

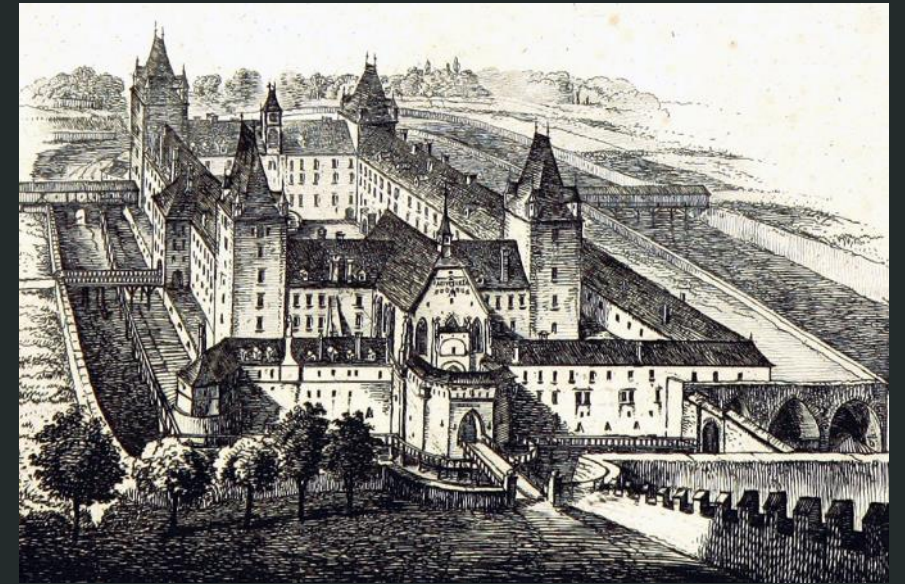


1.1 History

The castle of Wiener Neustadt, along with the city itself, due to its strategically important location has a eventful and varying history.

The function of the castle was varying as well: from its initial intention as a bulwark, via its role as imperial residence, to a top-notch officer training institution, the **Military Academy**.

The military Academy was **founded in 1751** by Empress Maria Theresa, and can be considered the world's oldest military academy.



The Castle of Wiener Neustadt before 1768



The Castle of Wiener Neustadt in April 1945



1.2 Mission

Historically, the Academy has had a **dual mission**, stated by Maria Theresia in 1751: **to make fine officers and righteous men.**

This mission still holds true today as the Academy makes fine officers of the Austrian Armed Forces and righteous persons in society.





