

Career Profile

A weekly series devoted to providing information on career exploration

For the last several weeks, we focused on careers of individuals who spent time in the Military.

Career After The Military - After exiting such a highly regimented environment as the service, the newly discharged soldier, sailor, marine or airman will undoubtedly be looking for a job in which they can use their talents. For most formal military personnel, the job field is wide open since basic military skills and discipline can be applied to a variety of different jobs. When considering the nearly unlimited possibilities waiting for former military personnel, you must make some tough decisions regarding money, family, and location.



CAREERS AFTER MILITARY SERVICE

The type of work

- Establish and enforce rules for behavior and procedures for maintaining order among students.
- Instruct through lectures, discussions, and demonstrations in one or more subjects, such as English, mathematics, or social studies.
- Adapt teaching methods and instructional materials to meet students' varying needs and interests.
- Maintain accurate and complete student records as required by laws, district policies, and administrative regulations.
- Enforce all administration policies and rules governing students.
- Assign and grade class work and homework.
- Prepare materials and classrooms for class activities.
- Observe and evaluate students' performance, behavior, social development, and physical health.
- Plan and conduct activities for a balanced program of instruction, demonstration, and work time that provides students with opportunities to observe, question, and investigate.
- Prepare, administer, and grade tests and assignments to evaluate students' progress.

More Facts ?

What is ROTC?

High school ROTC is actually JROTC, which stands for Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. Each JROTC program is linked to the Army, Air Force, Navy or Marines and is designed to teach students the importance of citizenship and service and instill in them a sense personal responsibility and accomplishment. While JROTC is based in American high schools, ROTC is a college and university program for training future commissioned military officers. As of 2014, the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Coast Guard do not have college ROTC programs. ROTC and JROTC were created as part of the National Defense Act of 1916 and expanded with the 1964 ROTC Vitalization Act.

(Source: <http://get-smarter.com/qa/government-politics/explore/military>)

Careers for Veterans - There are literally thousands of rewarding careers for veterans. Indeed, the sheer number of job openings underscores the utility of military experience, adding yet another dimension to its value. These jobs span every discipline and are available in all corners of the country. Whether you have separated from the military recently or are many years out, there have never been more diverse and promising career options.

(Source: <http://www.civilianjobs.com/careeradvice/related.aspx>)



HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

SFC Vicente Velazquez Jr.
JROTC Army Instructor
US Army Cadet Command
Elyria High School

Teach students in one or more subjects, such as English, mathematics, or social studies at the secondary level in public or private schools. May be designated according to subject matter specialty.

Q. How did you become interested in your particular field?

A. Once I retired from the United States Army, a friend (1SG Sam Obuchi) told me about how a good Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program could help mold tomorrow's leaders. I knew that I wanted to work with the younger generation but wasn't sure in which capacity. I inquired about JROTC and immediately determined that this Program was something worthwhile and meaningful not only for the students but the community as a whole.

Q. How did you get to where you are today? What path did your employment journey take?

A. Long story made short, I was born and raised in North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and enlisted into the Army directly out of high school. A majority of my career (half) was spent on Fort Bragg, North Carolina with the 82nd Airborne Division. I have also been stationed in Fairbanks, Alaska and Fort Knox, Kentucky. My wife, Liz, is from Lorain, OH and as far back as 30 years ago I knew this would be a nice place to retire because of its diversity and the majority of positive people I come in contact with. I was fortunate enough that Elyria High School was creating a new program and that I was introduced to Mr. Mac Thomas, who was very instrumental in establishing the unit at Elyria High. I applied and was offered the opportunity to start a new program at our school.

Q. What skills or certifications do you think are needed to be successful in this field?

A. Cadet Command requires that all Instructors go through a vigorous certification process, which includes background checks and courses on the fundamentals of teaching before being certified. You must also stay current on yearly mandatory classes and be a retired Officer, Warrant Officer or Enlisted Soldier. The regulation also requires that the Senior Army Instructor have a Bachelor's degree and the Army Instructor have an Associate. Elyria High School is in the small percentage of JROTC programs that have both instructors with Masters degrees. Good instructors possess strong conflict resolution skills, listening skills, effective communication skills, both orally and written, along with being able to show versatility in your lesson plans because each student processes information differently.

Q. What is the best part of your job?

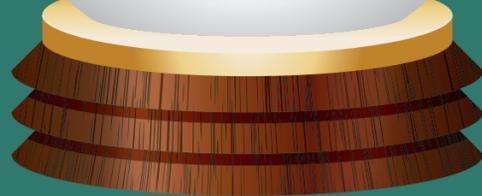
A. Working with the students at Elyria High and seeing them mature while gaining an understanding of their potential and the important role that a quality education plays in them realizing that potential brings me a high level of satisfaction. Working with the staff at Elyria High is another element that makes this job a difference maker because we are all attempting to reach the same objective(s) and that is to see our students succeed.

Q. Do you have any words of advice for someone considering a career in your field?

A. This career field requires the type of individual that places the needs of others (students) first. The field of education is about opening the doors of opportunities for all students and furnishing them with the tools to build the type of foundation that will bring them success. You must be a team player because you cannot go at this alone. Having patience and a sense of humor is also important, and the willingness to continue to seek self-improvement. But above all, you must truly believe that every student has the potential to learn.

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

In 2012 there were approximately 955,800 individuals employed as high school teachers nationwide with a projected increase of 6% over the next ten years, while in Ohio, there were 39,400 high school teachers with a projected increase of 6%. Growth is projected due to expected increases in enrollment combined with declines in student-teacher ratios. However, employment growth will vary by region. From 2012 to 2022, a significant number of older teachers are expected to reach retirement age. These retirements will create job openings for new teachers.



EARNINGS POTENTIAL

Annual Salary for 2013

Location	Low	Median	High
United States	\$37,540	\$56,310	\$88,900
Ohio	\$37,690	\$59,230	\$84,550
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH PMSA	\$38,300	\$63,900	\$87,800

O*Net Online, <http://online.onetcenter.org>

Pathways to success:

All states require public high school teachers to have at least a bachelor's degree. Most states require high school teachers to have majored in a subject area, such as chemistry or history. While majoring in a subject area, future teachers typically enroll in their higher education's teacher preparation program and take classes in education and child psychology as well.

In teacher education programs, prospective high school teachers learn how to present information to students and how to work with students of varying abilities and backgrounds. Programs typically include fieldwork, such as student teaching. For information about teacher preparation programs in your state, visit Teach.org.

Licenses, Certifications, and Registrations All states require teachers in public schools to be licensed or certified. Those who teach in private schools are generally not required to be licensed. High school teachers typically are awarded a secondary or high school certification. This allows them to teach the 7th through the 12th grades. Requirements for certification vary by state. However, all states require that teachers have at least a bachelor's degree.



What Employers look for in individuals:

- Education and Training - principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.
- Psychology - human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; learning and motivation; psychological research methods; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.
- Computers and Electronics - circuit boards, processors, chips, electronic equipment, and computer hardware and software, including applications and programming.
- Clerical - administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as word processing, managing files and records, stenography and transcription, designing forms, and other office procedures and terminology.
- Sociology and Anthropology - group behavior and dynamics, societal trends and influences, human migrations, ethnicity, cultures and their history and origins.
- Customer and Personal Service - principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.

Sponsors



Sources: Occupational Information Network, O*Net Online, <http://online.onetcenter.org>, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, <http://stats.bls.gov/ocoeHow.com>