



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SERVICE TRAINING COMMAND  
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GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS 60088-2845

NSTCINST 1550.1B

N7

2 Apr 10

### NSTC INSTRUCTION 1550.1B

From: Commander, Naval Service Training Command

Subj: LANGUAGE, REGIONAL EXPERTISE, AND CULTURE ACADEMIC MAJOR  
POLICY FOR NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS NAVY  
OPTION MIDSHIPMEN

Ref: (a) OPNAV N1 Memo 1530 SER N1/127175 of 19 Oct 07  
(b) NSTCINST 1533.3A of 28 May 09  
(c) SECDEF Memo of 13 Aug 07  
(d) USD P&R Memo of 5 Feb 09  
(e) A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower of  
Oct 07  
(f) U.S. Navy Language Skills, Regional Expertise, and  
Cultural Awareness Strategy of Jan 08  
(g) Title 10, United States Code, Chapter 103 (Section  
2102, et seq.)  
(h) NSTCINST 1533.2 of 2 Jul 07  
(i) ASN (M&RA) Memo of 4 Aug 05

1. Purpose. To prescribe a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (LREC) academic major policy for select midshipmen and ensure as commissioned officers, they possess LREC attributes desired by the Navy. Per reference (a), technical academic major production for Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen shall remain the primary NROTC objective. Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) will incorporate its NROTC LREC policy into reference (b), and NSTC shall assign LREC program students as Tier 3 academic majors.

2. Cancellation. NSTCINST 1550.1A.

3. Background. Per reference (c), the Secretary of Defense requested all military branches further encourage Reserve Officers Training Corps students to study languages listed in reference (d) or versions applicable at the time. References (e) and (f) emphasize the necessity to foster cultural, regional, and linguistic expertise within the Navy.

2 Apr 10

#### 4. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education (DCNO MPTE) N1, provides production guidance, establishes requirements for NROTC commissioned officers, and provides necessary resources.

b. Commander, Naval Education and Training Command supports NROTC production requirements through establishing policy and oversight of execution.

c. Commander, Naval Service Training Command (CNSTC) executes and achieves the requirements by implementing and sustaining an NROTC LREC program. NSTC updates strategic foreign language and cultural/regional listings; monitors program progress; directs student selection and placement; reviews/approves academic major changes; directs and manages program attrition and side-loads; enforces midshipmen contract agreements to include recoupment and service obligations; articulates LREC policy and procedures to NROTC units; and monitors LREC midshipmen trends and overall applicant metrics. The NSTC Candidate Guidance Office publicizes the LREC program to NROTC applicants and assists applicants with selecting LREC academic programs.

d. NROTC units maintain a current NSTC listing of approved LREC academic majors; update NSTC on any academic major curricula changes; counsel and mentor midshipmen about LREC applicable academic major requirements and policies; evaluate and recommend LREC academic major change requests; maintain accurate records regarding student academic majors; and establish and maintain student support programs.

#### 5. Requirements

a. NSTC, in coordination with OPNAV N13F, will conduct an annual review of academic majors and LREC assignments no later than (NLT) May of each year. NSTC N7 will solicit change proposals to LREC academic majors from DCNO MPTE staff and will submit to CNSTC for approval NLT July 1 each year and implementation beginning the next fall term.

b. NSTC Officer Development (OD) will annually review NROTC academic institution course catalogs to ensure academic requirements support the NROTC LREC program. LREC academic

2 Apr 10

major list modifications and NROTC institution curriculum modifications shall not cause midshipmen who previously enrolled in an LREC academic major to forfeit their NROTC scholarship.

c. Specific requirements

(1) Total production requirements. The goal of the LREC program is to produce a minimum of 20 commissioned officers annually.

(2) Categorical production requirements. The NROTC LREC program does not have a prescribed goal for the allocation of regions, cultures, or languages; however, NSTC will promote variance in scholarship offers to encompass the regions, cultures, and languages of strategic interest to the Navy.

