**GRADUATION, RING, AND COMMENCEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**Degrees**

The degree of Bachelor of Arts is conferred upon satisfactory completion of the appropriate program of study in chemistry, criminal justice, English, history, mathematics, modern languages, political science, or psychology. The Bachelor of Science degree is conferred upon satisfactory completion of the appropriate program of study in biology; chemistry; computer science; HESS (education; health, exercise, and sport science); mathematics; or physics. Graduates in Business Administration receive the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; Graduates in Civil Engineering receive the degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering; Graduates in Electrical Engineering receive the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

**Requirements for Degree Completion**

**Academics:**

A student must complete one of the major courses of study outlined in the catalog of record and must achieve a minimum grade-point ratio of 2.000 based on all quality hours attempted and all quality points earned at The Citadel. In addition, each student must achieve a minimum grade-point ratio of 2.000 based on all quality hours attempted and all quality points earned in major course work at The Citadel.

Students majoring in education or in the teaching track of HESS (health, exercise and sport science) must achieve a cumulative grade-point ratio of at least 2.500 and a grade-point ratio of at least 2.500 on all professional education courses; and must have on file in the Registrar’s Office at The Citadel passing scores for the appropriate PRAXIS II and Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Examinations.

*If a student is pursuing a minor,* a grade-point ratio of 2.000 must be achieved in all coursework completed in that minor. All students, including transfer students from other colleges, are required to earn at The Citadel a minimum of one-half the semester hours prescribed for their major course of study.

*The student’s school or department is responsible* for ensuring that the student’s knowledge in the major is current. Cadets who have met the overall grade-point ratio and major course work grade-point ratio requirements and who are conduct proficient but who have not completed all course requirements for graduation may take not more than two (2) courses totaling seven (7) semester hours at another institution for transfer to The Citadel in order to complete degree requirements. Prior approval of these courses is mandatory.
**ROTC**

The ROTC requirement for cadets serves two purposes:

1. ROTC coursework plays a major role in The Citadel’s mission to educate and prepare graduates to become principled leaders in all walks of life.

2. ROTC coursework is an essential component of the criteria to receive a commission in one of the armed forces. All cadets are, therefore, required to enroll in and pass an ROTC course for every semester during which they are enrolled at The Citadel or until they have completed eight semesters or met graduation requirements. If extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the cadet require that he/she withdraw or not register for ROTC, the cadet who is pursuing or may wish to pursue a commission must have the permission of the head of that ROTC Detachment. The cadet who is not pursuing a commission must have the permission of the Faculty Academic Advisor and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs.

**ROTC Procedures**

1. Cadets who miss or fail an ROTC class must meet that requirement in order to graduate. When cadets are making up a missed ROTC requirement or changing to another ROTC, they are not, without the permission of the head of the ROTC Detachment, permitted to enroll in an ROTC class at a level lower than their academic class. For example, a member of the senior class who wishes to change to another ROTC must enroll in a senior-level course in the new ROTC unless the head of the ROTC Detachment authorizes the enrollment in a lower level course.

2. Upon the recommendation of the head of the appropriate ROTC department and with concurrence of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, training experiences may be accepted in lieu of ROTC coursework. When approved, the designated ROTC courses will be recorded on the student’s Citadel transcript as exempted military credits. ROTC classes may not be used to satisfy elective requirements in any course of study.

3. Cadets who are pursuing a commission in one ROTC program and wish to pursue a commission in another ROTC program must have the approval of the head of the ROTC program they are leaving and the head of the ROTC program they wish to join.

4. Cadets who wish to move from one ROTC program to another but do not wish to pursue a commission must have the approval of the head of the ROTC department they wish to join, Faculty Academic Advisor and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs. A change in ROTC program does not reduce the number of semesters of ROTC required for graduation.
Graduation, Ring, and Commencement Requirements

**Physical Education**

1. The required physical education program for cadets is designed to provide an exemplary environment and experiences which contribute to an improved quality of life for the student. The program offers basic instruction in adult and lifetime physical fitness, healthful living, as well as physical activities and recreational sports which are of immediate and lasting value.

2. Each cadet is required to complete RPED 250, Contemporary Health Foundations, and RPED 251, Foundations of Fitness and Exercise, as well as two different activity courses.

**Residential:** Students pursuing a cadet degree must reside in the Corps of Cadets for at least four (4) full semesters.

**Ordering and Receiving a Class Ring**

While any rising senior cadet may in the spring of the junior year be measured for and order a class ring, **to be eligible to receive a class ring, a cadet must meet these conditions:**

1. Have an academic classification of 1A

2. Have a cumulative GPR of at least 2.000.

**To participate in the Ring Ceremony, the cadet must**

1. Have passed the Corps Physical Fitness Test

2. Have met the height/weight requirement as outlined in Chapter 5 of the *White Book*.

Cadets who have met requirements to receive the ring but have not met requirements to participate in the Ring Ceremony may pick up their rings at the Holliday Alumni Center on the first business day after the formal Ring Ceremony.

If a cadet fails to meet requirements to receive the ring with his/her class, the Alumni Association will normally hold the ring until the end of the following spring semester. If the cadet has not met requirements to receive the ring by that time, it will be returned to the manufacturer. The cadet may not order the ring again until all requirements to receive the ring have been met.

The eligibility of cadets who failed to meet ring eligibility in October of their senior year will be checked again in January. The rings of cadets who have not yet received their rings but will receive their diplomas in May or will be eligible to **participate in the commencement ceremony will be cleared to receive their rings before commencement.** No other cadets will be cleared to receive their
Graduation, Ring, and Commencement Requirements

rings until after commencement. These are minimum requirements and will not be waived. Students should see the Registrar to confirm eligibility.

Requirements for Participation in Commencement Exercises

Students who have not completed all degree requirements may participate in the May Commencement if the following conditions are met:

1. All grade-point-ratio requirements have been met. That is, the cumulative and major grade-point-ratios must be at least 2.000. For Education majors and Physical Education (Teaching Track) majors, the cumulative and professional education grade-point-ratios must be at least 2.500.

2. The student must be no more than 15 credit hours short of meeting degree requirements.

3. The student must be cleared by the Office of the Treasurer.

4. The cadet must have completed all tours and confinements, must have passed the Corps Physical Fitness Test, and must have met height/weight requirements as presented in Chapter 5 of the White Book.

5. The cadet must have met all ROTC and RPED requirements.

6. The cadet must be eligible to complete degree requirements without returning to the Corps of Cadets since participation in commencement is the final act of a cadet.

Fine Arts Requirement

Freshman and Sophomore cadets are required to attend at least one approved Fine Arts performance each semester. The completion of this requirement will be verified before the academic classification of 2A (first semester, junior status) is approved.