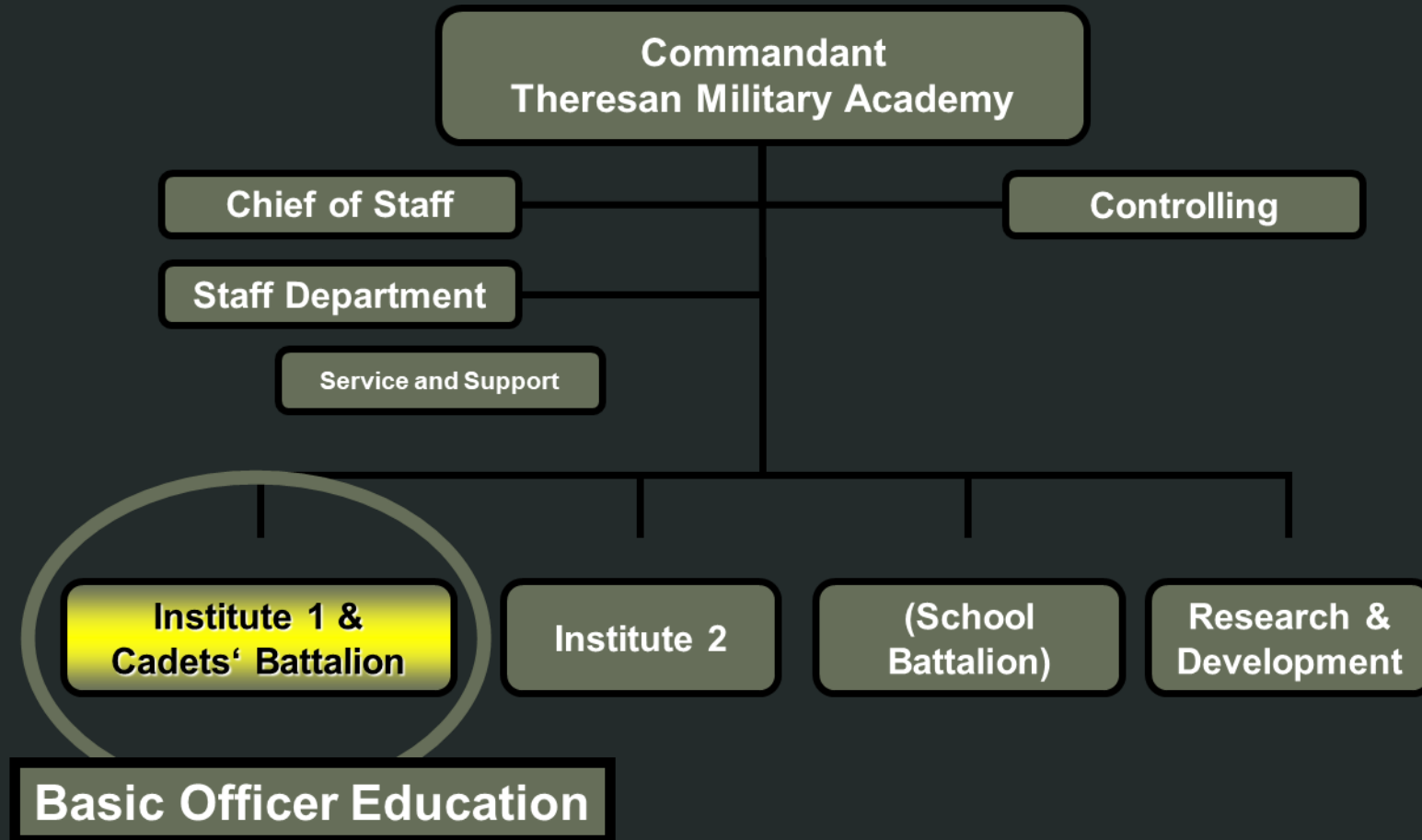
1.3 Location & general information

The Academy complex, along with its famous castle, is located at the centre of Wiener Neustadt, approximately 40km south of Wien.



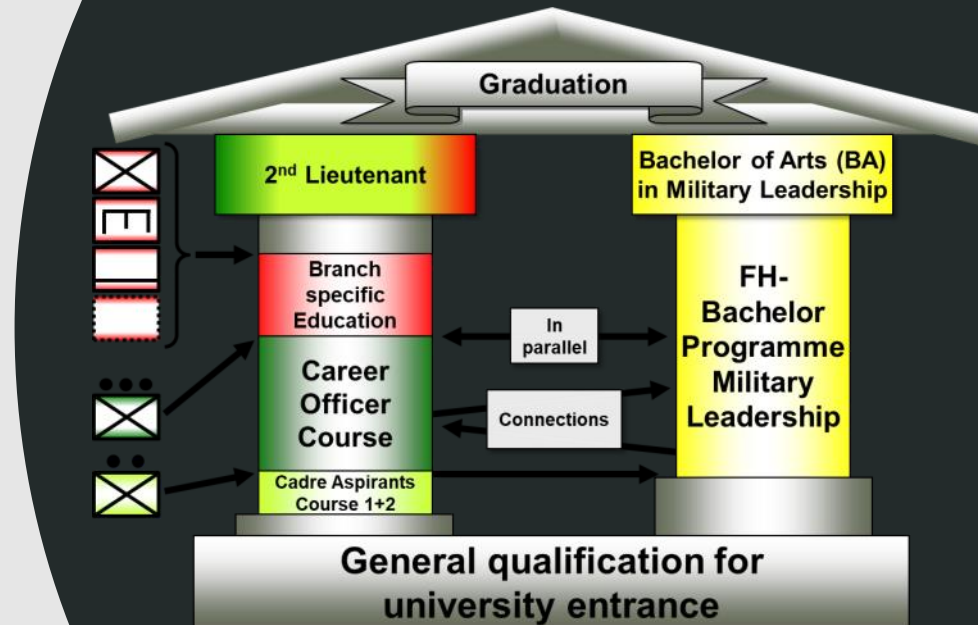


1.3.1 Academy's structure





1.3.2 Basic Officer's Education



Education and formation of cadets are the main goals of the Academy's Institute 1 & Cadets Bataillon.

