

FORK UNION MILITARY ACADEMY

Department of Guidance and Counseling



Dear Parents,

The mission of Fork Union Military Academy is to “educate, develop, and inspire young men in a college preparatory, Christian, military environment.” A major contributor to this effort is the Academy’s Department of Guidance and Counseling, which offers a wide range of services to our cadets.

Our counselors assist cadets in their transition to Fork Union, offering emotional support as needed. Cadets experiencing challenges related to personal adjustment, academic performance, peer relationships, and sorting out emotions can find help from our counseling staff. Both individual and group counseling services are offered. The counseling staff is complemented by pastoral counseling services offered by our Chaplain and one of our teachers who is a Pastoral Care Counselor. A local mental health provider (LCSW) is also available to provide weekly counseling to cadets on a contractual basis with parents.

A vital service offered by our counselors is assistance with the course selection process, which includes conferring regarding schedule changes. Cadets meet with their respective counselor to discuss a plan of study that is appropriate and challenging for them. Individual conferences are held in the spring of the year to discuss course selections for the next year’s schedule.

The Counseling Department oversees the Academy’s standardized testing program. In the fall, the 10th and 11th graders take the PSAT/NMSQT and our 8th and 9th graders take the PSAT 8/9. The SAT, ACT, TOEFL, and AP exams are also offered at FUMA on designated testing dates and are administered by the counseling staff.

Our counselors work with the young men in our charge to help them in their pursuits as cadets and to help prepare them for life beyond Fork Union. Monthly *Let’s Talk* seminars provide life skill training and career information, monthly *College Road Trips* are planned throughout the year to help our cadets gain greater awareness of the college experience, and *College Application Workshops* are offered in the fall to provide individual guidance to our seniors as they complete their applications. Our College Placement Officer works individually with these cadets and their families through the college application process.

A final note: *PowerSchool* is the student information system utilized by the Academy. This online program allows you to stay up-to-date on your son’s academic progress. To access this program, which is found at <https://fuma.powerschool.com/public>, use your primary email address as your username and “changeme” as your password. You will be able to personalize your password once you have logged on. You can also access *PowerSchool* from the Academy’s website under the “Parents” link. Issues related to logging in to *PowerSchool* should be directed to our IT department at IT@fuma.org.

We look forward to working with you and your son to help make his experience at Fork Union Military Academy both positive and successful. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time with questions and/or concerns.

Sincerely,

The Counseling Staff at Fork Union Military Academy

COL Rob Feathers, Director of Guidance and Counseling (feathers@fuma.org); 434-842-4204

LTC John DeVault, Guidance Officer (devaultj@fuma.org); 434-842-4223

Ms. Jennifer Payne, College Placement Officer (paynej@fuma.org); 434-842-4382

Ms. Rhonda White, Coordinator of Counseling Services (whiter@fuma.org); 434-842-4203

MAJ James Benson, Academy Chaplain (bensonj@fuma.org); 434-842-4213

CPT Jason Biette, Instructor and Pastoral Care Counselor (biettej@fuma.org); 434-842-4423

Grades 7 – 9

Grades 10 & 11

Grade 12 & PGs