Center

COL Tom Timmes
Director, Summer Transition Program

COL Chuck Newhouse
Civil & Environmental Engineering

COL Jay Johnson
Human Performance & Wellness

COL Dave Gray
Director, CLE, and Coordinator, LEAD 344

LTC Todd Goen
Director, Office of Global Education

Mrs. Leigh Ann Forquer
Office Coordinator

COL David Smith
Computer and Information Sciences

COL Stacey Vargas
Physics

TBD
Director, Institutional Effectiveness

COL Pongracz Sennyey
Director, Preston Library

Col. Jeff S. Smith
Economics & Business

COL James Gire
Psychology

COL Cliff West
Director, Innovation Programming

COL Shawn Addington
Electrical & Computer Engineering

Col. Nichole Scott
ROTC - Air Force

COL Emily Miller
English , Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies

COL Jody Hansen
ROTC - Army

COL Houston Johnson
History

Col Ryan Finn
ROTC - Navy/MC

Faculty Statistics Fall 2024

153 Full Time Faculty (145 Terminal Degrees [97%] in degree granting programs)

Full Time Faculty

- 64 Professors
- 28 Associate Professors
- 45 Assistant Professors
- 1 Visiting Assistant
- 7 Lecturers
- 8 Instructors

Tenure Status

- 86 Tenured
- 51 Tenure Track
- 16 Non-Tenure Track

Total Number of Full-Time Faculty: 153
Percent Female: 34%
Percent Male: 66%
Percent Minority: 14%
Total Number of Part-Time Faculty: 50
Percent Female: 38%
Percent Male: 62%
Percent Minority: 10%

Academic Program and Faculty Governance

Academic Board
- The Academic Board is the governing body of the academic program at VMI. It comprises the Dean, academic Department Heads, and such other members of the faculty and staff as may be designated by the Superintendent. It is charged with the responsibility to formulate and recommend academic policy, and to enforce approved academic policy.

Committees
- Academic Policy Committee
- Academic Planning and Review Committee
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee
- Committee on Academic Appeals

Faculty Advisory Council
- Two elected faculty representatives from each of the five academic divisions
- Advisory role
- Augments traditional faculty avenue through department head

Committees

Managing the Academic Program

Academic Board Committees

Committee on Academic Appeals
Academic Policy Committee
Curriculum and Instruction Committee
Academic Planning and Review Committee

Academic Program Committees

Academic Schedules Committee	Institute Compensation Committee
Advisors for Post Graduate Scholarships and Pre-Professional Programs	Institute Honors Committee
Alumni Faculty Recruiting Committee	Institute Scholarships Selection Committee
Building Coordinator	Jackson-Hope Awards Committee
Committee on Academic Advising	Library Committee
Committee on Academic Technologies	New Faculty Orientation Committee
Core Curriculum Oversight Committee	Professorships and Chairs Selection Committee
Faculty Advisory Council	Readmissions Committee
Faculty Development Committee	Strategic Recruitment and Retention Faculty Advisory Committee
Global Education Committee	Tenure and Promotions Committee
Human Subjects and Animal Use Committee	Undergraduate Research Committee
Innovation Programming Advisory Committee	VMIRL Board
Institute Awards Committee	

Teaching/Research Faculty Evaluation

- All faculty members are evaluated annually, beginning with a self-evaluation process

- Statement of Faculty Expectations for teaching/research faculty
  - Teaching, Scholarly Engagement, Professional Citizenship, Cadet Development
  - Expectations increase with increasing rank
  - Process is developmental, not punitive

14 Academic Majors in Five Foundational Divisions

Arts & Humanities
- History (155)
- Modern Languages (44)
- English (61)

Life Sciences
- Psychology (153)
- Biology (111)

Information & Social Sciences
- Computer Science (103)
- Economics & Business (215)
- International Studies and Political Science (241)

Engineering
- Civil Engineering (147)
- Electrical & Computer Engineering (54)
- Mechanical Engineering (112)

Natural Sciences
- Chemistry (20)
- Applied Mathematics (47)
- Physics (31)

* Numbers in parenthesis indicate number of majors as of Spring 2024
https://www.vmi.edu/academics/majors-and-minors/

Academic Minors and Concentrations

Arts & Humanities
- Art History and Visual Culture
- Foreign Language:
  - Arabic
  - Chinese
  - French
  - German
  - Spanish
- History
- Literary Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Military History
- Philosophy
- Rhetoric and Writing

Life Sciences
- Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- Ecology, Conservation & Organismal Sciences
- Exercise Science
- Leadership Studies
- Psychology

Information & Social Sciences
- Asian Studies
- Business
- Computer & Information Sciences
- Cybersecurity
- Economics
- Financial Management
- Global Management
- Interdisciplinary Studies in Latin America
- International Studies
- National Security

Natural Sciences
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics

Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Construction Management
- Environmental Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering
- Structural Engineering
- Transportation Engineering
- Water Resources Engineering

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum is designed to cultivate the characteristics of a VMI graduate, a leader able to anticipate and respond in a continually changing world. This curriculum will enable each cadet to communicate effectively, process information, solve problems, appreciate other cultures, and dedicate their lives to public service.

