



## MARINE CORPS JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

Royal High School  
34499 Royal Road  
Brookshire, TX 77423



### Course Syllabus: Marine Corps JROTC LE I, II, III, or IV

Senior Marine Instructor: First Sergeant LaShan Bland

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Wk# 281-934-2215

Instructor (9<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade): First Sergeant Bland

**Introduction:** I am extremely excited to be a member of the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) at Royal High School. This is my 12<sup>th</sup> year of teaching Jrotc in high school with the last five at Houston Independent school district. I am a retired Marine Corps First Sergeant, serving 23 years and 9 months active duty in the Marine Corps. I have served in combat and as a drill instructor twice; one tour at Parris Island, SC and the other tour at Quantico, VA training college graduates to become Marine Corps Officers. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology from Saint Leo University. I welcome parent involvement and communication at all times by phone or email listed above.

**Course Description:** This class is the first of a four-course sequence as an elective to meet graduation requirements.

Marine Corps Jrotc is at its essence a Leadership Education Program meant solely to develop character, citizenship, and leadership. The Marine Corps Jrotc program has been viewed as a strong program that provides youth with much needed skills in citizenship and leadership.

Additionally, students who participate in Jrotc programs overall have better attendance, grades, and graduation rates. Just a few qualities to mention are **Motivate** students to learn, **Foster** a disciplined and constructive learning environment, and **Instill** essential skills like time organization, responsibility, goal setting, and teamwork.

Often young adults receive conflicting messages about right and wrong or good and bad. Joining and participating in Marine Corps Jrotc can help them make the best decisions based upon learning and practicing core values (Honor, Courage, & Commitment) and the development of character and personal responsibility. Marine Corps Jrotc is not the easiest path and it is not for everyone. Yet for those who have chosen to participate, it is an experience that has helped tens of thousands of young adults make the right decisions during their high school experience.

The effects of the Marine Corps Jrotc program reach far beyond the classroom and into the community in developing character, leadership, and civic responsibility in tens of thousands of



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America's kids. Marine Corps Jrotc at its essence is a character development education program. The program keeps kids in school, helps them find their way during turbulent teenage years, and assists them in becoming productive members of their community. Our program produces young men and women who are ready to accept the responsibilities as well as the privileges of citizenship. We are rightfully proud of our contribution to America's future and thankful for the dedicated instructors, staff, Royal ISD, and communities whose hard work and commitment make the program's success possible.

**Text:** Marine Corps JROTC *Leadership Education I, II, III, IV*

**Supplies/Materials Needed:** Students are expected to bring a pencil/pen and paper every day. The **Jrotc knowledge/study packet (will be given to cadets) must also be brought to class every day.** Students will occasionally need a computer and online access for homework and special Jrotc projects.

**Performance Standards:** Instruction in Marine Corps Jrotc will be presented through multiple instructional strategies which include direct instruction, whole class and group dialogue (both verbal and written), and differentiated lessons created to support students in their leadership and physical development at all levels.

Successful students will:

- Demonstrate understanding of concepts
- Use cognitive skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration daily
- Use educational technologies as tools for learning when appropriate, i.e.: online text, student notebook computers, and Google environments, computer assisted learning
- Wear the Marine Corps Jrotc Physical Training (PT) uniform properly and weekly
- Cadet must participate in PT
- Wear the Marine Corps Jrotc Uniform properly and weekly

**Academic Grading System:** Student evaluation will be based on performance in the following categories. All grades are calculated using the following percentage breakdowns. Each category is described briefly on the following page.

<b><i>Skills/Exams Tests/Projects/Leadership</i></b>	30%
<b><i>Physical Fitness (PT)</i></b>	30%
<b><i>Uniform Grade</i></b>	40%
<b><i>Final Exam</i></b> (one per semester)	"To be determined"



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**Instructional Activities:** We will cover approximately four units per semester. The instructor will monitor progress in this course by discussion of the homework and evaluations of individual skill tests/unit exams, uniform inspections/physical training. Students will work collaboratively in leadership, drill, marksmanship and incorporate the latest technology. Students will also explain cognitive thinking in written form, oral communication, and apply skills to real world problems in the form of projects when possible.

