



HOUSTON BATTALION



Army ROTC

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON MAIN / DOWNTOWN / CLEAR LAKE
RICE UNIVERSITY * TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY * ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY * HOUSTON CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY *
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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WELCOME BACK!

On behalf of the entire Houston Battalion, we would like to welcome everyone back and extend a special welcome to new Cadets, returning Cadets, friends, and family. The new Cadet leadership is excited and ready to lead the Battalion into another great year!



THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE



LIEUTENANT COLONEL MELISSA C. COMISKEY

Greetings Friends, Families, and Supporters of the Houston Battalion Army ROTC Program! Welcome to all the new and returning cadets, our new cadre, and the new friends, families, and supporters of our program. We had an outstanding summer, as you'll see throughout this newsletter. Our cadets traveled the country completing Cadet Summer Training, Basic Camp, Airborne School, Air Assault School, and integrating into organizations they may find themselves in one day thanks to Cadet Troop Leading Training and the Nurse Summer Training Program.

Our recruiting operations team and cadet recruiters worked diligently over the summer bringing in over forty new cadets representing every one of our eight campuses. Additionally, we awarded eight housing scholarships at the University of Houston for the Fall '23 Semester. Well done each of you!

I would like to provide a warm (literally) Texas welcome to our newest teammate - SFC Janssen Moen. He and his family joined the Houston Battalion this summer, coming from the National Training Center, Fort Irwin California where he served with the prestigious 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as a 19K, Armored Crewman, Platoon Sergeant. We are glad to have you and family on board SFC Moen!

Lastly, I must send a huge heartfelt THANK YOU to Ms. Susan Mangum, our university Program Manager for over seventeen years. We celebrated Ms. Mangum's retirement on 15 September - a bittersweet time as she leaves a huge hole in our organization but celebrates this well-deserved retirement to spend time with her family and grandchildren. You always have a place in our hearts and a seat at our table Ms. Mangum. We truly wish you and your family all the best in the adventures to come.

Cheers to a great Fall Semester full of leadership lessons learned, successful academics, thriving extra-curricular activities, and limitless opportunities to do good, have fun, and make memories! If there is ever anything my team or I can do for you, please contact me at mccomisk@central.uh.edu.

MEET THE BATTALION COMMAND AND STAFF



BATTALION COMMANDER CADET LIEUTENANT COLONEL EMME JENNINGS

My name is Emme Jennings and I am serving as your Battalion Commander for academic year 2023-24. I am pursuing my Bachelors in Criminal Justice at the University of Houston - Downtown and am hoping to branch Aviation to be an Apache pilot. I also serve as the Color Guard commander (alongside the XO), which we have worked as a team for the past year. In my free time, I enjoy playing my violin and piano, martial arts, photography, and shooting! I am here to help all of you in your journey to become commissioned officers, so if you ever need anything whether it be advice, help, or just want to talk, I am here for you. I am so excited to serve as your BC this year and can't wait to work with you all!

CADET COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR DEMETREE MARION

My name is Cadet Demetree Marion and I am currently a graduate student at Texas Southern University, pursuing a Masters Degree in Management Information Systems. Upon graduation I will commission as an officer and I hope to get into Logistics via the Transportation, Ordnance, or Quartermaster branches, or become a Cyber officer via the cyber branch. I am a green to gold cadet so I don't work essentially school is my work but I have a few hobbies. I lift weights, play basketball, day trade, and spend time with 2 year old daughter. Currently I serve as the Houston Battalion's Cadet Command Sergeant Major. In the position I am the senior advisor to the Battalion Commander and a liaison between cadets and the cadre when they need to voice their concerns or opinions to better the Battalion. I am passionate about helping cadets achieve their goals within Army ROTC whatever they may be and however I can. This is my final year in the program and I know it'll be fun and an awesome learning experience so I look forward to it.



