

# Regional Academic Outreach



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### **Regional Academic Outreach**

The Regional Academic Outreach (RAO) office meets the state mandate to serve the non-traditional students who desire educational opportunities in the 18 western most counties in Kentucky. RAO organizes all extended campuses, and off-campus courses, self-paced distance learning courses, online courses, workshops, conferences, non-credit courses, community education courses, military programs, adult student services, and summer school. Murray State University is a member of the Association for Continuing Higher Education.

#### **Distance Learning-Extended Campuses**

Murray State University offers an extensive schedule of degree programs and courses at regional campus locations and/or via distance learning technologies, including interactive television (ITV), and the Internet. Graduate and undergraduate degree programs and courses are offered in Paducah, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, Henderson, and Ft. Campbell, as well as other locations throughout the region. Murray State University has a fully interactive two-way video classroom network. This network links the main campus with the MSU regional campuses and centers throughout the 18-county service region. Information concerning admission, registration, and class schedules is published each semester in the *Distance Learning Programs Schedule*. To obtain a copy of the current schedule, contact 270-809-4159; outside Calloway County, call toll free, 1-800-669-7654.

#### **Distance Learning-Online**

Online courses are instruction conducted entirely on the Internet. Students should have a basic knowledge of computers, reliable Internet access, and experience using e-mail. Online courses are published in the official schedule of classes each semester with an instruction method of "web". Like traditional courses, registration for online courses is through the *myGate* system. Online course are available for all admitted MSU students. There is no special application needed to enroll in online courses. Online course tuition is different from traditional courses. Visit the MSU website or call the Bursar's Office (270-809-4227) for current tuition rates.

For more information about these courses, contact 270-809-4159 or 1-800-669-7654.

#### **Non-Credit and Youth Programs**

Continuing education programs and services include non-credit professional development courses, workshops, teleconferences, and seminars; conference coordination, continuing education unit (CEU) administration; and other special programs. Online professional certificate programs are also offered through a partnership with ed2go.com. University faculty/staff, business and industry, and other interested individuals are encouraged to contact the office regarding their special training needs and interests.

Also offered are a wide range of youth programs, including camps with commuter and residential options, and ACT prep workshops. Registration services are available for youth and adult programming as well as conference and event coordination services.

For more information about youth programs, online certificates, conferences and workshops, or any of the non-credit programs, contact the Office of Non-Credit and Youth Programs, 270-809-3659.

#### **Center for Academic Success**

The Center for Academic Success is focused on the success of all students. The Center coordinates the offerings of several different programs. Housed within the Center is the Community College, Academic English Program, free tutoring program in a variety of subjects, Pathways to Success Program, first-year experience support and resources programs, and the Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program, as well as, dedicated instructors and advisors to support student success.

The Pathways to Success Program (P2S) is a unique program focused on providing intentional and intense support, academic and career advising, developmental coursework, mentoring, and tutoring for students admitted into the program. Students have an extraordinary first year experience focused on their Pathway to Success.

For more information about any of the programs, contact the office of the Center for Academic Success at 270-809-2666.

#### **Self-Paced Distance Learning Courses**

For students who cannot attend traditional classes either on the main campus or at one of the off-campus locations, the university offers self-paced distance learning courses.

#### **Enrollment Requirements**

Self-Paced Distance Learning (SPDL) courses are only available to students in the United States of America and U.S. territories that hold a high school diploma or equivalent. Each student desiring to earn credit by self-paced distance learning study assumes full responsibility for determining if these courses will fulfill the requirements for their degree or certificate and are solely responsible for all payments. If you have questions, check with your academic advisor before enrolling.

The credit hours assigned to a self-paced distance learning course will be considered in determining the total semester hours of a MSU resident student. Credit earned by self-paced distance learning study will be credited to the term in which the course is enrolled. On the application the student must state whether he/she is or is not currently enrolled in residence, self-paced distance learning, or extended campus study at MSU or any other institution; otherwise, credit is jeopardized. A student will be allowed to receive credit for a maximum of six hours each semester, or 12 hours during the regular academic year of nine months, or 16 hours within a calendar year through self-paced distance learning study.

