DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR UNIVERSITY (AETC)

10 October 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR AS 1120 STUDENTS

FROM: AFROTC DET 165/AS 1120 Instructor

SUBJECT: AS 1120 "Heritage and Values of the Air Force II" Course Syllabus

1. Instructor: Captain Quintin L. Echols
Office: (404) 894-8337
Email: qechols3@gatech.edu
Office Hours: By appointment only

2. Textbooks: All Materials are online at: **www.holmcenter.com** & Canvas

3. Class Schedule: Thursdays 1000L to 1050L

4. Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the Air Force and Space Force, hopefully encouraging students to pursue a career in the Department of the Air Force (DAF) or at least seek additional information to be better informed about the role of the United States Air Force (USAF) and United States Space Force (USSF). The course allows students to examine general aspects of the DAF, leadership fundamentals, service benefits, and opportunities for officers. The course also lays the foundation for becoming an Airman or Guardian by outlining heritage and values. As a foundational course, AS 1120 provides a historical perspective such as lessons on war and US military, DAF operations, principles of war, and airpower.

5. Course Goals: By the end of the semester, you should have a basic knowledge-level understanding for the employment of air and space power, from an institutional, doctrinal, and historical perspective. The students will be introduced to the military way of life and gain knowledge on what it means to be an Airman or Guardian.

6. Class Preparation: I expect **everyone** to be prepared for each class. This includes reading assigned material, being prepared to answer instructor questions, and participating in class discussions. Since a portion of your grade (10 Points) is based upon attendance and classroom participation, it's in your best interest to be prepared.

7. Attendance Policy ATTENDANCE COUNTS. Roll call will be taken. Unexcused absences or tardiness will result in points deducted from the Instructor Points portion of your grade. Excused absence is determined as a family emergency or illness which must be diagnosed by a doctor. An Official Memorandum (OM) is required for any absences. Your cadet Flight Commander can assist you in writing your OM. AFROTC requires you to attend a minimum of 80% of all classes to be eligible for a passing grade, so **if you miss more than 20% (3) of the**

classes you automatically fail the course. The Class Leader will ensure everyone in attendance signs in on the roster and ensures that the attendance roster is immediately handed in to Captain Echols at the end of class.

Students must be enrolled as full-time students as defined by their university every semester with the exception of the semester they graduation/commission.

You are responsible for all material presented in the classes you miss. Cross-town schools may have different academic calendars than Georgia Tech. Do not assume your school has the same academic calendar as Georgia Tech's. You must coordinate with me on potential absences due to your institution's academic calendar.

8. Course Evaluation:

Item	PERCENTAGE	GRADE SCALE (%)
Midterm Exam	30	A = 90 - 100
Final Exam	30	B = 80 - 89
DAF Command Brief	10	C* = 70 - 79
Leadership Journal	10	D = 60 - 69
Career Field Brief	20	F = <60
Total	100	

*Note: AFROTC Cadets must receive a grade of "C-" or better in AS classes and LLAB to maintain good standing in the program.

9. Leadership Journal: You will write 10+ notes about experiences in AFROTC. See attachments.

10. Briefings: You will conduct two briefings during this semester. See attachments.

11. Class Participation: You will be graded on my evaluation of your performance in class and attendance. This will include any quizzes or other assignments that I elect to assign, your participation in class, military professionalism, bearing, attendance and punctuality**.**

12. Academic Integrity, Academic Freedom, USAF Core Values and Honor Codes:

Plagiarism, cheating and other misconduct will not be tolerated and may lead to dismissal from AFROTC.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Uncompromising adherence to a code of ethics, morality, conduct, scholarship, and other values related to academic activity. All students and permanent-party personnel must adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. They are prohibited from engaging in plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation, unprofessional relationships, or any other act constituting a lack of academic integrity. Failure on the part of any individual to practice academic integrity reflects discredit both on the Air Force and on the individual and is not condoned by Air University/Holm Center/AFROTC. All individuals who violate this instruction are subject to adverse administrative action including disenrollment and expulsion from school, disciplinary

action, and discharge from the service. AFROTC cadets are held to the same academic integrity standards as other Air University students; however, they are not subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). If I determine that a violation of academic integrity standards took place, I will take appropriate action under AFROTC policy guidance, up to and including elimination of non-contract cadets, initiation of disenrollment investigations for contract cadets (Reference AUI 36-2602).

ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY

The free exchange of opinions and ideas is essential to the educational process and, to the greatest extent possible, faculty and students are encouraged to speak and write freely. Even in this academic setting, however, the importance of Air University/Holm Center/AFROTC's military mission requires limits on some types of expression. The following restrictions apply IAW Articles 88 and 89 of the UCMJ (for those to whom the UCMJ applies) and local restrictions/requests for those who are not subject to the UCMJ: Commissioned officers, officer trainees, and cadets may not use disrespectful words toward the President, Vice President, Congress, the Secretary of the Air Force, and others. In addition, military members may not make disrespectful remarks about superior commissioned officers. Faculty, students, and staff members should make every effort to indicate clearly that the opinions they express are personal to the member, and do not represent official views of Georgia Tech University, the U.S. government, and all units in between (Reference AUI 36-2602).

GEORGIA TECH HONOR CHALLENGE

I commit to uphold the ideals of honor and integrity by refusing to betray the trust bestowed upon me as a member of the Georgia Tech community

CADET HONOR CODE

"We will not lie, steal or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does."

AIR FORCE CORE VALUES

Air Force Core Values: *Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence In All We Do.*

13. Classroom Conduct: A class leader will be appointed on the first day of class. Each class, a different pair of cadets will open and close the class following the opening and closing procedures. Cadets are required to wear the uniform of the day (UOD). Be in your seat and ready to learn by the time class is scheduled to start. Attendance will be conducted prior to the start of class by the opening/closing cadets.

Opening Procedures: Cadets will determine how to standardize their belongings. The class will open and close with students' belongings in the determined standardized configuration as determined by the class Standardization Officer. Closing Cadet will stand by the door and call the room to attention upon instructor breaking the plane of the door. Opening Cadet will stand at the front-center of the class, facing the students. Instructor will then approach the opening cadet to get accountability. Opening Cadet will render a salute and state:

"Rank and name of instructor (or Sir/Ma'am), class is ready for instruction."

Followed by:

"# of cadets present (or accounted for)"
and
 # cadets not accounted for

Instructor will return salute and tell class to take their seats. Cadets will sit at ATTENTION until placed AT EASE .

Closing Procedures: Instructor will notify closing cadet to prepare the class for dismissal (Cadets will not start standardizing until instructed to do so by closing cadet.) Closing cadet standardize their belongings, will march to the front-center of the class, face the students at ATTENTION, and state **"Class prepare for dismissal."** The class will then standardize their belongings and stand at PARADE REST once ready. Closing cadet will call the room to attention, face the Instructor, render a salute and state: **"Sir/Ma'am, the class is ready for dismissal."** Instructor will return salute, exit the room, and typically state to carry-on (if not, carry on once Instructor has left the room).

If you are tardy, join the class and see me after to discuss. I expect you to learn and display proper, professional conduct. We practice the Air Force Training Manual's mutual respect model in our classrooms. We will not tolerate racial, sexual, or ethnic slurs or any unprofessional behavior. Eating and drinking are allowed during class provided it is not a distraction and you clean up after yourself. Look before you leave! Pick up any trash and straighten the desks before leaving. The opening/closing cadets will be responsible for ensuring the trash is taken out and the room is clean and orderly, as well as other duties specified by me.

a. Customs & Courtesies: Customs and courtesies are integral to every successful officer and leader. Professional conduct should already be your habit. Correct and provide constructive feedback to your peers when customs and courtesies are deficient.

b. Dress & Appearance: Cadets are required to wear UOD and abide by cadet and military dress and appearance standards as outlined in DAFI 36-2903. Special Students (non-cadets) will wear appropriate attire for the classroom.

c. Timeliness: Be settled and ready to start class no later than (NLT) the scheduled start time. This applies to PT, LLAB, and any other AFROTC scheduled activity or event. For class, tardiness will result in deduction of points from the Instructor Points portion of your grade.

d. Use of Mobile Devices, Laptops, etc. During Class: As research on learning shows, unexpected noises and movement automatically divert and capture people's attention, which means you are affecting everyone's learning experience if your cell phone, pager, laptop, etc. makes noise or is visually distracting during class. That said, many students find it useful to have a mobile device on hand to access course materials.

