



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE ACCESSIONS CENTER (AETC)**

26 Aug 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR AFR 4201 STUDENTS

FROM: AFROTC DET 150/CC

SUBJECT: Course Syllabus and Instructions for AFR 4201

1. Welcome to AFR 4201. For many of you, this is your final year in AFROTC! I hope you enjoy this semester and the curriculum we have developed for you. My goal is to provide a challenging and rewarding experience in preparation for commissioning. This class will provide you with an improved background into how the Air Force fits into the larger government and military interagency, as well as broadening your understanding on how the Air Force operates. I want you to leave this course understanding how we function in peacetime and in war, which will better help you define the operating environment for the Airmen that you will lead.
2. In this class we will cover various topics to include the following: national security strategies, regional studies, advanced leadership ethics, and Air Force doctrine. We will focus on the military as a profession in order to prepare you for active duty service.
3. Your commissioning date is rapidly approaching, and it is imperative that you stay focused to earn your gold bars. Do not ease up on the hard work and effort that has brought you this far. AFROTC loses quality officer candidates every year due to issues that were foreseeable and preventable. Do not lose focus on the importance of this year as you complete the program. I look forward to a great year and shaping this class to enable your success in the Air Force and Space Force.
4. I maintain an open-door policy, which means you are encouraged to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. Should any circumstances arise that could affect your performance or attendance, inform me as soon as possible in order to prevent any adverse impact on your academic standing. I can be reached at (352) 294-0742, or mcaretti@ufl.edu.

MICHAEL P. CARETTI, Lt Col, USAF
Professor of Aerospace Science

Attachment:
Course Syllabus and Schedule

Go Air Force! Go Gators!



AFR 4201: COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

1. Title – AFR 4201, National Security Affairs and Preparation for Active Duty

2. Course Description – AFR 4201 examines the national security process, regional studies, advanced leadership ethics, and Air Force doctrine. Special topics of interest focus on the military as a profession, officership, military justice, civilian control of the military, preparation for active duty, and current issues affecting military professionalism. Within this structure, continued emphasis is on refining communication skills. A mandatory Leadership Laboratory complements this course by providing advanced leadership experiences, giving students the opportunity to apply the leadership and management principles of this course.

3. Instructor – Lieutenant Colonel Michael P. Caretti, Van Fleet Hall, 352-392-0742, mcaretti@ufl.edu. I maintain an open-door policy, which means you are encouraged to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. Should any circumstances arise that could affect your performance or attendance, I recommend you inform me as soon as possible to prevent any adverse impact on your academic standing and military training. I am available for office hours/appointments most weekdays 0800 – 1700.

4. Course Objectives – The AS400 student should comprehend the basic elements of national security policy and process. The student should know basic Department of the Air Force functions as well as understand selected roles of the military in society and current domestic and international issues affecting the military profession. Students should understand the responsibility, authority, and functions of a Department of the Air Force commander and selected provisions of the military justice system. Cadets will apply listening, speaking, and writing skills in Air Force-specific formats and situations with accuracy, clarity, and appropriate style. The final portion of the AS400 course is designed to prepare students for life as a second lieutenant. The mandatory cognitive lesson objectives are:

5. Required Texts:

- a. All student reader content from AFROTC and external instructor assigned readings are uploaded to the course Canvas page in the “Files” module for each week.
- b. One outside course reading, *To Rescue the Republic*, by Bret Baier, will also be provided in an electronic format in Canvas. Students are not required to purchase the text

*Note - all briefings and written assignments must comply with the DAFH33-337, The Tongue & Quill, give, available at <https://www.e-publishing.af.mil>



AFR 4201: CLASS REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

6. Uniforms: Cadets will wear uniform of the day during class. This will typically be the utility uniform (OCP/FDU) unless told otherwise.

7. Grading Criteria: Grades will be determined as follows:

Point Distribution

UCC Briefing	15 Points
Decision Briefing	20 Points
Decision Bullet Background Paper	20 Points
Global Hot Spots Briefing	15 Points
To Rescue the Republic Essay	20 Points
<u>Instructor Points</u>	<u>10 Points</u>
Total Possible	100 Points

Grading Scale

A	90-100	4.0 Points
B	80-89	3.0 Points
C	70-79	2.0 Points
D	60-67	1.0 Points
E	Below 60	0 Points

****All students must achieve a grade of C or better to pass AFR 4201.***

Failed AS Classes. Cadet may apply for re-entry, but the failed class(es) will have to be re-accomplished for AFROTC credit.

Incompletes. The Det/CC must approve all Incompletes for AS classes. Incompletes must not be used for unusual or unavoidable circumstances, such as an extended illness. Incompletes must not be used for make-up of unsatisfactory or delinquent work, or as a sanction for cadets who do not return uniforms. An Incomplete must be resolved NLT the end of the following term or it will constitute a failure.

- UF Academic policies and campus resources are available at <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolitics>
- SF Grading Policy: http://www.sfcollege.edu/about/?section=general_academic_information



8. Assignments: There will be three briefings, one bullet background paper, and one essay. Due dates are listed on the class schedule, and will be submitted in Canvas.

The bullet background papers and essays are due by 1200 on the date noted on the class schedule. I will assess a penalty for all late assignments. Any assignment not provided on the specified date will be penalized 5 points for each day late. Each day late is defined as a 24-hour period beginning at 1201 on the first day and ending at 1200 on the following day. Weekend days will be included in the calculation of late penalties.