On average, 90 officer cadets are accounted each year at the Academy. About 70 of them graduate after three years of training.

The two parallel and complementary main pillars of education at the TMA are: **military education** and **academic education**.

Both of those pillars are a precondition for the cadet's graduation as officers of the Austrian Armed Forces.



1.3.3 International semesters

International mobility - both outgoing and incoming - happens in specific periods during the cadets' formation at the TMA.

For **outgoing cadets** there are two distinct mobility periods:

- **4th or 5th semester: international semester abroad**
- **6th semester: international training on the job**

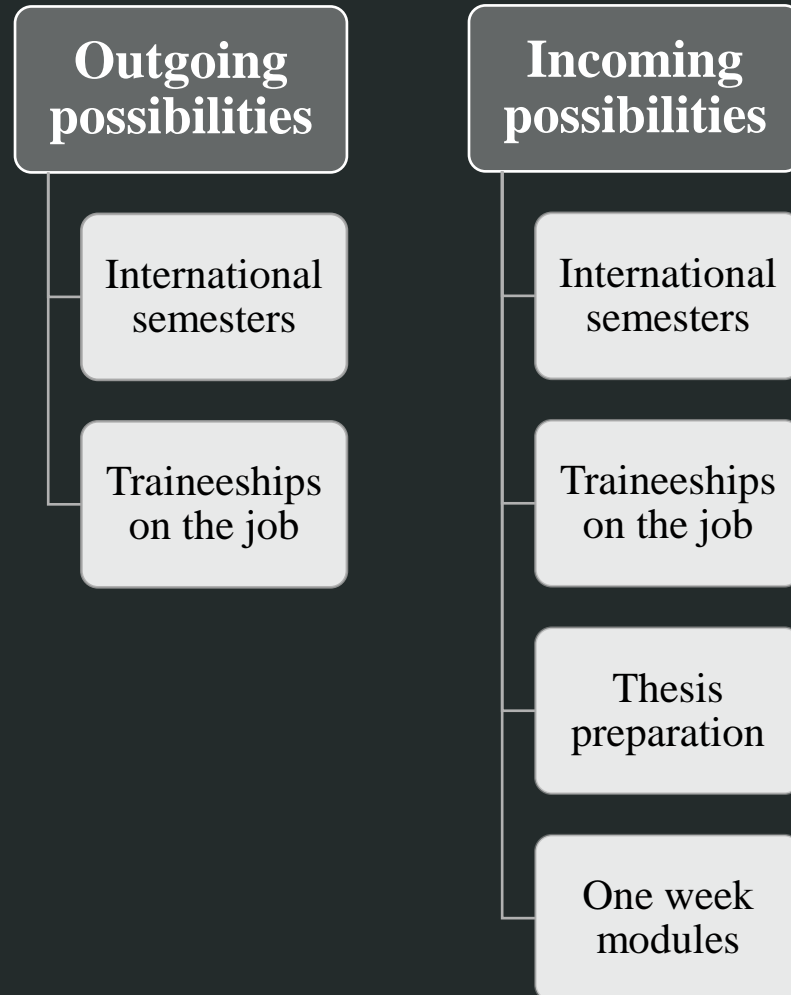
For **incoming cadets and civilians** there are also two main mobility possibilities:

- **3rd semester (winter): international semester in English**
- **4th semester (spring): thesis writing and internships**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
								Cadre Aspirants Course 1 (CAC 1)				
CAC 1	Cadre Aspirants Course 2 (CAC 2) (Goal: Squad Leader Infantry)						E M D L	1 st Semester				
1 st S.	COC	2 nd Semester			Career Officer Course (COC)		3 rd Semester					
3 rd S.	COC	4 th Semester <small>Political Science, Economics, ICT Specific Strategies, Pedagogics, Sports Science, Security Policy</small>			COC		5 th Semester <small>Some Austrian Cadets: Germany United States of America</small>					
COC/Branch specific training (6 weeks National Training on the Job are included)				L A W	Int'l Training on the Job		L A W	B E G I N N G				



1.4 The international office



The international office of the TMA is responsible for the international mobility of the **incoming** and **outgoing** students, both civilians and soldiers.



