

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

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21 January 2025

MEMORANDUM TO THE VMI BOARD OF VISITORS THROUGH THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Approval of Curricular Changes

Background

The Board of Visitors is charged with the responsibility of ensuring the academic quality and integrity of the Institute. The following changes to the Institute curriculum have been approved by the Academic Board and are submitted for the approval of the Board of Visitors:

- New/Revised Courses – Enclosure (1):
 - BU 339 Name Change to Supply Chain Management
 - BU 425 – Executive Compensation (3-0-3)
 - CHI 308 – Exploring Taiwan through Literature and Film (3-0-3)
 - HPW 415 – Combatives II (0-1-0.5)
 - IS 321 – Insights into the U.S. Intelligence Community (3-0-3)

Recommended Motion

“The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the recommended Curricular Changes dated 21 January 2025. I move that the Board of Visitors approve these Curricular Changes and that they be made part of the minutes.”



Cedric T. Wins '85
Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)
Superintendent

New/Revised Course Descriptions

BU 339 - Supply Chain Management (3-0-3)

Updated Course Description: A comprehensive overview of the business processes and decisions required to produce goods and services and distribute them to customers. Topics include forecasting, inventory management, network and logistics planning, and sales and operations planning. Coordination of decisions with supply chain partners is emphasized. Prerequisite(s): EC 203

BU 425 – Executive Compensation (3-0-3)

Course Description: This course is designed to teach cadets about how publicly traded companies compensate their executives, as well as the determinants and consequences of contemporary executive pay practices.

CHI 308 – Exploring Taiwan through Literature and Film (3-0-3)

Course Description: This course explores Taiwan's history and society from the early 20th century to today, focusing on key periods like Japanese colonial rule, the Martial Law era, and the post-martial law period. Through literature, film, and arts, students will explore key themes such as ideology, gender, diaspora, folk beliefs, and globalization. This course will be taught in English, requires no knowledge of Chinese, and cannot be used towards a language requirement. Prerequisites: none.

HPW 415 – Combatives II (0-1-0.5)

Course Description: This course is based on the U.S. Army's Combatives program, and it teaches intermediate level ground fighting techniques. Cadets will build upon the skills learned in the basic Combatives course (HPW 315). Additionally, cadets will be taught to modify their fighting strategy to meet unpredictable situations.

IS 321 – Insights into the US Intelligence Community (3-0-3)

Course Description: This course fulfills an elective for International Studies and should equip cadets with a solid grounding in the functions, activities, history, and organization of the US intelligence community and its vital role in the formulation of US foreign and national security policy. The course will focus on the Big Five (Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, and the National Security Agency) with a high-level overview of all 18 departments/ agencies in the community. This course will explore how information is collected and transformed from raw intelligence to finished analytical products used to inform policymaker decisions as well as support other intelligence consumers. In addition, the course will examine the use of covert action and some of the ethical issues that arise in the conduct of intelligence operations.