With this in mind, I allow you to take notes on your laptop, but request that you turn the sound off so that you do not disrupt other students' learning. In addition, if you are doing anything other than taking notes or looking at course materials on your laptop, you will be asked to close your device for the remainder of the class period.

14. Withdrawals: If you decide to withdraw from this class past the first week's drop date, **YOU MUST COMPLETE THE WITHDRAWAL FORM** from the Georgia Tech registrar, even if you are a crosstown cadet and your school has their own drop form. Like all classes, failure to drop the course means we must assign you a final grade based upon the criteria established. In addition, I will not sign your withdrawal slip until you turn in your **textbooks** and **uniforms**. The withdrawal date is 17 March 2027.

15. Make-Up Policy: Students may complete work missed and receive partial credit if assignments are turned in within (3) days of the assignment due date. Items turned in late will be assessed a one letter grade penalty or 10% deduction (e.g. a "B" paper would get "C" if late). If briefings or papers require a redo, the highest grade possible is a "B." If a deadline is missed due to an emergency or hardship I will determine if a penalty is levied.

16. Course Schedule and Outline: An abbreviated class schedule is attached (see attachment 1). There may be room in the schedule for "no class days." Therefore, the schedule is tentative and subject to change. The class leader will inform the class of any changes.

17. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/, 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.

18. Miscellaneous: I want this class to be interactive and engaging in order to foster a successful learning environment. I expect you to share ideas freely and ask questions. This is an opportunity for continued growth and development as a future leader. I look forward to increasing your knowledge of the Air Force/Space Force and watching you succeed.

//SIGNED//
QUINTIN L. ECHOLS, Capt, USAF
Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies
Instructor

Attachments:
1. Course Schedule – Spring 2027
2. Briefings
3. Leadership Journaling

ATTACHMENT 1: COURSE SCHEDULE (Tentative) – Spring 2027

LESSON	ACADEMIC AREA	TITLE	DATE	Notes
		FIRST TERM		
11	CS	AS100 Course Overview	Jan 14	
12	CS	Writing Overview	Jan 21	
13	CS	Speaking Overview	Jan 28	
14	WS	What is War?	Feb 4	
15	WS	Principles of Joint Operations & Tenets of Airpower	Feb 11	
15	WS	Principles of Joint Operations & Tenets of Airpower	Feb 18	Mid-term Open
16	WS	What the DAF Brings to the Fight	Feb 25	Mid-term Due
16	WS	What the DAF Brings to the Fight	March 4	
17	WS	Spring Break (No Class)	March 11	
17	WS	DAF Commands	March 18	
		DAF Commands	March 25	
18	CS	Career Field Briefings	Apr 1	
18	CS	Career Field Briefings	Apr 8	
19	LS	Professionalism, Standards, & Accountability	Apr 15	
		Instructor Discretion	Apr 22	Final Open
		Final Exam Due	Apr 29	Final Due

ATTACHMENT 2

Communication Studies Activity: AS100 Briefings
Communication Studies Activity Type: Group/Individual Briefings about DAF Commands and Career Fields
Time Required: 5 minutes
Prerequisite Classes: None
Interrelated Information: None
Visual Aids: None

GRADING CRITERIA

This assignment is worth 100 points. Below is a breakdown:

Time met (- .25 for every 30 seconds over/under)	10
Relevant Topic	90
Total	100

ATTACHMENT 3

Communication Studies Activity: AS100 Leadership Journaling
Communication Studies Activity Type: Writing—Notes
Time Required: Assign as Homework
Paper Length: 250 words
Prerequisite Classes: None
Interrelated Information: None
Visual Aids: None

Activity Statement: Write notes throughout the semester about experiences in AFROTC.

CADET ACTIVITY

Students will write 10+ notes (one each week) which should clarify and effectively express their experiences, thoughts, and feelings related to AFROTC training each week. Some common topics to write about are as follows:

Challenges in training	Areas for improvement
Frustrations	Positive/negative reactions to certain experiences
Lessons learned at a personal/team level	Personal/team successes

GRADING CRITERIA

This assignment is worth 100 points. Below is a breakdown:

Relevant Topic	100
Total	**100**