LESSON #3
MILITARY PROFESSIONALISM
Purpose

The purpose of this lesson is to discuss characteristics of military professionalism and how they apply to The Citadel.
Performance Objectives

At the end of this discussion, cadets will be able to identify 7 characteristics of military professionalism.
Performance Evaluation

At the conclusion of this block of instruction, cadets will be able to identify behaviors that are either consistent or inconsistent with military professionalism.
Expectations

Truth:

Incoming fourth classmen expect rank holders at The Citadel to be professional. This is why they chose to attend The Citadel.
Expectations

- Is this what you expected when you arrived?
- Is this what you experienced when you arrived?
Discussion

➢ In your discussion groups take 10 minutes to discuss what you think it means to be professional. Be prepared to discuss your thoughts.
Discussion

➢ What does it mean to be professional?
Elements of Military Professionalism

1) Knowledge of Mission
2) Technical Proficiency
3) Maturity
4) Honor
5) Duty
6) Respect
7) Knowing One’s Subordinates
Knowledge of Unit Mission

In order to be a professional military leader you must know your unit’s mission because your job is mission accomplishment.
Learning The Mission

How do you find out what your unit’s mission is?

Commander’s Philosophy
Unit Mission Statement
Citadel Mission Statement
White Book
Technical Proficiency

➢ As a professional rank holder you must have the technical skills to achieve mission accomplishment.
Technical Proficiency

• How would you have felt last year if a corporal or sergeant tried to teach you drill if they couldn’t drill themselves?

• You probably wouldn’t follow that corporal or sergeant into a coffee shop. There would be no trust.

• Technical proficiency also fosters trust.
Maturity

- As a rank holder you are expected to act as a mature adult. All of your actions must be consistent.

- You may look sharp in uniform and max a PT test but if you spend your weekend drunk and naked passed out on King Street your effectiveness as a leader will be severely diminished.
Honor

The development of character and integrity in the members of the Corps of Cadets is a basic objective of The Citadel (The Guidon).
Honor

- One of the key components of honor is integrity.

- Integrity is:
  - Doing the right thing when no one is watching.
  - Doing the right thing when everyone is watching.
  - Living the Honor Code on a daily basis.
Duty

• Duty:

“Duty is the most sublime word in the English language. Do your duty in all things....You can never do more, you should never wish to do less.”

-attributed to Robert E. Lee.
Duty

- It is the duty of every cadet officer and non-commissioned officer to support the authority of his or her superiors (White Book 1-3:a).

- Duty always takes precedence over privileges.
Discussion

What does it mean that Duty always takes precedence over privileges?
Duty

A Key component of Duty is **Accountability**.

**Accountability means…..**

First, I am accountable for my own actions, Then I hold others accountable for their actions.
Discussion

What are some examples of accountability at The Citadel?
Respect

There are two components of respect:

- Respect for Yourself
- Respect for Each Other
Knowing One’s Subordinates

To fully develop your subordinates into the cadets they should be, you need to know them. This means knowing:

1) Strengths and areas for improvement.

2) What Motivates them.

3) Factors that may inhibit performance.

4) Their Health and Welfare.
Knowing One’s Subordinates

• There is a difference between knowing your subordinates and fraternization.

• Fraternization is to associate or mingle as brothers or on *fraternal* terms.
  
  - It includes a disregard for rank.
  - It subverts the chain of command.
  - It undermines good order and discipline.