

HOUSTON BATTALION



Army ROTC

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON MAIN / DOWNTOWN / CLEAR LAKE
RICE UNIVERSITY * TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY * ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY *
HOUSTON CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY * HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WHAT HAPPENED THIS SEMESER!

- PMS WELCOME
- FALL FTX
- SPECIAL GUESTS
- NORWEGIAN FOOT MARCH
- RECOGNIZING CADETS
- CONNECT WITH US

WELCOME BACK!

This fall semester has been nothing short of exhilarating for the Houston Battalion. Filled with numerous exceptional opportunities, it's been a season marked by growth and achievement. We invite you to enjoy our newsletter, where we capture and highlight the significant moments that have defined our journey over the past few months. From engaging events to noteworthy accomplishments, it's a testament to the dynamic and vibrant experiences that shape our community at Houston Battalion.





MESSAGE FROM THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MELISSA C. COMISKEY



Greetings Houston Battalion Army ROTC friends, families, and supporters! I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones looking forward to a bright New Year after a holiday season full of memories and surrounded by those that mean the most to you.

Fall semester 2023 was a whirlwind of training, leader development, recruitment, and football. Our cadre and cadets volunteered over 1,500 hours supporting local JROTC programs, recruiting across the Greater Houston footprint, and sharing opportunities and making memories at our University of Houston Big XII home football games. I am incredibly proud of the selfless service and dedication of our cadets to impact the future generation of cadets and share their Army stories with everyone they meet.

Congratulations to our Ranger Challenge / Cullen Rifles team for their phenomenal finish at the Task Force Ranger Challenge Team. They improved from 7th place in 2022 to 3rd place this year. Also, a huge thank you to the Training and Doctorate Command Commanding General, GEN Gary Brito, for taking time to visit our program, meet our cadets, and provide inspiring words of leadership to our future leaders.

We had a great branch night on 30 Nov – congratulations to our future active-duty Aviation, Chemical, Nurse corps, 3x Cyber, 4x Quartermaster, and 2x Signal officers. The spring semester is always great fun as our MSIVs begin looking more deeply into their branches and roles of second lieutenants in various Army organizations, MSIIIs become laser focused on small unit tactics and leadership in preparation for Cadet Summer Training and start leaning into the accessions process, and the MSIIs and MSIs build relationships, refine the Army basics, and become more comfortable with college life nested with Army ROTC activities and opportunities.

Thank you so much to our Houston Battalion alumni that have reached out offering to donate and support our cadet initiatives. I'm looking forward to not only growing our cadet scholarship opportunities but also expanding extracurricular opportunities for cadets such as the Norwegian Foot March completed in December, the Bataan Death March in March, and possibly the Army Ten-Miler in October.

THIS SEMESTER AT A GLANCE













FALL FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE

FUN IN THE FIELD





In our Fall Field Training Exercise (FTX), cadets immersed themselves in diverse activities, dedicating unwavering effort to master pivotal military skills, such as rappelling, weapons qualifications, and land navigation. This holistic training provided valuable hands-on experiences beyond theoretical knowledge, fostering personal and collective development. The comprehensive nature of this training served as a dynamic platform for cadets, enhancing their understanding of military practices and contributing to their growth. It acted as a crucible, testing resilience, adaptability, and teamwork. Through these exercises, cadets not only expanded technical expertise but also gained a profound understanding of interconnected facets crucial for success in military service.









FALL FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE

FUN IN THE FIELD













SPECIAL GUESTS





Esteemed special guests, General Brito (Commanding General of TRADOC) and Colonel Leitner (Special Forces), made a visit to the Houston Battalion, interacting with cadets and imparting their invaluable experiences and knowledge. During General Brito's visit, three cadets were identified and gifted a challenge coin. Their visitation provided a great learning opportunity for cadets to interact with distinguished military personnel.





NORWEGIAN FOOT MARCH





Our cadets enthusiastically undertook a remarkable journey by participating in the Norwegian foot march. arduous demanding challenge, covering a substantial distance of 18.6 miles, proved to be an authentic assessment of their endurance and unwavering determination. The exceptional dedication demonstrated by both cadets and cadre throughout this strenuous endeavor not only strengthened each individual's resilience but also played a pivotal role in fostering a deep sense of camaraderie within our ranks. Beyond a mere physical feat, the Norwegian foot march became a shared experience that bound our community together, showcasing the collaborative spirit that defines our commitment to excellence at Houston Battalion.

RECOGNIZING CADETS



Fastest 6 mile ruck times (from left to right) CDT Hernandez,
CDT Wilson, and CDT
Marquez.



Cadet Brangman holding the highest ACFT score with 600 points.



Newly contracted cadets swearing in at a University of Houston basketball game.



Cullen Rifles, during their Ranger Challenge Competition, finishing third overall.

RECOGNIZING CADETS

DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATES

The title of Distinguished Military Graduate signifies the pinnacle of achievement within the ROTC program. Awarded to the cadets who rank within the top 20% on the National Order of Merit List, the DMG title recognizes individuals who exhibit exceptional leadership, academic excellence, and unwavering commitment to service. These outstanding cadets demonstrate exemplary character, embodying the core values of integrity, leadership, and dedication to duty. This year, all of our DMGs ranked in the top 10% on the National OML. Congratulations to this year's 4 DMGs!



Cadet Jorge Barahona



Cadet Justin Jorski



Cadet Maximus Furtado

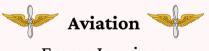


Cadet Emme Jennings

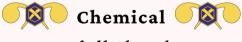
BRANCH DAY



On November 30th, a significant milestone was reached as our MS4 cadets officially received their Active Duty branches. This marks a proud moment as they commence their chosen paths, demonstrating their commitment and preparedness for active service. Congratulations to each cadet for this notable achievement, and we eagerly anticipate observing their ongoing success in their military endeavors.



Emme Jennings

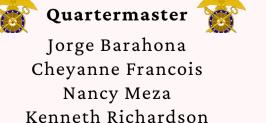


Randall Slaughter











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https://www.uh.edu/class/military-science/

armyrotc@uh.edu 713-743-3883 or 713-743-8460



Steps to Join Army ROTC

Step 1

Register for the Military Science course through respective university/college course catalog (No obligation trial period)



Step 2

Meet eligibility requirements (We will help you get there)



Step 3

Sign a contract to become an Army Cadet (This starts all benefits and scholarships)

Step 4

Commission as an Army Officer (Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard)

Scholarships Available

2 & 3 year full tuition and fees scholarships\$600 a semester for Text Books\$420 a month stipend

Edited by: C/CPT Julie Kindle C/1LT Vincent Ramiro