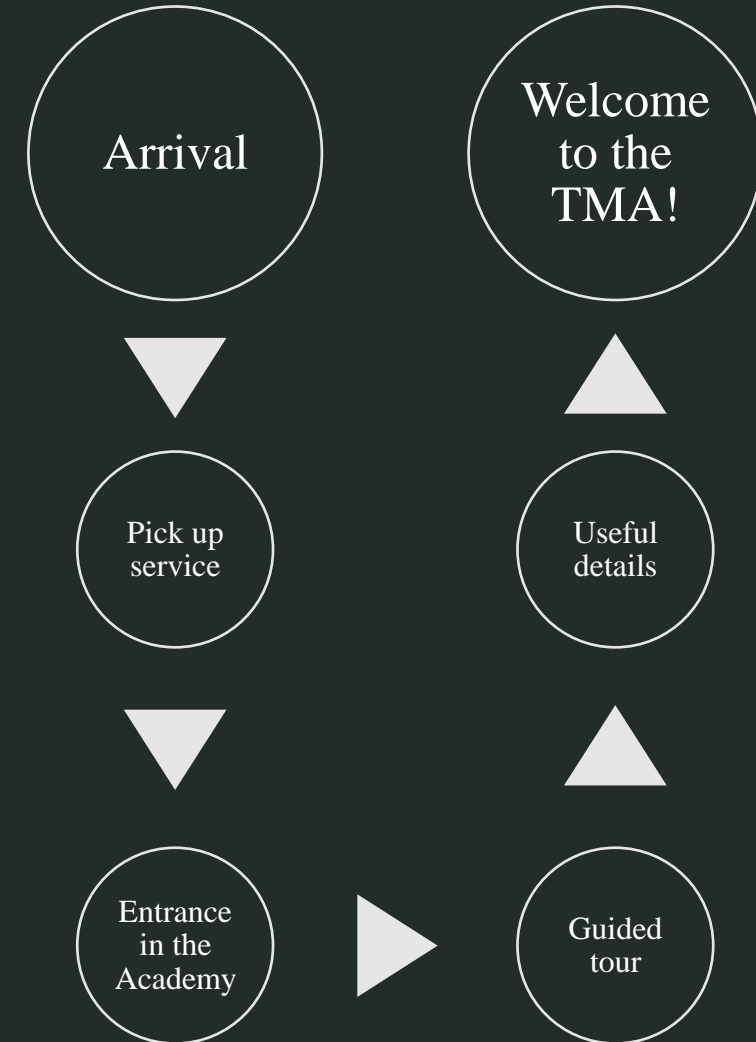
International summer semester 2022



2.1 Arrival at the Academy

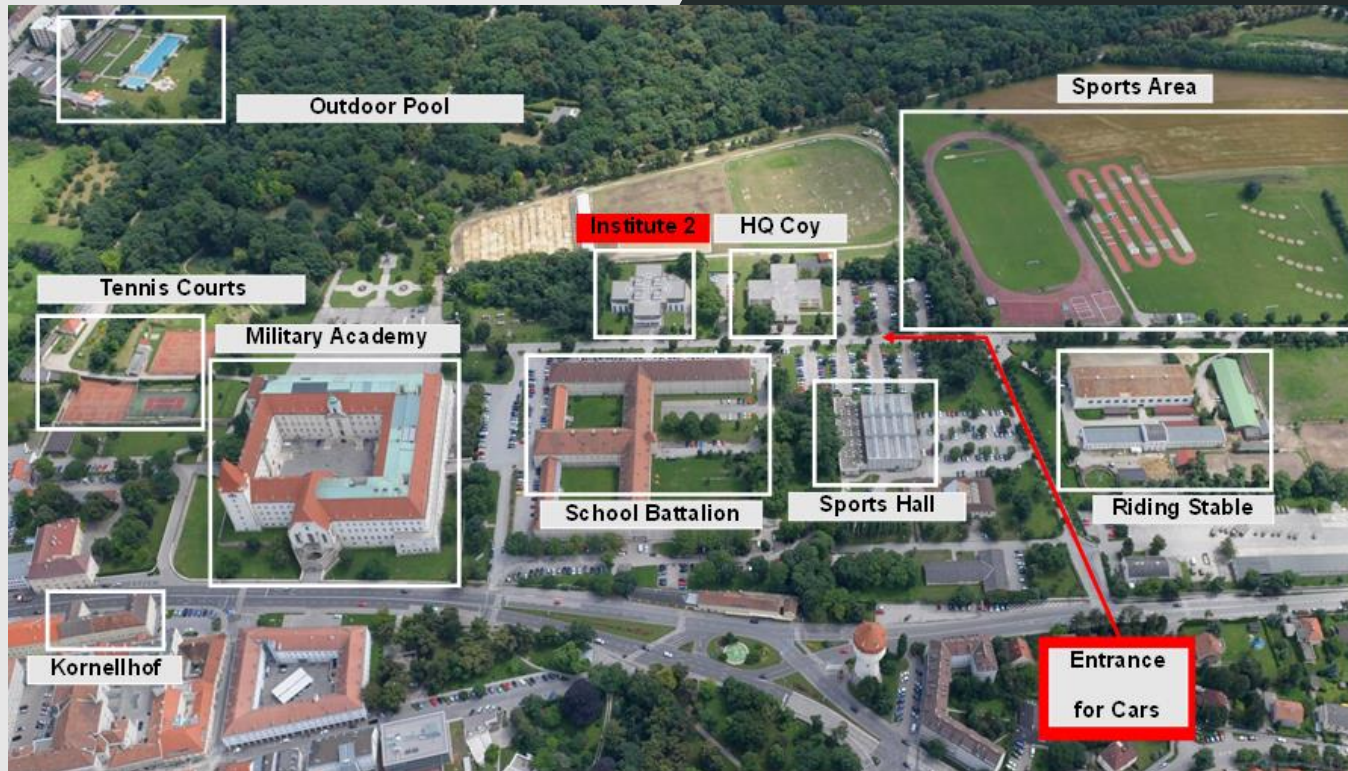
To support incoming cadets, it is offered a **pick up service** to reach the Academy.

Once arrived, the "internationals" receive useful information about their stay and how the TMA works, along with a guided tour of the Academy.





2.2 Academy's infrastructures



The Academy complex is composed by multiple buildings and infrastructures, that can be divided into **three main categories**:

- **Housing infrastructures:** Kornellhof, School Battalion, Military Academy
- **Sports infrastructures:** Tennis courts, outdoor pool, sports areas, sports hall, riding stable
- **Military education infrastructures:** Military Academy, Institute 2, HQ Coy, School for Security and Leadership