EXECUTIVE OFFICER CADET MAJOR JORGE BARAHONA CRESPO

How's it going Houston! My name is Jorge Barahona Crespo and I am looking forward to building some everlasting bonds with all of you while at the same time helping you all develop into America's future Army leaders! I am currently a senior at the University of Houston and will graduate in Spring 2024 with a Bachelors in Human Resources Development. I enjoy live music, collecting vinyls, pursuing a life long journey for that perfect cup of coffee, as well as lighting up the grill for a good barbecue session. If you need any advice or have any questions I am always here to help. Here's to an amazing semester!



MEET THE BATTALION COMMAND AND STAFF

S-1

Personnel/Administration
C/CPT Kiersten Bellamy



S-3

Operations
C/MAJ Aiden McKenna



S-4

Logistics
C/CPT Randall Slaughter



S-5

Civil/Public Affairs
C/CPT Julie Kindle



S-6

Communications
C/CPT Daniel Durham



ALPHA COMPANY

Commander

C/CPT Justin Jorski



Executive Officer

C/CPT Saul Navarro



First Sergeant

C/1SG Dylan Chandlee



RANGER CHALLENGE

Commander

C/CPT Maximus Furtado



BRAVO COMPANY

Commander

C/CPT Cheyenne Francois



Executive Officer

C/1LT Nancy Meza



First Sergeant

C/1SG Chris Marquez



SUMMER TRAINING

CADET SUMMER TRAINING - ADVANCED CAMP



Cadet Brooks on the rappel tower.

MS-III Cadets from the Houston Battalion traveled to Fort Knox, Kentucky for Advanced Camp. The Cadets went through 35 days of training that spanned eleven regiments over the course of the academic summer. The training completed by Cadets is essential for rising Army Second Lieutenants as they teach cadets basic Soldier knowledge and essential leadership skills. Training included individual events such as day/night land navigation, M4 weapons qualification, rappelling, and tactical combat casualty care. Moving on to the second phase of camp, Cadets participated in three field training exercises (FTX), each lasting three days. Cadets conducted missions such as platoon attacks, raids, react to contact, and patrol bases at night. At the end of the final FTX, Cadets must complete a 12-mile ruck march. Congratulations to the following Cadets for successfully completing Advanced Camp:



CDT Meza completing the confidence course.

- CDT Barahona, Jorge | University of Houston
- CDT Bellamy, Kiersten | University of Houston-Downtown
- CDT Bravo, Juan | University of St. Thomas
- CDT Brooks, Shelby | Texas Southern University
- CDT Durham, Daniel | University of Houston
- CDT Francois, Cheyenne | University of Houston- Downtown
- CDT Furtado, Maxiumus | University of Houston
- CDT Grajales, Pamela | University of Houston
- CDT Hannah, Jaden | Texas Southern University
- CDT Jennings, Emme | University of Houston- Downtown
- CDT Johnson, Ashley | Texas Southern University
- CDT Jorski, Justin | University of Houston
- CDT Kindle, Julie | University of Houston
- CDT Marion, Demetree | Texas Southern University
- CDT Mckenna, Aiden | Rice University
- CDT Melartin, Rolle | University of Houston
- CDT Meza, Nancy | University of Houston
- CDT Navarro, Saul | University of Houston
- CDT Ramos, Jaquelyn | University of Houston
- CDT Richardson, Kenneth | Texas Southern University
- CDT Sablack, Davud | Rice university
- CDT Slaughter, Randall | University of Houston
- CDT Weinstein, Rebecca | University of Houston



Cadet Sablak during field training.

• SUMMER - AUGUST 2023 •

SUMMER TRAINING

CADET SUMMER TRAINING - ADVANCED CAMP



(from left to right) CDT Bellamy, CDT Bravo, and CDT Meza



Cadet Barahona and 2LT Villasayne at Densberger.



CPT Smoot and CDT Jennings at 6th regiment graduation.



Cadets Kindle and McKenna during branch day.



Cadets Ramos and Jorski arrive at 4th regiment Advanced Camp graduation.