**Skills Tests:** Skills tests will be given each week or every 2 weeks. Students will have two attempts to master each skill. Students may re-take skills tests (if exam score is below 70%) after school on Thursdays.

**Unit Exams and Group Exams:** Each unit will end with two culminating exams based on the packets, class work and homework. The first exam could be a group test, in which students have the opportunity share ideas and practice exam taking together as well as use notes from their packets. The second exam will be completed individually. A Leadership grade will be issued at the end of every week. Make-up exams will be given only if the absence is excused and will be taken the day the student returns or scheduled with the instructor on a Thursday after school.

**Projects and Assignments:** A unit project will be assigned at the beginning of each unit and will be completed at the unit's completion. Homework is assigned periodically and checked by the instructor. Students will also participate in a monthly oral current events power point discussions.

**Notebook Policy:** It is extremely important that students organize a useful notebook. This "toolkit" should consist of written notes of important concepts and vocabulary learned in the class in the form of warm-ups, explorations, and lectures. Notes will be allowed for some exams (No copies).

**Class Rules and Consequences:** The school's policy regarding academic honesty, tardiness, truancy, behavior, use of electronic devices, eligibility for athletics and co-curricular activities, and dress code, as defined in the Royal ISD and campus policy along with the JROTC [Student Handbook](#), will be followed. Electronic devices such as cell phones, listening devices, and gaming devices are not allowed during class time. Such devices being used in class will be confiscated immediately by the instructor and turned into administration during that school day. This action aligns with the district policy stated in the Student Handbook. Students will not eat or drink during class. Water (closed bottle only) and documented medical situations are the only exceptions.

**Late Work Policy:** At times, students will complete assignments at individually determined paces. However, there will be times when common work will be assigned to all students. These



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assignments are due on the required date specified. Late work will not be accepted. Late assignments due to absences will receive full credit if the absence is excused.

**Attendance:** Unexcused absences and truancies will result in a zero for all assignments or graded events missed, including exams. Students with an excused absence will be allowed to make up a missed exam or graded event on the day that the student returns to class.

**Code of Conduct:** Code of conduct/Leadership grade will be evaluated using the following rubric included below:

	<b>Attendance</b> (Absences must be excused within 72 hours)	<b>Behavior</b>
<b>E = Excellent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 or fewer uncleared tardies</li><li>and</li><li>• No unexcused absences</li></ul>	The student <i>almost always</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participates in learning.</li><li>• Follows classroom rules.</li><li>• Displays on-task behaviors.</li><li>• Is respectful to others.</li></ul>
<b>G = Good</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 or fewer uncleared tardies</li><li>and/or</li><li>• No unexcused absences</li></ul>	The student <i>usually</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participates in learning.</li><li>• Follows classroom rules.</li><li>• Displays on-task behaviors.</li><li>• Is respectful to others.</li></ul>
<b>S = Satisfactory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 or fewer uncleared tardies</li><li>and/or</li><li>• 1 unexcused absence</li></ul>	The student <i>sometimes</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participates in learning.</li><li>• Follows classroom rules.</li><li>• Displays on-task behaviors.</li><li>• Is respectful to others.</li></ul>
<b>N = Needs Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 or fewer uncleared tardies</li><li>and/or</li><li>• 2 unexcused absence</li></ul>	The student <i>rarely</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participates in learning.</li><li>• Follows classroom rules.</li><li>• Displays on-task behaviors.</li><li>• Is respectful to others.</li></ul>
<b>U = Unsatisfactory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5 or more uncleared tardies</li><li>and/or</li><li>• 3 or more unexcused absences</li></ul>	The student <i>almost never</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participates in learning.</li><li>• Follows classroom rules.</li><li>• Displays on-task behaviors.</li><li>• Is respectful to others.</li></ul>