2.3 Accommodation

International cadets and civilians can be hosted in one of the Academy's housing structures – depending on their availability – for the duration of their stay at the TMA.

On the left: Kornellhof dormitory; on the right: one of the Academy's rooms





2.4 Canteen & cafeteria service

Besides the accommodation, the TMA also provides fresh meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) for its students every day in its **dining hall**.

The **cafeteria service** offers refreshment for convenient prices for anyone in need during working days.

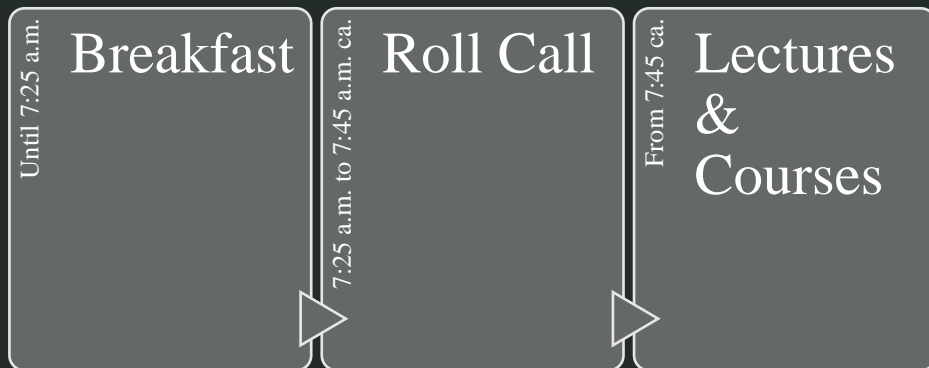




3.1 Education and formation

The first step in the daily routine of the cadets – both soldiers and civilians of the Academy, as well as the internationals, is the roll call (on the right) which is mandatory for everyone.