#### **Special Regulations**

Courses taken by self-paced distance learning study are normally not acceptable as part of the major or minor. Students desiring to take a SPDL course in their major or minor field must obtain written permission from the department chair. A self-paced distance learning course cannot be used to repeat a non-self-paced distance learning course where a grade has already been given.

#### **Course Numbers**

The numbers used to identify courses are as follows:

001-089 special category postsecondary courses
 090-299 lower division undergraduate courses
 300-499 upper division undergraduate courses

500-599 upper division undergraduate courses (requires at least a junior classification)

#### **Grading System**

Results of the final grade for the self-paced distance learning course taken through Regional Academic Outreach will be recorded in the Office of the Registrar as follows:

A - Excellent= 4 quality points per credit hourD - Poor= 1 quality point per credit hourB - Good= 3 quality points per credit hourE - Failure= 0 points but counted as GPA hours

**C** - **Fair** = 2 quality points per credit hour

#### **Procedures**

A student who desires to enroll in a self-paced distance learning course should use the application provided at - www.murraystate. edu/rao. The application should be mailed to Regional Academic Outreach, Self-Paced Distance Learning, 303 Sparks Hall, Murray State University, Murray KY 42071. After the application has been processed, the student will receive information on how to register for a course using their *myGate* account. Once the student is officially enrolled in the course and total tuition is paid, the course outlines and lessons will be mailed to the student's address received on the SPDL application. Due to Federal Guidelines, this process will be different for Murray State University students wishing to use financial aid to pay for a SPDL course (see *Financial Information*). Detailed instructions regarding procedures and practices of the self-paced distance learning program will be included. The student will need to purchase the necessary books and materials to begin coursework.

Completed lessons should be mailed to Murray State's Regional Academic Outreach office to be recorded and forwarded to the instructor for grading. Graded lessons are returned to the student. The instructor reserves the right to have any paper revised by the student. There is a two-week time allowance for instructors to grade papers and finals.

**Beginning/Term Dates.** The beginning date for a self-paced distance learning study course is the date of enrollment using *myGate*. Your class will be attached to the term in which you enroll. A student may enroll for a course any time during the calendar year. The course must be completed within 52 WEEKS from the date of enrollment.

Fall Term August 1 - November 30
Spring Term December 1 - April 30
Summer Term May 1 - July 31

Murray State students who anticipate a graduation date within a year from the date he/she enrolls in a self-paced distance learning course need to contact the Graduation Office at 800-272-4MSU. It is his/her responsibility to inquire about possible Graduation Office deadlines to complete the course that may occur before the deadlines set by the Regional Academic Outreach Office.

**Course Completion Time Allowances and Extensions.** The minimum completion times are as follows:

2 semester hours completed in not less than four weeks

3 semester hours completed in not less than five weeks

4 semester hours completed in not less than eight weeks

5 semester hours completed in not less than nine weeks

6 semester hours completed in not less than ten weeks

Students wishing to complete a SPDL course in less than the minimum allowable time must have written approval from the instructor and the RAO Dean on their application.

Students are given 52 weeks from the date of enrollment for the completion of a course. Extensions of three months and six months are considered on an individual basis. Requests for extension MUST be made in writing to Regional Academic Outreach at msu.selfpaced@murraystate.edu.

**Payment.** Please check the *Schedule of Fees* for per-credit-hour rate. Payment may be made by credit card or electronic check on your *myGate* account after you have registered for the class. Payment in full MUST be received before the lesson packet will be mailed to the student.

**Financial Aid.** Murray State University students wishing to use financial aid to pay for a self-paced distance learning course must be enrolled in the same number of hours of face-to-face/online classes with Murray State University, during the same semester, as they are applying for the SPDL course and will have to submit the first lesson of the class (provided by RAO) before they can add the class on *myGate*. For more information regarding using financial aid to pay for a SPDL course, please call the Financial Aid Office at 270-809-2546.

**Withdrawal/Refunds.** Students may withdraw from self-paced distance learning courses within six months of their initial registration date. Withdrawals must be done in writing to the Self-Paced Distance Learning Office in Regional Academic Outreach. After six months of the initial registration date, students may not drop their self-paced distance learning course regardless of the number of lessons completed. Contact the Self-Paced Distance Learning Office for refund information.

Materials. All text and instructional materials are furnished by the student. Textbook information will be mailed along with lesson assignments for each course and can also be found on our website www.murraystate.edu/rao. Most textbooks may be purchased from the Murray State University Store (270-809-4388 or 1-800-749-8580) or from publishing companies. Used textbooks are sometimes available at the Murray State University Store.

**Course Grade Information.** A student who enrolls and completes a self-paced distance learning course within one term will have their final grade applied to their academic record in the semester in which they registered. It is the student's responsibility to confirm that this will not interfere with any financial aid/grant/scholarship monies they are receiving. If the student fails to complete the course by the expiration date, the student will receive an *E* (failing grade) on their academic record which could affect their financial aid, scholarships, athletic eligibility, VA benefits, or other aid for the semester they enrolled, if aid was used.

**Final Examinations.** A final examination is required at the completion of all of the courses and must be taken within 30 days from the time the last lesson is completed. The final exam counts at least 60% of the course grade. Applications for final exams should be received in the RAO office at least one week prior to the requested date of examination. If you plan to take the exam on campus, in our office, call 270-809-5056 to set up a time and date. The examination can be given any weekday between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., depending upon availability. These hours are specified so the student will have time to complete the examination before MSU closing hours. For students who cannot come to the MSU campus, arrangements may be made with an employee/instructor at your local community college, learning center, public school, or other college or university to proctor the examination. **Note:** a family member CANNOT proctor an exam.

**Course Completion Date.** The date of successful completion of the course will be the date the final examination paper is received in the RAO office. If credit is needed by a certain date, the student should plan so that the course can be completed according to the stated self-paced distance learning course rules and regulations. **There is a two-week time allowance for instructors to grade papers and finals.** 

**Course Verification.** A student will be considered officially enrolled in a self-paced distance learning course by the university only during the first semester they are registered in the course (regardless of how long it takes to complete the course). The university will only verify enrollment one time per SPDL course.

#### **Transcripts**

After a student completes a self-paced distance learning course, his/her final grade will be sent to Murray State's Office of the Registrar for official recording on the academic record. A notice of completion of the course with the final grade will be mailed to the student. If a student wants credit transferred to another institution, he/she should go to www.murraystate.edu/academics/registrarsoffice/transcripts for information concerning requesting a transcript.

#### **Adult Student Services**

The Office of Adult Student Services serves the needs of our current adult students and also works to attract new adult students. The mission of this office is to provide services for adults who want to continue their education. These services include pre-admission advising, adults-only orientations, a lounge and resource center, adult student scholarships, Alpha Gamma Epsilon a club for non-traditional students, and Alpha Sigma Lambda a national honor society for adult students. For more information about these services, contact the adult outreach office in the Lowry Center, 270-809-5796 or 855-668-8886.

#### **Bachelor of Integrated Studies (B.I.S.)**

The Bachelor of Integrated Studies is an alternative baccalaureate degree for adults who already have college credits. The Integrated Studies program works best for students established in careers who do not need specific academic credential for a new career. It also works well for students who desire a liberal arts education and for some students who plan to enter graduate programs.

Adults find the B.I.S. attractive for its flexible degree requirements, which make it easier to apply previous college work to a Murray State degree. Other attractive features include acceptance of self-paced distance learning courses and transfer coursework, encouragement of students to seek college credit for prior learning, and the learning contract which enables Integrated Studies students to complete requirements in some courses without attending classes.

#### **Admission Requirements**

The Integrated Studies degree is not for everyone. Admission into the program is available to adult students who meet the following conditions:

- Must have 60 hours of prior credit
- Must have a 2.2 GPA or higher in prior coursework
- Must have a one-year absence from school OR be a KCTCS transfer

Exceptions to the above requirements are made by consent of the Dean of Regional Academic Outreach.

Limitations. Due to the accreditation requirements of the College of Business, any student who wishes to apply business course credits to the Integrated Studies degree requirements must consult an Integrated Studies advisor. Students who have more than 25% of their course-work in business courses may be required to complete the business core. Teacher education and nursing program courses are not available to Integrated Studies students. The degree is not designed for students who want credentials for entry into professional fields that require a specific undergraduate course of study. Students wishing to change their major to the Bachelor of Integrated Studies, must first speak to a B.I.S. advisor and have an overall GPA of 2.5 or greater.

#### **General Degree Requirements**

The Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree requires 120 semester hours. Thirty-two semester hours must be taken with Murray State. Thirty-nine upper-division credits, courses taken at or above the 300-level, must be completed. An overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0, 32 semester hours of credit with Murray State University with a GPA of 2.0, and 30 semester hours in a field of study with a GPA of 2.5 are required. **Note:** This degree does not restrict the final hours from transferring into Murray State so long as the transfer hours are pre-approved by the Integrated Studies advisor and the Registrar. **See Mandatory Developmental Courses section in** *Academic Degrees and Programs*.

#### **Bachelor of Integrated Studies**

CIP 24.0102

University Studies Requirements
Oral and Written Communication
ENG 105 [or ENG 104]4
One University Studies elective in this category 3
•Global Awareness, Cultural Diversity, and the World's Artistic Tradition
One University Studies elective in this category 3
• Scientific Inquiry, Methodologies, and Quantitative Skills
One University Studies science course with lab4-5
One University Studies mathematics course3-5
Social and Self-Awareness and Responsible Citizenship
One Ethics, Social Responsibility and Civic Engagement
category course 3
One Social Science category course
• World's Historical, Literary, and Philosophical Traditions
CIV 201 or CIV 202 [or HON 201 or 202]
HUM 211 [or honors course HON 251]3

#### University Studies Approved Electives

Choose nine hours from the list of University Studies electives. No more than two courses from one thematic category.

#### 

BIS 399 Seminar in Integrated Studies

BIS 437 Senior Project

Field of Study (18 hrs)

Research Methods (6 hrs)

#### 

Portfolio credits (max. 30 semester credit hours)

Military and professional courses

Credits from accredited institutions

Total Curriculum Requirements ...... 120 hrs

#### Field of Study

The field of study is a planned academic concentration agreed upon by the student and the Integrated Studies advisor. The field may be interdisciplinary (for example, humanities or American studies) or it might be built upon a core consisting of a traditional major or minor. Some students build their field of study on the basis of courses required for admission to a graduate program. The point is that Integrated Studies students have individually designed academic concentrations that need not follow the major requirements for traditional degrees.

However designed, the field of study must include two appropriate courses in research methodology. These courses prepare the student for the culmination of the Integrated Studies program and the field of study project. A senior baccalaureate thesis is required of every student.

The field of study project is the final step in completing the Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree. The project report will be bound and displayed in the Murray State University library. It serves as a synthesis of applied learning and as a basis for an assessment of the student's analytical skills.

#### **Active Status**

Students may proceed at their own pace, taking as many or as few courses as they can handle. See MSU readmission requirements in *Undergraduate Admissions* for students who have been out of school for more than two semesters.

#### Fees

The following are fees applicable to the Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree:

- application fee—\$40; non-refundable; does not apply to tuition;
- portfolio assessment—\$25 for portfolio administration process and \$25 for each portfolio plus \$25 per credit hour for credits approved;
- undergraduate semester credit hour—refer to the Schedule of Fees for more information;
- departmental challenge examination fee—Refer to the Schedule of Fees for information.
- web-based course fee—web-based courses have additional course fees. Refer to the Schedule of Fees for information.

#### **Earning Academic Credit**

BIS 399 is required of all Integrated Studies students for three semester hours of credit.

The learning contract is a method by which a student completes an arranged course sponsored by a department and supervised by a Murray State University faculty member.

Departmental challenge examinations measure how well a student has mastered the content of courses which are normally offered to traditional students. Applications for departmental challenge examinations are made to the concerned department.

The College Level Examinations Program (CLEP) provides a way to earn college credit by taking standardized tests. A student may arrange to take these tests at any higher education institution offering the tests. Students who have ever enrolled at Murray State must have permission to take the CLEP tests. Contact the Testing Center, 270-809-6848.

Self-Paced Distance Learning courses may be taken by mail for credit from Murray State University and other accredited institutions. For the working adult, these integrated study courses allow the student to work at his or her own pace at times convenient to the student.

Integrated Studies students may apply for credit in Murray State courses by submitting a portfolio to a willing faculty reviewer of materials to show that the student has learned the course content. A maximum of 30 semester credit hours may be awarded for credit. The Integrated Studies program maintains a portfolio guide setting forth procedures for submission and evaluation of portfolios. Each department will determine the methods for evaluation of portfolios. Any awarded credit will not be posted to the student's official MSU transcript until the student is up for graduation with a Integrated Studies degree.

Traditional classroom courses scheduled by Murray State University both on-campus and off-campus may be a method for completing the external degree requirements. Many courses have been especially scheduled in the evenings for the adult student. The schedule of classes may be found under *Quick Links* at www.murraystate.edu.

Transfer credit from other accredited colleges or universities can become a part of the degree program of studies. There is no maximum limit of credit hours which may be transferred to the external degree program from an accredited college or university as long as the student has maintained an overall *C* average. The student must earn a minimum of 32 semester hours of degree credit at Murray State.

Policies not stated in this section may be found by referring to Murray State University's policies in other sections of this bulletin. For additional information regarding admission criteria, degree requirements, curriculum and fees, contact a Integrated Studies Advisor, Regional Academic Outreach, Murray State University, 303 Sparks Hall, Murray KY 42071-0009, or call 270-809-4159; outside Calloway County, call toll free, 1-800-669-7654.

#### Associate of Arts — General Studies

The Associate of Arts in General Studies is a degree for special populations and includes the following course requirements. Refer to the "Degrees" section of Academic Degrees and Programs for additional degree requirements.

ASSOCIATE: Associate of Arts Degree
General Studies CIP 24.0101

University Studies Requirements......39-43 hrs

(See Academic Degrees and Programs for approved University Studies selections and the section on Mandatory Developmental Courses.)

• Oral and Written Communication ...... 4 hrs ENG 105 [or ENG 104]

Select courses from the categories indicated below from the approved list of University Studies courses in *Academic Degrees and Programs*. No more than two courses in any one discipline may be taken within any one University Studies category to fulfill University Studies requirements.

Studies requirements.
•Global Awareness, Cultural Diversity, and the World's Artistic Traditions
•Scientific Inquiry, Methodologies, and Quantitative Skills10-12 hrs
Social and Self-Awareness and Responsible Citizenship6 hrs     One Ethics, Social Responsibility and Civic Engagement category course
World's Historical, Literary, and     Philosophical Traditions
•University Studies Approved Electives10-12 hrs
Approved Electives21 hrs
Total Curriculum Requirements60-64 hrs

### **Department of Military Science**

211 Blackburn Science Building 270-809-5061

The purpose of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program is to qualify college students for commissioning in the United States Army as officers in the grade of Second Lieutenant. This includes the Active Army (AD), National Guard (NG), and U.S. Army Reserves (USAR). This program of study is designed to develop the individual leadership and management skills that are necessary as an officer and equally beneficial and applicable to most other professions or vocations.

The Department of Military Science offers a four year and two year course of instruction which are divided into two phases, the basic course and the advanced course. Prerequisites for entry into the advanced course are 10 hours of basic Military Science courses, which include MIL 101, MIL 102, MIL 201 and MIL 202, or complete MIL 210 (Basic Cadet Summer Training Course at Ft. Knox, KY). Qualified veterans, NG, or USAR personnel may qualify for immediate placement in the advanced course. Students must have at least 54 credit hours and two years (4 semesters) left at Murray State University for entry into the advanced course as well.

Department of Military Science requires at least 26 hours of Military Science in the 300- and 400-level and HIS 333 to receive a minor and/or to receive a commission. Six minor hours must be upper-level courses completed in residence at Murray State University. Military Science courses such as MIL 101, MIL 102, MIL 201, and MIL 202 may be used as elective hours for students pursuing any degree at Murray State.

A student may be selected, after contracting to serve, for Active Duty or service in one of the Reserve Components (NG/USAR) upon the completion of the advance course requirements and receipt of a bachelor's degree. The student will have the opportunity to request the branch or "area" for commissioning. There are several branches to choose from:

Military Police Corps Adjutant General's Corps Corps of Engineers Air Defense Field Artillery **Nurse Corps** Armor **Finance Ordance Corps** Infantry Artillery Quartermaster Corps Aviation Medical Service Corps Signal Corps **Chemical Corps** Military Intelligence Transportation

Those students who desire to enter active duty are obligated to serve up to four years (depending if scholarship or not). Students choosing a Reserve Component option may request a Guaranteed Reserve Forces Duty (GRFD) contract. Students selecting this option serve on active duty for the duration of the branch school chosen then serve six (6) years for the National Guard or United States Army Reserve.

National scholarships are available which cover the cost of tuition and books. Information on National Scholarships may be found at www. goarmy.com. Students must apply for National Scholarships during their junior or senior year of high school. National Scholarship recipients and contracted cadets receive a monthly stipend during the school year. ROTC enrolled students may apply for housing scholarships and tuition scholarships as available. For more information on scholarships, contact the Department of Military Science 270-809-5061. Students qualifying for the advance courses may also belong to a NG or USAR unit under the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) and receive financial benefits by both ROTC and the NG or USAR unit.

Military manuals are provided by the Department of Military Science. All advanced course contracted cadets attend a leadership practicum in the summer between their junior and senior years of ROTC.

# FOUR YEAR MINOR: Military Science

#### Required Courses ...... 36 hrs

HIS 333 Military History of the United States

MIL 100 Physical Conditioning Lab

MIL 101 Introduction to the Army and Critical Thinking

MIL 102 Introduction to the Profession of Arms

MIL 201 Foundations of Leadership

MIL 202 Foundations of Tactical Leadership

MIL 301 Adaptive Team Leadership

MIL 302 Applied Team Leadership

MIL 401 Mission Command and the Army Profession

MIL 402 Mission Command and the Company Grade Officer

MIL 410 Leader Development-Advanced Cadet Summer Training<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Leadership practicum during the summer session that is not required to obtain the four year minor; however, it is required for commissioning selection and contracted cadets.

Students have the option to qualify and compete for contracting as a cadet in ROTC to become eligible to commision as an officer in the U.S. Army after selection and completion of an undergraduate degree.

Students who enroll in any military science course incur no military obligation. Basic level courses are conducted in the same manner as are other courses taught at the University.

Students entering into the advance course must be of high moral character and meet required medical, aptitude, and GPA requirements. In addition, if contracted as a cadet, students must sign an agreement to fulfill any obligations and a military service requirement in either the Reserve Component, or Active Army upon completion of ROTC and graduating from Murray State. This will not be valid if a cadet is disqualified, disenrolled, or not selected for commissioning as an officer; however, some obligations may remain.

# TWO YEAR MINOR: Military Science

Required Courses ......26-32 hrs

HIS 333 Military History of the United States

MIL 100 Physical Conditioning Lab

MIL 210 Leader's Training-Basic Cadet Summer Training<sup>1</sup>

MIL 301 Adaptive Team Leadership

MIL 302 Applied Team Leadership

MIL 401 Mission Command and the Army Profession

MIL 402 Mission Command and the Company Grade Officer

MIL 410 Leader Development-Advanced Cadet Summer Training<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Course not required if completion of Basic Combat Training or credit for prior military service. Credit required for commissioning as a U.S. Army officer.

<sup>2</sup>Leadership practicum during the summer session that is not required for minor; however, it is required for commissioning selection and contracted cadets.

The two-year program is designed for transfer students and Murray State students who qualify to earn a commission as an Army officer or want a minor without a military obligation, but did not participate in the four-year program. Students desiring to participate in the two-year program must gain credit for basic military science courses. This credit can be awarded to students who are veterans, National Guard and Reserve personnel that have completed Basic Training. Also, college students who qualify and contract as cadets with at least two years remaining in college, may gain credit for basic military science courses by completing an ROTC leadership practicum (MIL 210) at Fort Knox, Kentucky, conducted each summer. Students participating in MIL 210 must meet screening height and weight standards, pass an entrance level Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT), entrance medical exam, and have the approval of the chair of the Department of Military Science.

The two year minor is the advanced military science course. All students entering into the advance course must be of high moral character and meet required medical, aptitude, and GPA requirements. Non-contracted students may obtain a minor in military science without a military service obligation. Contracted cadets, students must sign an agreement to fulfill any obligations and a military service requirement in either the Reserve Component, or Active Army upon completion of ROTC and graduating from Murray State. This will not be valid if a cadet is disqualified, disenrolled, or not selected for commissioning as an officer; however, some obligations may remain.