

PRESS RELEASE

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UOG ROTC cadets gain leadership experience in Tinian

Fifteen cadets from the University of Guam Army ROTC program spent their Fañomnåkan (Spring) Break gaining leadership skills on the island of Tinian in the Northern Mariana Islands.

The cadets, under the mentorship of Capt. Jesse-Lee Fontanilla, assistant professor of military science in the UOG ROTC program, spent the week leading the Junior ROTC cadets at Tinian High School in physical fitness and field training exercises and offering guidance for college preparation.

“The Tinian trip taught me that there are many different ways to reach the same goal and that you need to be able to translate what you’re teaching for different audiences,” said UOG Cadet Gavin Whitt, a sophomore majoring in secondary education. “This will help me as a future Army officer because there is never just one way to teach and explain something.”

The trip was also an opportunity for the cadets to learn about the culture and people of Tinian.

“Living on Guam my whole life, I had no idea of what to expect from the island of Tinian,” said sophomore UOG Cadet Lidio Fullo, who is majoring in psychology. “When I arrived, it was not long until I gained quite a liking to Tinian as the food was amazing, the waters were clear, the island was clean, and most importantly, the people were very welcoming.”

Other UOG cadets on the trip were Gohan Calunan, Gabriel Aguon, Joseph Aquino, Noel Degracia, Gabriel Magallano, Gavin Pangelinan, Amarah San Nicolas, Jude Tenorio, Elaine Cases, Berwyn Ednaco, Jeffrey Seo, Chloe Miranda, and Napu Cruz.

The cadets traveled roundtrip from Guam to Saipan courtesy of United miles provided by the [Research Corporation of the University of Guam](#) and then took a ferry to Tinian, with the ferry costs and their meals paid for by donations from alumni of the UOG ROTC program.

“I’m just so proud of the UOG ROTC alumni for stepping up and supporting the cadets, who are in the same shoes the alumni once were,” said Lt. Col. Thomas Anderson, the professor of military science at the University of Guam. “Great ROTC programs have alumni who give back to their ROTC home — hooah!”

The UOG ROTC program was established in October 1979 and has commissioned more than 450 dynamic leaders for Guam, the Pacific, and the United States of America.

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Photo Captions:

2022-uog-rotc-tinian-one-rope bridge

University of Guam ROTC cadets train the Tinian High School Junior ROTC cadets on one-rope bridge construction on a trip to Tinian from March 23–27.

2022-uog-rotc-tinian-map-reading

University of Guam ROTC cadets train Tinian High School Junior ROTC cadets on map-reading skills on a trip to Tinian from March 23–27.

2022-uog-rotc-tinian-taga-beach

University of Guam ROTC cadets traveled to the island of Tinian from March 23–27 to train Tinian High School Junior ROTC cadets and learn about the island’s history.

Photos courtesy of University of Guam