Key Competencies

Written Communication – 6 hrs
Oral Communication – 1 hr
Scientific Analysis – 8 hrs
Mathematical Reasoning – 6 hrs
Physical Education – 4 hrs

Foundations of Citizenship and Leadership

Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) – 12 hrs

Leadership in Organizations – 3 hrs

Perspectives on Civilization and Human Achievement

World History – 6 hours
Civilizations and Cultures – 6 hours

Integrative Experiences

Writing-Intensive Courses – 6 hours
Capstone Experience – Variable

Accreditation

Institute

- **SACSCOC** (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges)

  - Report on the Quality Enhancement Plan in 2022

Program

- **AACSB** (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)

  - Economics and Business Department

- **ABET** (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology)

  - Civil/Electrical/Mechanical Engineering Departments

- **ACS** (American Chemical Society – does not offer a "formal" accreditation)

  - Chemistry program is approved and cadets are certified as having met the society's professional training standards
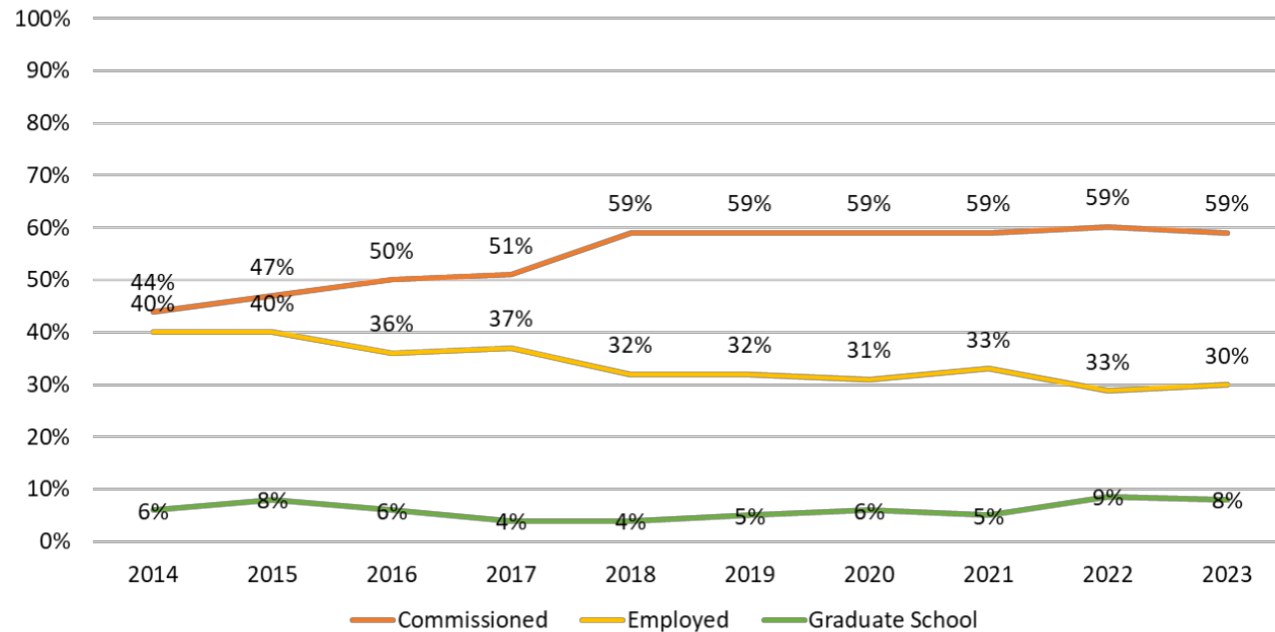
Academic Enrichment and Support

Academic Clubs & Honor Societies

Academic Competitions

Academic Program Advising

Career Advising

Extensive On-Post Global Engagement

Graduate School Relationships & Scholarships

Professional Internships

Study Abroad

Undergraduate Research

- Career Services
- Center for Leadership and Ethics
- Innovation Programming
- Math Educational Resource Center
- Miller Academic Center
- Office of Global Education
- Preston Library
- Undergraduate Research
- Writing Center

Commissioning, Graduate Education, and Employment Trend Data

OCS Cohorts 2014 - 2023

Why a VMI Degree?

Throughout its storied history, VMI has produced leaders and individuals whose daily lives reflect the integrity, fairness, and appreciation for the value of hard work that is instilled at the Institute. For the individual who wants an undergraduate experience more complete and transformative than an ordinary college or university can provide and more versatile in its applications than a military service academy affords, VMI offers a superb education.

Money magazine Best Colleges (June 2024)
　　Best Colleges in America – 5 out of 5 stars

U.S. News & World Report (September 2023)
　　National liberal arts colleges – No. 63 (out of 210 public and private schools)
　　Top Public Liberal Arts Colleges - No. 4 (out of 18 public schools listed)
　　Engineering Programs (no doctorate) – No. 30 (out of 230 ABET accredited undergraduate programs)

Washington Monthly (September 2022)
　　Best bang for the Buck, Southeast – No. 49 of 288

Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education Ranking (September 2021)
　　National colleges and universities – No. 158 out of both public and private (up from 176 in 2019)

Looking Ahead in AY24-25

- SACSCOC Accreditation Submissions and Reviews
    - 2025 Submission
    - 2026 Review
    - 2027 Certification
- Introducing additional academic support services for at-risk students
- Academic Orientation during "Break in" Week
- Innovation Programming build-out
- Research Grant Opportunities
- ABET (Engineering) and AACSB (Economics/Business) accreditation reaffirmation
- Review of Institute "Work for Grade" policy
- Developing 4+1 master's degree programs with George Mason University
- Review of academic advising for best practices
- Peay Academic Excellence build-out
- Women's Faculty Working Group
- Faculty Advisory Council
- Convocation – Admiral (retired) James Stavridis
- Constitution Day – Presentation/Discussion on "The Election of 1824 and the History of Contested Presidential Elections"

Questions?