(3) LREC program requirements. NROTC LREC program applicants shall major in Navy-approved regions, cultures and/or languages. Midshipmen who major in a region/culture prescribed by the Navy shall pass a minimum of four academic courses equaling a minimum of twelve credit hours in a single specific foreign language associated with the selected region/culture. Similarly, midshipmen who major in a foreign language prescribed by the Navy shall pass a minimum of four academic courses equaling a minimum of twelve credit hours in a region/culture associated with the selected language. Midshipmen shall enroll in progressively more difficult courses until they meet the requirement.

(4) LREC program completion. Completion of the NROTC LREC program is based on fulfilling the college's/university's academic major requirements for the respective LREC program. Attainment of a specific level of language proficiency is not required by the NROTC LREC program. NSTC will not link Defense Language Proficiency Test scores to the LREC program degree requirements.

6. NROTC LREC Regional/Cultural Areas and Foreign Languages

a. NSTC will direct midshipmen to focus on one of the regional and cultural areas listed below when selecting an LREC academic major.

(1) Regional/Cultural Areas:

(a) Africa

2 Apr 10

1. Sub-Sahara
2. North Africa
- (b) Central Asia
- (c) East Asia/China
- (d) Middle/Central/Latin America
- (e) Middle East
- (f) South Asia
- (g) Southeast Asia
- (h) Southwest Asia
- (i) Russia/Eastern Europe

b. NSTC will direct midshipmen to focus on one of the languages listed below when selecting an LREC academic major.

(1) Foreign Languages:

Arabic	Pashto
Cambodian	Persian
Central Asian Languages	Portuguese
Chinese	Russian
Dari	Serbo-Croatian
Farsi	Somali
French	Spanish
Hebrew	Swahili
Hindi	Tagalog
Indonesian	Thai
Japanese	Turkish
Kurdish	Urdu
Malay	Vietnamese

7. Applicability

a. NROTC Program

(1) Four-Year Scholarship Program. Per reference (b), NSTC shall assign 85% of the incoming NROTC Navy Option Scholarship freshmen as technical academic majors and

2 Apr 10

approximately 15% as non-technical academic majors. The NROTC LREC program will include no fewer than 30 incoming Navy Option Scholarship freshman from the 15% non-technical academic majors.

(2) College (Non-Scholarship) Program. NSTC shall also target NROTC Navy Option College Program midshipmen majoring in Navy approved regions, cultures, and languages.

b. Seaman to Admiral-21 Program. Certain NROTC Seaman to Admiral-21 midshipmen may be eligible for the NROTC LREC program if their selected program option does not require a specific academic major.

## 8. Scholarship Recruiting and Application

a. NSTC N4/6 will ensure NROTC Program websites and publications include statements promoting the LREC program and display program requirements for participation. Communiqués will indicate that:

(1) NSTC OD will activate the scholarship only when the student satisfactorily develops a degree plan with the host NROTC unit and university and upon enrollment in the assigned academic major. NROTC units will document the approved degree plan in the automated record (Officer Personnel Management Information System) and the midshipman student file, and include in the scholarship service agreement.

(2) The NROTC application will list the applicant as a Tier 3 academic major and specify the applicant's selected regional/cultural program of study and language of interest.

b. The web-based NROTC four-year national scholarship application will require applicants to identify their desired academic major. NSTC OD will use this fundamental information in selection and placement of those applying to academic majors in selected LREC programs.

c. NSTC will coordinate with staff of the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command and Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command to provide information and guidance related to this policy.

9. Scholarship Selection. To facilitate achieving the annual requirement of commissioning 20 NROTC LREC program officers:

2 Apr 10

a. NSTC OD shall ensure the NSTC draft of the precept and Navy guidance for the NROTC Continuous National Selection Board includes direction stating no fewer than 30 freshmen Navy Option Scholarships are assigned to LREC academic majors to achieve out-year production requirements. The NSTC precept will heavily weigh the selection of LREC academic majors as a selection factor for Tier 3 majors by allotting those candidates more points in the selection algorithm.

b. NSTC will ensure the selection board choices for incoming Navy Option Scholarship freshmen reach a minimum of 30 students enrolled in LREC academic majors. The board report shall include specific LREC academic majors for each selected scholarship candidate and alternate.

c. Selection notifications shall include LREC academic major assignments and an explanation of academic majors available within the LREC program. Notification shall state that scholarship activation is contingent upon selectee's enrollment in the assigned academic major.

