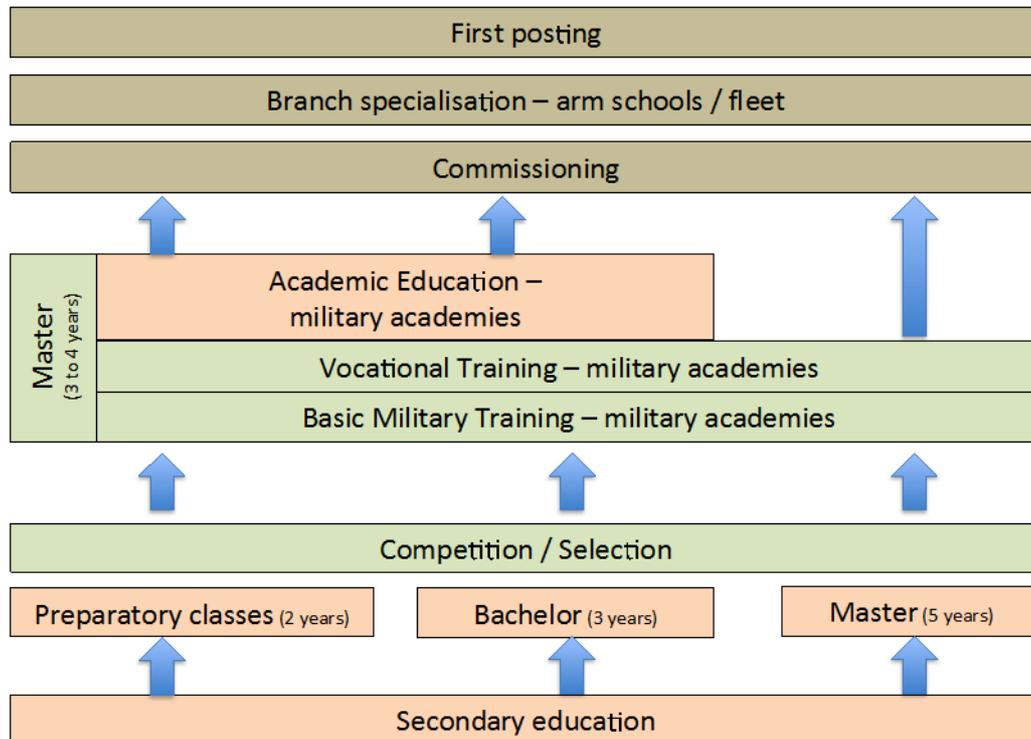




FRANCE

How to Become a Military Officer in the French Armed Forces:



The basic education and training of the military officers of the French Army, Navy, Air Force and Gendarmerie is the role of four distinct schools: the Military Schools of Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan (Coëtquidan), the Naval Schools (Brest), the Air Force Academy (Salon-de-Provence) and the Gendarmerie Officers' College (Melun).

These schools educate and train the future officers issued from direct recruitment but also from the internal recruitment (through promotion). The scheme presented above focus on the former way of access to commissioning. In order to become officers, the candidates must first complete their bachelor (3 years) or preparatory (2 years) studies in civilian universities or preparatory classes. Then, they will complete their master studies in the respective service schools. Even though the schools are enabled to deliver higher education diplomas and to organise research activities, cooperation with the civilian institutions remains a key word. European and international mobility, also, is seen as an important vector for the education and training of the future military elites. Non-commissioned officers may also become, through indirect recruitment, commissioned officer after completion of a specific bachelor programme.

The vocational training, until the application level, is organised and provided by the military schools themselves. It is a fundamental part of the commissioning curriculum since it is fully integrated in the master diploma, indistinctively from the academic education.

Gendarmerie Officers' College
GENDARMERIE *Ecole des Officiers de la Gendarmerie Nationale (EOGN)*
<http://www.gendarmerie.interieur.gouv.fr/eogn>

Academic curricula

Master	- Law and Security Strategies (with civilian university) - Management and Council (with civilian university)
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Military specialisations

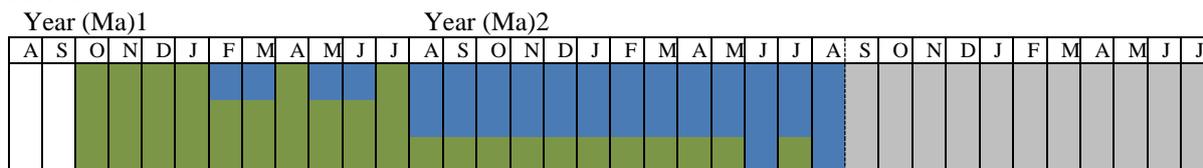
Public Order - Defence	Gendarmerie Officers' College (EOGN - Melun) + Gendarmerie Forces National Training Centre (CNEFG - Saint-Sstier)
Crime Investigation	Gendarmerie Officers' College (EOGN - Melun) + Gendarmerie Criminal Investigation Institute (IRCGN - Rosny-s-Bois) + Crime Investigation Police Training Centre (CNFPJ - Fontainebleau)
General Public Security	Gendarmerie Officers' College (EOGN - Melun)
Road Security	Gendarmerie Officers' College (EOGN - Melun) + Road Security National Training Centre (CNFSR - Fontainebleau)
Administration Corp	Gendarmerie Officers' College (EOGN - Melun)

Number of cadets first year: NK

Total number of cadets: NK

Organisation of the basic officers' education

Master:



Integration in the European Higher Education Area

Academic education:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		External quality assurance mechanisms		Recognition of education taken abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the students	National accreditation	Involving EQAR agencies	
ECTS	NK	NK	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N

Vocational training:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		National accreditation	Recognition of training done abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the trainees		
None			Y	Y	Y	Y	N

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The Gendarmerie Officers' College does not organise the doctoral studies of the Gendarmerie officers.	The Gendarmerie Officers' College does not organise research activities within its premises. However, it collaborates, in scientific areas, with national research centres and civilian universities.

An exchange culture

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: NK

France and the Gendarmerie Officers' College have a long-standing tradition of mobility in both theoretical and vocational fields. They have trained future officers for European and emerging countries from the outset and are now looking forward to developing further both inward and outward mobility of students but also faculty and instructors.

Context:

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
N		N	N

Practice:

Academic				Vocational			Practice of full-curriculum mobility	Common modules proposed	Offer of "international programmes"
Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff	Exchanges with civilian	Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff			
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		N

Learning of, learning in foreign languages

During their basic training at the College, cadets must learn English as a first foreign language, and practice it during professional training. Even though the courses offered in a foreign language - English in a first place - are limited to courses aimed at providing insights into foreign cultures, the College is progressively developing its offer of training modules to be provided in English.

Command of the English at the end of basic education and training (CEFRL/STANAG 6001):

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Master curriculum	NK	NK	NK	NK

Before and beyond basic education

The future Gendarmerie officers are recruited either among young French nationals, with maximum age limitation, with at least a master's degree, or among graduate non-commissioned officers. Candidates must successfully pass a competitive examination, including tests in the English language and comply with physical, medical and psychological standards.

In the course of their career, the French officers will be proposed additional education and training at an advanced level, which can be common to those provided to the officers of the other armed forces' branches.