Cadet Richardson and 2LT Johnson during garrison.

SUMMER TRAINING

AIRBORNE SCHOOL

Several Soldiers from different parts of the country get the chance to attend Airborne School, renowned for its demanding training. During this summer, CDT Wilson earned the opportunity to attend Airborne School at Ft. Moore (formerly Ft. Benning), Georgia, where he completed the intensive three-week course. Airborne School instructs Soldiers on the correct technique for parachuting from aircraft and landing securely, culminating in an independent jump.



Cadet Wilson at the completion of Airborne School.

AIR ASSAULT SCHOOL

A select number of cadets earned the opportunity to attend Air Assault school, known for its rigorous training. During the summer, Houston battalion sent CDT Marquez to attend this rigorous school at Ft. Moore. Air Assault school focuses on techniques such as air assault tactics and sling load operations. In order to graduate, a mandatory 12-mile ruck must be completed. CDT Marquez was pinned by former cadre member, CPT Segura.



Cadet Marquez at the completion of air assault school, pinned by CPT Segura

CADET TROOP LEADER TRAINING

The best training is often done with hands-on experience. CTLT gives Cadets the opportunity to shadow a Lieutenant in their day-to-day duties while allowing Cadets to experience the Army outside of ROTC. The following Cadets participated in CTLT this summer:



Cadet Jennings learning to fly an Apache.

- CDT Jennings, Emme | 82nd Airborne Division | Ft. Liberty, North Carolina
- CDT Barahona, Jorge | 1st Group Special Forces | JBLM, Washington
- CDT Durham, Daniel | 2nd Bde, 225th Brigade Support Battalion | Oahu, Hawaii



Cadet Barahona at the fallen Hero's memorial.

• SUMMER - AUGUST 2023 •

SUMMER TRAINING

NURSE SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAM

Aspiring nursing school cadets can attend the Nurse Summer Training Program, giving cadets the opportunity to develop both their leadership and nursing skills. They are introduced to the duties, roles, responsibilities and expectations of an Army Nurse Corps Officer. Cadets complete a four-week training period obtaining invaluable hands-on experience under an experienced Army nurse. During the summer, Houston Battalion sent CDT Bravo to NSTP, gaining clinical experience at the Brooke Army Medical Center in Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.



FAREWELL MS. SUSAN MANGUM

Throughout her remarkable seventeen-year tenure with the Houston Battalion and thirty-one with the University of Houston, Ms. Susan Mangum demonstrated an unwavering commitment that went above and beyond. Not only did she excel in her capacity as the Program Coordinator/Academic Advisor, but she also assumed the roles of a trusted mentor, a highly regarded colleague, and a dear friend to numerous individuals within our organization. Her profound impact transcended her official responsibilities, leaving an enduring impression on the lives she touched.

As Ms. Mangum embarks on this exciting new phase of her journey, we wish to convey our deep appreciation for her years of devoted service and the positive influence she has had on our community. We eagerly anticipate witnessing the continued success and accomplishments that undoubtedly await her. Our warmest and most heartfelt wishes accompany her as she steps into this fresh and promising chapter of her life.



Ms. Mangum alongside General Brito, the Commanding General of TRADOC.



CONNECT WITH US!



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<https://www.facebook.com/houstonarmyrotc>



<https://twitter.com/houstonarmyROTC>



<https://www.uh.edu/class/military-science/>

armyrotc@uh.edu

713-743-3883 or 713-743-8460



Steps to Join Army ROTC

Step 1

Register for the Military Science course through
respective university/college course catalog
(No obligation trial period)

**Have a
desire to
serve?**

Step 2

Meet eligibility requirements
(We will help you get there)

**Want
money for
college?**

Step 3

Sign a contract to become an Army Cadet
(This starts all benefits and scholarships)

Step 4

Commission as an Army Officer
(Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard)

Scholarships Available

2 & 3 year full tuition and fees scholarships
\$600 a semester for Text Books
\$420 a month stipend