#### 10. Class Progression

a. A minimum freshman enrollment of 30 Navy Option midshipmen is set to achieve the annual requirement of 20 LREC commissioned officers.

b. NSTC OD shall award side-load scholarships with preference given to LREC majors to facilitate achieving the minimum annual requirement of 20 LREC commissioned officers.

11. Academic Major Transfer Requests. If a midshipman desires to change an academic major from an LREC major to either a technical major (Tier 1 or 2) or other non-technical major (Tier 3), or a non-LREC major desires to change an academic major from a Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 academic major to an LREC major during the freshman, sophomore or junior year (program policy defines these college years as a midshipman's first through third years of Naval Science), the following applies:

a. For LREC Tier 3 to Tier 1 or 2 transfer requests and Non-LREC Tier 3 to LREC Tier 3 transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes, the most recent approved list will apply to academic major transfers.

2 Apr 10

(2) If a midshipman adds terms (semester or quarter as appropriate) beyond four years by transferring academic majors, the midshipman will incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g).

(3) The Professor of Naval Science (PNS) may approve a transfer request if that request is in the best interest of the Navy. Tier 1 and 2 academic majors are potentially the most valued academic majors so the PNS should evaluate the rationale for change carefully.

(4) Process:

(a) The midshipman submits an academic major change request to the PNS.

(b) The midshipmen must submit change requests to the PNS a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(c) The PNS reviews submission and either approves or disapproves the request and notifies NSTC OD of the final decision.

b. For LREC Tier 3 to non-LREC Tier 3 transfer requests and Tier 1 or 2 to LREC Tier 3 transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes, the most recent approved list will apply to academic major transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds terms beyond four years by transferring academic majors, the midshipman will incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g).

(3) NSTC OD will convene a panel from a slate approved by CNSTC, as required, to review midshipmen requests to transfer to Tier 3 academic majors. Panels will consist of no fewer than three officers or federal civilians and will include representation from three of the following NSTC departments: Nuclear Programs, Professional Development, Selection and Placement, Unit Operations, and Student Operations. NSTC Professional Development will chair the panel. If there are no available Tier 3 quotas, the panel will review the midshipman's request and consider for transfer to the College Program, Nurse Corps Program, or Marine Corps Program.

2 Apr 10

## (4) Process:

(a) The midshipman submits an academic major change request package for initial evaluation by the NROTC unit staff and final review by an academic major change panel. The midshipman package must include reasons for the desired change, copies of transcripts, and existing and proposed degree plans.

(b) The midshipman must submit change requests to the PNS a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(c) NROTC unit staff reviews change request package and PNS forwards with endorsement to the academic major change panel for evaluation. Endorsement must include comments related to the reasons for the academic major change and applicant performance (e.g., character, academic performance and course load, aptitude, etc.).

(d) NSTC OD shall forward the panel results to CNSTC or a designee for review. Once approved/disapproved, CNSTC or a designee will return the results to the PNS for appropriate action.

c. Failure to enroll in specified courses

(1) If a midshipman fails to enroll in courses appropriate to the LREC academic major to which assigned, NSTC will consider the midshipman not in compliance with program requirements and the NROTC unit will take appropriate, immediate action per chapter 7 of reference (h).

(2) NROTC units shall offer three options to freshmen NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen who depart their respective LREC major and are not placed into another academic major tier: College Program option, transfer to the Marine Corps or Nurse Corps option, or NROTC Program disenrollment.

(3) NROTC units shall offer the College Program option as a first choice to NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen who have started their sophomore year, signed the NROTC Scholarship Service Agreement, but then depart their respective LREC program and academic major tier and do not follow the required process for placement into another academic major tier. NROTC units may also consider the midshipman for transfer to the

2 Apr 10

Marine Corps and Nurse Corps. If the midshipman declines the College Program option and is not approved for transfer to the Marine Corps or Nurse Corps programs, the NROTC unit will recommend the midshipman for disenrollment, and the midshipman will either incur an obligation for active service or reimburse the United States for educational costs expended on the student's behalf, unless waived by the Secretary of the Navy as outlined in reference (i).



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List 3 & 4