

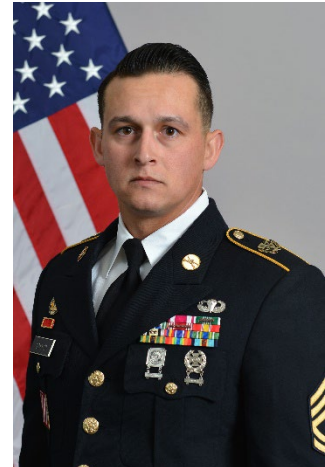
# ARMY ROTC UNIT

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

## SFC Nicholas Gonnion

Military Sciences Instructor - MS III

SFC Nicholas Gonnion was born and raised in Santa Barbara California. He graduated From Righetti High school in 2006. Upon graduation he attended Santa Barbara city colleges Marine Diving technologies program specializing in underwater welding. In 2009 he joined the United States Army where he attended Fort Knox Kentucky for One Station Unit Training. Upon completion of OSUT he was Awarded the MOS 19D. He was then assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division.



Upon Arriving to 3rd Infantry Division SFC Gonnion was assigned to the 3rd Squadron 1st U.S. Calvary Regiment 3rd Brigade 3rd Infantry Division. Shortly after arriving to the unit SFC Gonnion deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom VII. In 2013 he was selected to take his scout section and represent the 3rd Infantry Division in the Inaugural Gainey cup (Best scout section competition). His section placed 3rd of 22 teams across the US Army and Marine Corps. SFC Gonnion then was reassigned to Fort Wainwright Alaska where he would become the Senior Scout for his new platoon. While stationed there he completed the Mountaineering Instructor Qualification course which brought him to the Northern Warfare Training Center to fill in as a Basic military mountaineering instructor. After serving three years as a section leader he was reassigned to Fort Irwin California to serve as an Observer Coach Trainer for Operations Group on the Reconnaissance Task Force (Cobra Team). He served two years as an OC/T with over 22 successful rotations. SFC Gonnion was then assigned to 3rd BDE 25ID Hawaii where he served as a Platoon Sergeant. While in 3/25 SFC Gonnion led multiple, highly successfully deployments to include Pacific Pathways (Operation Cobra Gold) and Joint Readiness Training Center. While Operating in a degraded state due to the pandemic he never allowed the readiness or preparedness of his Platoon to fall short of anything less than excellent.

SFC Gonnion's Military education and certifications consist of Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leaders Course, Army Reconnaissance course, Airborne school, Rappel Master, Master Driver, Equal Opportunity Leaders course, Advanced situational awareness training course, Mountain warfare orientation course, Basic Military Mountaineering school, Assault climber course, Cold weather leaders course, 75th Ranger Regiments Advanced marksmanship instructor course, Squad designated marksman, Long Range Marksman, Tactical site exploitation, Heavy Weapons Leaders course, Combative Level 1, Basic leader course, Advanced leader Course (CL), Senior Leaders Course (CL).

SFC Gonnion is not married and has no children.