Sign-Ups for Briefing topics are located at Teams → Cadre → AS400 Class

9. Class Leader: Class leaders will be assigned on a rotational basis. Expect 1-2 class leaders to be assigned over the term. The class leader will be responsible, (duties may be delegated, but the class leader remains fully responsible for accomplishment) for the following:

- a. Calling the classroom to attention
- b. Attendance
- c. Room care
- d. Scheduling briefing times and uploading presentations
- e. Disseminating information/updates to the class as applicable

10. Attendance: You are preparing to be active duty lieutenants. I expect you to attend all classes and arrive on-time. You can miss up to 20% or 2 classes and not fail for attendance. However, you will lose instructor points for every unexcused absence or tardy (see instructor point section). If you are going to miss, you must coordinate with me prior to class. Requirements for class attendance assignments, and other applicable work or exams in this course are consistent with university policies and that can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.”

If you decide to drop, withdraw, or not meet the attendance requirements stated above, it is your responsibility to ensure you are administratively dropped by your registrar. If you do not meet attendance requirements and are still formally enrolled at the end of the semester in this class and/or the corresponding leadership lab, you will be awarded a failing grade.

11. Instructor Points: These points will be based on attendance, evidence of preparation (i.e., being able to answer questions about the readings, etc.), and overall participation and engagement in the class. Each unexcused absence will result in a **2-point deduction** from your final grade. Each unexcused tardy to class will result in a **1-point deduction** from your final grade.

12. Class Comportment: The atmosphere is a professional military environment, but intellectually permissive. The classroom will be called to attention when the instructor enters (at the beginning of class) and when class is dismissed after it is evident there are no final questions. Closed lid drinks are permitted in class, but snacks and food items are not.

13. Integrity: Intentionally passing off someone else’s work as your own (plagiarism) or gaining unfair advantage on assignments (cheating) is not consistent with the integrity we expect of officer candidates. Confirmed plagiarism or cheating will result in a failing grade for the course and, if applicable, investigation for disenrollment from AFROTC.



14. Students With Disabilities: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565), www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/ by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

15. Makeup Work/Exams: Makeup work and/or exams may be approved on a case-by-case basis for unusual or unavoidable circumstances. Requirements for class attendance and make up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies and that are located: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

16. Class Dates and Times: AFR 4201 will be taught Tuesdays from 1250 – 1550L. Details of specific lessons and readings are on the class schedule.

17. Academic Freedom/Integrity and Non-Attribution: In accordance with AUI36-2602, Ch 4, academic freedom is essential to advancing teaching, learning, and scholarship. Students are free pursue knowledge, speak, write, and explore complex and controversial concepts and subjects. Academic integrity is the belief in honesty and an intolerance of acts of falsification, misrepresentation, or deception. It is one way that the Air Force core value of integrity is applied within an academic environment. Non-attribution is the principle that protects open expression and discourse within the academic environment. Non-attribution establishes trust relationships by assuring that thoughts and opinions are treated as privileged information not to be shared in other forums nor attributed to a specific individual without prior permission. Due to our military profession, there are some limitations to our academic freedom. This subject will be briefed in detail at the beginning of the semester. Contact the instructor as soon as possible if there are questions or concerns.

18. University of Florida's Honesty Policy: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "on my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scer/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

18.1 Use of Entity (Artificial Intelligence) in Coursework: The use of any "entity" to generate student work is prohibited in all Aerospace Studies courses. According to the University of Florida Student Honor Code, an "entity" includes, but is not limited to: generative artificial intelligence, large language models, content generation bots, or other non-human intelligence or digital tools. The honor code further states that "cheating" includes but is not limited to



collaborating with an entity when faculty has expressly prohibited collaboration. Bottom line: If you use an entity to generate any portion of any graded assignment in Aerospace Studies, you will receive a zero for that assignment and will be in violation of the honor code due to cheating.

19. On-line Course Evaluation Process: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

20. Term Counseling: All AFROTC students are required to complete a term counseling with their AS Instructor each semester. **All term counselings will be complete prior by COB 15 October 2025.**

Sign-Ups for term counselings are located at Teams → Cadre → AS400 Class



AFR 4201: CLASS SCHEDULE & Tentative Required Readings

NOTE: Instructor reserves the right to adjust topics prior to class in order to enhance training. If the assignment is changed and not briefed the week prior, you won't be held responsible for course work for that week. Changes to this version will be **highlighted in green.**

Class Week	Date	Topic	NOTES
1	26 Aug	AS400 Course Overview U.S. Constitution Decision Briefing Requirements	TRTR: Prologue & Chap 1
2	2 Sep	Civilian Control of the Military The Department of Defense	TRTR: Chaps 2 & 3 *Students sign up for UCCs
3	9 Sep	National Security Joint Operations	TRTR: Chap 4
4	16 Sep	<u>Unified Combatant Command Briefings</u>	TRTR: Chaps 5 & 6
5	23 Sep	Military Planning	TRTR: Chap 7 *Decision Briefing Topics Due
6	30 Sep	Capabilities and Force Packaging How the DAF Deploys	TRTR: Chap 8
7	7 Oct	<u>Decision Briefings</u>	Decision Bullet Background Papers due by 1200L
8	14 Oct	International Relations Global Hot Spots	TRTR: Chap 9 Term Counselings Deadline
9	21 Oct	Strategic Competition: China	TRTR: Chaps 10 & 11
10	28 Oct	Strategic Competition: Russia Nuclear Operations	TRTR: Read Chap 12
11	4 Nov	<u>Global Hot Spots Briefings</u> Agile Combat Employment	TRTR: Read Chaps 13, 14 & 15
12	11 Nov	<u>No Class</u>	Veteran's Day Holiday
13	18 Nov	Space Operations Cyberspace	
14	25 Nov	<u>No Class</u>	Thanksgiving Break
15	2 Dec	Terrorism Defense Support of Civil Authorities	TRTR Essays due by 1200L