



# Celebrating 50 years of NU Trailblazers!

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## Title IX Opens Doors for Women to Attend Norwich



It's hard to imagine that until fifty years ago, young women were restricted from attending many American colleges and universities, let alone military academies.

Athletic scholarships were rare and STEM career paths were primarily reserved for men. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was a landmark federal law that prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. This law compelled universities to open their doors to female students and had a profound impact on the integration of women into American military schools.



Norwich University's 26th President, BG Loring E. Hart, embraced Title IX and proactively encouraged the inclusion of women at Norwich University. Following the merger of Vermont College and Norwich in June 1972, a group of Vermont College women petitioned President Hart to live on the Northfield campus and join the Corps of Cadets.

In the fall of 1974, 71 women pursuing four-year degrees who were either upperclassmen previously residing at Vermont College or freshmen in a four-year degree program at Norwich, moved into Gerard Hall on the Northfield campus. Among them was the first cohort of women to join the NU Corps of Cadets.

*Records documenting women's history and experience at Norwich are available through the University Archives. <https://archives.norwich.edu/>*