

ARMY ROTC DEPARTMENT

MARSHALL NEW MARKET BATTALION
VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

CPT Joshua Hetzel

Assistant Professor of Military Science

CPT Hetzel serves as an Assistant Professor of Military Science for the Virginia Military Institute. He enlisted in 2003 as an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Operator. He then attended and commissioned as an armor officer from Officer Candidate School in 2008.

Captain Hetzel's initial officer assignment was with 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division where he served as a Scout Platoon Leader, Troop Executive Officer, Rear Detachment Commander, and Security Force Advise and Assist Team (SFAAT) Operations Officer.

After graduating the Maneuver Captains Career Course in 2014, CPT Hetzel spent time with multiple units at Ft. Hood, TX. The first was Assistant Squadron and Regiment Operations Officer with 3rd Cavalry Regiment. His culminating assignment at Ft. Hood was Troop Commander for Apache Troop, 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

CPT Hetzel was then selected to command the Huntsville (TX) Recruiting Company, Houston Recruiting Battalion, 5th Recruiting Brigade. He also served as the Houston Recruiting Battalion Operations Officer. When he departed Houston, CPT Hetzel moved to the Joint Multinational Readiness Center where he worked as Exercise Control for over twenty-five training rotations.

CPT Hetzel deployed five times in support of the Global War on Terror. He served two tours as a UAV Operator, one as a Platoon Leader in Operations Iraqi Freedom. He also served twice in Operation Enduring Freedom as an Operations Advisor at the Battalion and Division levels. CPT Hetzel was also part of the first rotational Brigade to Korea as a Troop Commander.

Captain Hetzel's civilian education includes a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration, Project Management Professional Certification, and a Bachelor's Degree in Aeronautical Science.

Captain Hetzel's major awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (1OLC), the Army Commendation Medal (1 SOLC), and the Army Achievement Medal (1 SOLC & 2 OLC), the Meritorious Unit Citation (1 OLC), the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with 2 Campaign Stars, the Iraqi Campaign Medal with 2 Campaign Stars, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral 4), the NATO Medal, the Aviation Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

CPT Hetzel and his wife, Mandy, have been married for four years. They have two children, Maxwell, and Mila. CPT Hetzel also has two older children, Chrystine and Nathaniel.