It's set at 7:25 a.m., and it signs the beginning of the working day.





3.1.1 Lectures and courses

A big part of the cadets' academic formation is centered on lectures, structured in the form of **modules** that can be either of one week or longer.

The Academy has many different lecture rooms situated inside the main Castle, along with a great hall, a library and many computer rooms.



On the top: the Knights Hall

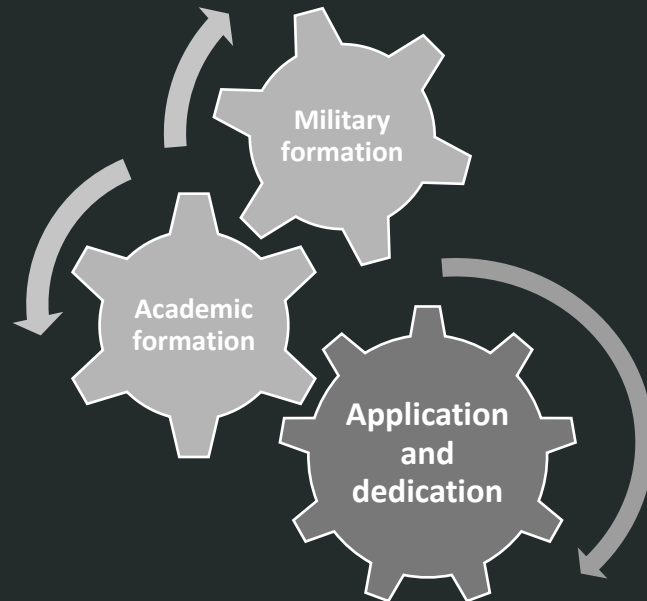
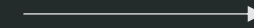
On the bottom left: a lecture room

On the bottom right: the library



3.1.2 Application and dedication

Application and dedication are fundamental for the success of the cadets in their studies, and since **many of their academic teachings have direct links to their military training**, it is imperative for the cadets to succeed.

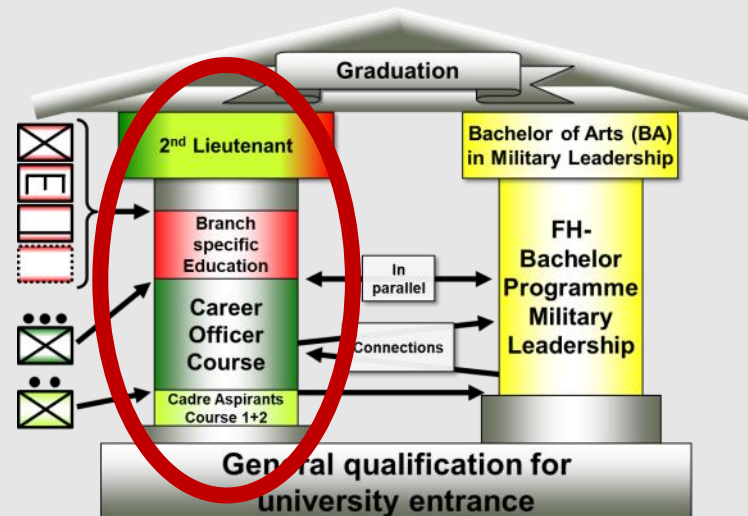




3.2 Military training & activities

On the field and tactical exercises constitute a **fundamental formative step** for all the officers who enter the TMA.

As already stated, this part of the cadets' education grows parallelly to the their Academic studies:





3.2.1 Tactical and leadership training

Tactical and leadership training are strictly bound together and they proceed as follows:

1. Education in tactical symbols and how to use maps;
2. Application on the field of the theoretical training;
3. Computer exercise training in the Academy's simulation centers;
4. Tactical training spread along the entire semester, to try in practice what previously learned.





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3.2.2 Sport activities

Sport activities constitute a pivotal part of the cadets' daily life. As a matter of fact, they have the **possibility to train either during duty or free time.**

To that end, cadets and students have at their disposal not only the Academy's gym along with the Sports field, but also the entirety of the Academy's park.



