

WEST POINT PRESS



West Point
READY 

READY TO SERVE. READY TO LEAD.



HARNESSING USMA'S INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL

Throughout the centuries, and across many borders and battlefields, the written word—and the ability to share ideas—has been at the foundation of military advancement and intellectual rigor. It is in this spirit that the West Point Press—USMA's own university press—was conceived. For an institution of higher learning, especially one as unique as the United States Military Academy (USMA), a university press is essential for sharing the results of the research and academic pursuits by faculty and cadets with the global community beyond the Academy walls.

Conceived by Brigadier General Shane Reeves early in his now three-year tenure as the 15th Dean of the Academic Board, the West Point Press is the Dean's number one funding priority. Its mission is to share the research and academic pursuits of faculty and cadets beyond the Academy walls with the Army and the global community. It will also draw in scholars and forge connections with thought leaders from around the world who want to publish through and associate with the Academy. It will be USMA's own university press, joining the ranks of those that have long existed at prestigious institutions like Cambridge, Oxford, Harvard, and Yale Universities.

PUBLISHING ACROSS ALL MEDIA

With communication technologies continuously evolving, centralizing digital publication platforms is an integral component of the West Point Press mission. Digital media plays a significant role in the lives of cadets—so-called “digital natives”—and the global coronavirus pandemic further revealed the importance, feasibility, and reach of digital communication platforms. The West Point Press leverages a nascent digital publication capability developed and generously donated by Vincent Viola '77 to develop digital textbooks and other modern learning materials for cadets and students around the world. This digital capability has the potential to revolutionize the way the Academy distributes written works to create a more immersive learning experience.

The Press also produces and distributes scholarly knowledge in the form of books. These books will feature content in the realm of STEM, the humanities, and social sciences, as well as topics related to West Point itself. Books produced by the West Point Press will adhere to the highest academic standards. The Press' book publishing efforts will also feature select series and special editions that align with the Press' mission. All books will undergo a rigorous peer review process and require approval by an editorial board comprised of senior USMA faculty. Books produced by the West Point Press will find their way onto the desks of key leaders in government, industry, and academia, further elevating the USMA brand.

In addition to books, the Press will distribute findings and recommendations from faculty and cadet research in the form of white papers, reports, and scholarly articles. In each of these endeavors, the Press will provide careful editorial guidance and development, professional-level copy editing and design, and extensive discoverability and promotion.

Finally, the West Point Press produces and hosts podcasts that feature conversations with experts, scholars, and authors on a range of topics. Episodes include content from recent and

pending Press publications such as books, reports, and journal articles. Episodes also highlight contributions from research being conducted across the Academy's various departments and centers and share information that aligns with or results from the Dean's annual intellectual theme.

PROVIDING MILITARY, ACADEMIC & GLOBAL IMPACT

The journals feature a wide array of scholarly works authored by faculty, cadets, and thought leaders representing the breadth of the Academy's academic disciplines and contributing to the body of foundational research and analysis drawn upon by policymakers and world leaders. With the rapidly and continuously changing nature of warfare creating complex problems on the battlefield, an integrative, cross-disciplinary approach is more necessary than ever. These journals function as a primary piece of West Point's intellectual infrastructure that seeks to solve emerging issues and helps prepare the Army at large to fight and win the conflicts of tomorrow. In keeping with West Point's core values and high standards of academic excellence, all submissions will undergo a rigorous editorial selection and peer review process that will test the validity and soundness of scholarship by experts in the field, both internal and external to West Point. Importantly, the journals highlight the distinctiveness for which West Point is well known and make available to the public the full range and value of research relevant to military leadership, service, and development. Publications are available to key strategic leaders in the Army and Department of Defense, the military educational system, Congress, the media, think tanks and defense institutes, major colleges and universities, and the greater West Point alumni community.



“West Point is the intellectual engine of the Army's innovation ecosystem, and the West Point Press will help share what that engine produces.”

*—Brigadier General Shane Reeves '96,
15th Dean of the Academic Board,
USMA*

With communication as the very first goal of USMA's academic program, the ability to listen actively; read critically; speak effectively; and write with thoughtfulness, clarity, and purpose is critical for Army officers to accomplish missions across a spectrum of 21st Century operations. The West Point Press will develop these skills in cadets through opportunities for authorship and scholarship, as well as foster their ability to use sound logic and relevant evidence to make convincing arguments across diverse audiences and appropriate forms of media. In addition to generating opportunities for institutional service, the Press will weave a thread of cadet engagement with other centers at USMA, such as the Mounger Writing Center, the West Point Writing Program, and the Center for Digital History (formerly West Point's Cartography Center). Moreover, the Press will serve to develop and establish credentials and extend the authorial experience for USMA's junior faculty—rotators who arrive at West Point having recently completed advanced degrees who will move back into the operational Army following their tour. The Press will keep West Point on the cutting-edge of institutional relevance and preeminence and further USMA's ability to competitively attract the best cadet and faculty candidates in the country. From its position at the intersection of both premier military academy and top-tier college, as the world's preeminent leader development institution, West Point is charged with facilitating the necessary interdisciplinary study of the future of warfare—and the West Point Press is an essential forum in which to do this. The West Point Press is the top priority for BG Shane Reeves, 15th Academic Dean. This critical program will meaningfully enhance the ability of faculty, staff, and cadets to deepen their expertise, grapple with complex problems, and leverage the independent publishing capability only an endowment can offer. This initiative will help the intellectual leadership and responsibility essential to USMA's identity to flourish and become part of a legacy that has enduring importance for generations to come.

West Point Press' *Cyber Defense Review* and *MIROR* journals are on the desks of senior leaders at the Pentagon, and the law books by West Point faculty members Hitoshi Nasu and Sean Watts are in libraries at the JAG School and civilian national and international law schools. Further, the Press is currently finalizing books from scholars at Georgetown (a law book that will be used by military lawyers and those supporting UN operations) and the Library of Congress (a book on the history of the Tribal Shaykh), which will be used by the State Department and military as prep for operations in the Middle East.





Photo: Lee Ross '73

RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

West Point Press \$12 million

Editor-in-Chief Naming (*reserved*)..... \$4.5 million endowment

Academy Scholars Program \$3 million quasi endowment / \$140,000 annual

Scholarly Journals\$1.5 million quasi endowment / \$60,000 annual

Peer-Reviewed Journals..... \$1 million quasi endowment / \$40,000 annual

Cadet Journals..... \$500,000 quasi endowment / \$20,000 annual

Digital Textbooks..... \$1.5 million quasi endowment / \$60,000 annual

Author’s Fund\$1.5 million quasi endowment / \$60,000 annual

MARGIN OF EXCELLENCE



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