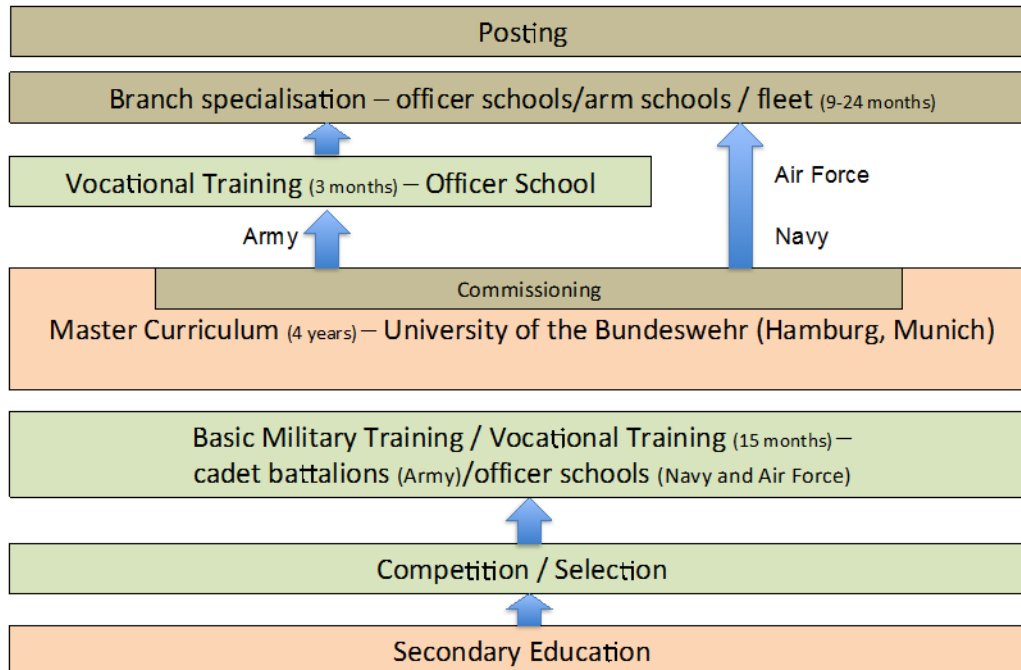




GERMANY

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



The German systems of basic education and training for the military officers of the Army, Navy and Air Force rests on a web of structures which have specific roles to play in this process.

The cadet battalions, since conscription has been ended in July 2011, provide the future Army officers with the basic military training, which is organised by the officers' schools for the two other services. Then, the respective officers' schools transmit leadership skills and vocational aptitudes to these future military elites.

It is only after this vocational training period that the cadets become students and are sent to one of the two the universities of the *Bundeswehr* for completing their master academic studies. These universities, located in Hamburg and Munich generally propose the same curricula and are co-managed by the Federal Ministry of Defence and the associated federal states. The role of these universities, which are fully integrated in the European Higher Education Area, can be seen as a delegation of the academic training of the future officers to (mixed) civilian institutions, therefore.

After having completed their academic training, students become cadets again and attend additional vocational training, including application training, in the specialist training centres. The timelines mentioned in the graph above are only indicative. They may vary from one service or specialty to another.

NAVY

Universities of the Bundeswehr
 Hamburg, Munich (www.hsu-hh.de/hsu/ or www.unibw.de/)
Naval Academy (Marineschule Mürwik – MSM)
 Flensburg Mürwik (www.marine.de)

Academic curricula

Bachelor & Master	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educational Sciences - Psychology - History - Management and Medias - Economical and Management Sciences - Political and Social Sciences - Industrial Engineering - Computer Sciences - Aerospace Engineering - Civil Engineering - Mathematical Engineering - