

NS1000 Syllabus
Introduction to Naval Science: 3.0 Credits
Fall 2026

Instructor:

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Course Description:

This course will expose students to many elements of naval culture. Students participating fully in this course will receive a general introduction to the United States Navy (USN) and United States Marine Corps (USMC).

Course Learning Objectives:

Topics covered during this course include, but are not limited to:

1. Organizational structure;
2. Warfare components and assigned roles/missions of USN/USMC;
3. All aspects of Naval Service from its relative position within the Department of Defense (DoD) to the specific warfare communities/career paths;
4. Basic elements of leadership; and
5. USN and USMC Core Values.

Guidelines for Completing and Submitting Homework Assignments

- All assignments shall be typed on a computer and submitted electronically via Canvas.
- You must work on *all* of your assignments independently, unless specifically directed to work in a group. Think of each assignment as an open-book, open-note exam.
- All written submissions must be formatted according to SECNAV M-5216.5, Department of the Navy, Naval Correspondence Manual, June 2015. Specifically, see pages 7-16 to 7-17 (link below). SECNAV M-5216.5 will be posted as a PDF file on Canvas: <https://www.marines.mil/Portals/59/Publications/SECNAV%20M%205216.5.pdf>
- All assignments are to be turned in at 0730 on the date designated in the class schedule.
- One **full** grade level will be deducted from assignments for the first day an assignment is late and a **half** grade each additional day.
- If you are sick, out of town, or for any other reason unable to turn in an assignment notify the instructor as soon as possible. Be prepared to provide documentation supporting the reason you were unable to turn in the assignment.

Description of Graded Components:

- (QUIZZES) After each phase of the class, there will be a quiz.
- (WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT) Using SECNAV M-5216.5, draft a Standard Letter discussing: the Navy or Marine Corps community that most appeals to you; the mission of the community; why the community appeals to you; and provide three characteristics you possess that would benefit your chosen community.
- (MIDTERM) Working as a pair, with the aid of PowerPoint, give a 10-minute presentation on a topic relating to the Navy or Marine Corps. Groups will meet with the

instructor prior to beginning the assignment. A rubric will be uploaded to Blackboard later in the semester.

- (FINAL) ‘Ted© Talk’ on Leadership Without the aid of PowerPoint, give a (5) minute talk on leadership incorporating the Department of the Navy Ethics and Institutional Values.

At Georgia Tech, final course grades are awarded on a scale of A-F with no +/- grades permitted.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech’s Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Academic Support

Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at success.gatech.edu/tutoring, email us at tutoring@gatech.edu, or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

Student Well-Being

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A comprehensive list of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being.

Professional Disposition

My goal as your instructor is to provide you opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to succeed in a professional environment. Don't wait until you graduate to start acting like a professional. Start now.

Just as you evaluate your instructors at the end of the semester, I will be evaluating you. Throughout the semester, I will be observing your behavior and providing you feedback as required. I will be looking for these things:

- **Attendance:** Attendance is required; be responsible.
- **Punctuality:** If you show up on time, you are late. Arrive to class a few minutes early, settle in, and then be quiet and focused the moment class starts. You will know that class has started because I will say something like "Ok. Let's get started." Also, maintain attention until the last moment of class. Do not pack up your materials in anticipation of the end of class; it is rude. You will know that class has ended when I say, "That's it for today, I'll see you next time" or words to that effect.
- **Attention:** Pay attention in class. This means you should not sleep, talk with your neighbor, read material unrelated to class, text message, or work on your computer. When a student asks a question or makes a comment, pay careful attention to what they are saying. You should show your fellow students as much respect as you show me. You expect the same from them.
- **Participation:** Students usually have an opinion on the issues discussed in class. Do not keep them to yourself or whisper them to a neighbor. Raise your hand and contribute. Do not worry about sounding foolish. It is ok to be wrong. Be brave. Discovering that you are wrong and changing your mind is essential to learning. If you do not understand something, ask.
- **Maturity:** Don't make excuses and ask for an extension unless it is justified. The rules listed in this syllabus apply to everyone.
- **Responsibility:** You have the syllabus—students can find the answers to many questions they ask me by looking in the syllabus. Figure things out for yourself whenever you can.
- **Communication:** Use a professional tone in email correspondence. You should start with "Ma'am." Spelling, grammar, and punctuation are important. Be direct and to the point. Military acronyms are acceptable. You should close with "Respectfully" or "Very Respectfully."
- **Honesty and Integrity:** This is absolutely the wrong class to attempt cheating. I work very hard to provide all students with an equal opportunity to succeed. The penalty for cheating at Georgia Tech is severe. It is even more severe if you are a member of the Naval Reserves Officers Training Corps. **Do not cheat**—it is not worth it.