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All unexcused absences must be cleared within 72 hours. The following criteria will be used to determine the Leadership grade; **participation in learning, follows classroom rules, displays on-task behavior, no misconduct, dresses out weekly in the Marine Corps Jrotc PT uniform and wears the Marine Corps Jrotc uniform properly (haircut, no earrings for males, no facial piercings, and professional appearance) participates in Jrotc PT, marksmanship, drill, completes all Jrotc course assignments to include submitting projects on time, and is respectful to others.** These characteristics are defined in the following manner:

### **Participation:**

- Student is engaged in class discussions and questioning
- Student actively seeks to further his/her personal learning through questioning and self-reflection
- Student completes all assignments to the best of his/her ability

### **Follow classroom rules:**

- Student arrives to class promptly and prepared with the required materials
- Student follows directions and works collaboratively
- Student is respectful to self and others at all times
- Student completes all assignments and assessments honestly
- Student does not eat or drink in the classroom at any time
- Student avoids the use of cellular phones, ipods, and all other prohibited electronic devices
- Student wears Jrotc and PT uniform properly and weekly
- Student must shave, no sideburns, and must have haircut consistently
- Student must participate PT and wear PT clothes or required days
- No piercings of any kind on face, males no earrings, females no excessive ear piercings

### **Display on-task behaviors:**

- Student consistently works in learning groups or when working independently
- Student actively completes the assigned task and remains focused
- Student is engaged in the work from this class (not work from another class)
- Students are awake in class at all times (students who fall asleep in class will be motivated by me to stay awake)

### **Respectful to others:**



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- Student treats others with kindness
- Student allows instructor and classmates to speak without interruption
- Student allows classmates to focus on work without distractions
- Student handles class resources with care
- Student refrains from making discouraging or hurtful comments toward others

**Support and Tutoring:** Students who have questions or difficulty are encouraged to seek help immediately. I am available for tutoring daily (during lunch upon request), as well as Thursdays for one hour after school in room 1110 (this may change – please check with instructor for schedule changes).

Students may re-take skills tests/exams on Thursdays (3:30 -4:30 pm) after school. All students requesting tutoring or skill tests /exams re-takes are required to demonstrate positive citizenship during class and must arrive immediately following the bell (if coming in after school).

**Literacy and Technology:** Students are required to read the assigned text during and outside of class. Students will take notes and if required, write explanations as to how the problem can be solved and to the relevance of their solutions. Students will be asked to use word processing for their writing and to access the Jrotc class “REMIND” App daily for class resources, information and updates.

**Online Grade Access:** Parents and students are expected to monitor course grades and attendance information via the Internet regularly.

I will post and update grades for skills tests/exam on a weekly basis. At the conclusion of each unit, I post scores for exams, PT, uniform inspection, leadership, projects, and homework. Grades will not be posted on the wall in class.

### Contact me:

- Email: [lbland@royal-isd.net](mailto:lbland@royal-isd.net) (highly recommended, I check daily and will respond)
- Utilize the “REMIND” App to keep up to date on Jrotc events and information. To join the Royal High School Jrotc App, utilize ur your cell phone to text: entering this number 81010, then put this in the text box: @royalmc. Once I receive your request via text, I will join you to the Royal Jrotc Forum.



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**Dear Parent/Guardian,**

I look forward to working with you and your student/cadet to make this a great school year. If you have any concerns regarding your student's/cadet's progress, please contact me.

Sincerely,

L. D. BLAND

L. D. Bland  
First Sergeant  
U. S. Marine Corps, Ret.  
Senior Marine Instructor  
Marine Corps Jrotc  
Royal High School



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**Student/Cadet:**

I have read the syllabus and I will do my best to succeed in this class.

*Name (print neatly)* \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email/Cell:* \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent:**

I have read the syllabus and will support my son/daughter to succeed in this class.

*Parent/Guardian Name (print neatly):* \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Contact # or Cell:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments are welcome:*

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*Please make sure the office has your contact information up to date. This is the only way we can reach you. **Did you move? Change jobs? Change your cell number? “If so please notify the front office”***