*On the top left: the Academy's gym;
On the top right: cadets running in the Academy's park;
On the bottom left and right: Cadets working out in the Academy's Sports field.*



3.3 Life inside the Academy

International students can enjoy their free time at the Academy doing sports in the various infrastructures of the TMA, or having fun and socializing at the **MAK Kasino** (cadets' club).

From the left to the right: Halloween party (1, 2) and cadets having fun at the MAK Kasino (3, 4, 5, 6)





3.4 Life outside the Academy

Is there anything else to say?

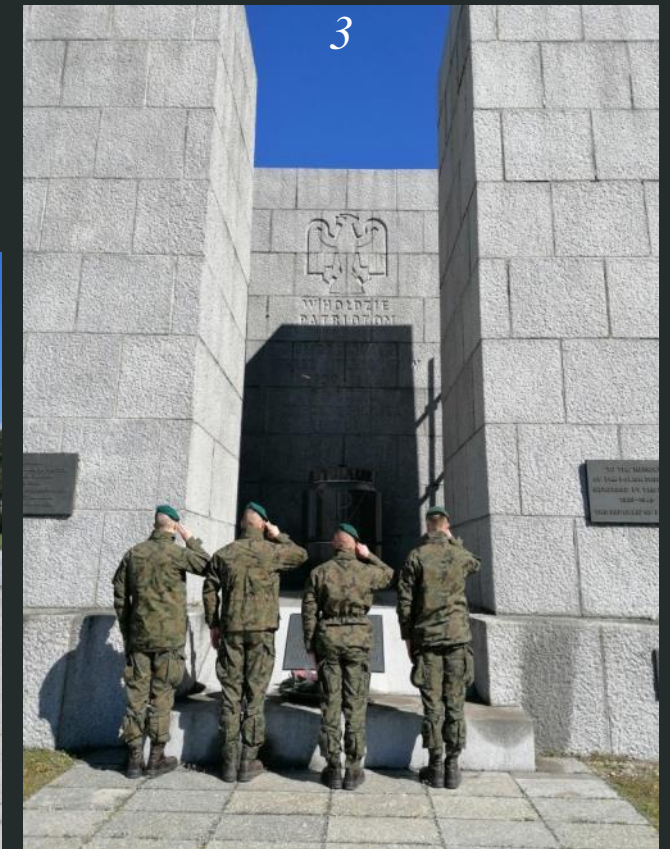




3.5 Events, occasions & cultural experiences

The Academy regularly organises or takes part in many different kinds of events and cultural activities, to keep the cadets' formation at the highest levels.

From the left to the right: internationals at the Nationalfeiertag22 in Wien (1); cadets and staff visiting an armoured company (2); cadets paying homage at Mauthausen concentration camp (3); cadets pulling and pushing trucks at a sports event (4).





4.1 Outcome of the experience

Interviews with cadets and students of the International Semester of winter 2022, who answered the question:

“Could you describe us your experience at the TMA in one sentence?”

- 1) “That was amazing! For sure one of the best experiences of my life until now”
- 2) “I loved meeting new people from many different countries, I think it was the greatest strength of the project”
- 3) “I learned many things about myself, about who I want to be in my life and why I wish to become an officer. It was very formative”



The international semester, along with austrian cadets, one week participants and members of the International Office in occasion of the CSDP common module 2022



4.2 Departure from the Academy

At the end of the mobility period at the TMA, international cadets and students receive a certificate of attendance or the necessary Erasmus papers.

When it's time to leave the Academy, a pick up service from there to either the railway station or the local airport or other transport infrastructures, is offered, to help and support them.

Goodbye ceremony at the Knights Hall



5.1 Keeping contacts & meeting again

Dear Sir Colonel Gell,

after making many friendships during my participation in the Erasmus programmes, you can imagine how surprised I was after meeting a friend in Bagram base in Afghanistan, who like me was studying at the Theresan Military Academy and also at MALF in Wrocław. [...]

Kind regards,

2nd Lt Raluca VASILE

2nd Lt Tadeusz MANGOLD

BAF, Afghanistan,

02 January 2020





5.2 New competences

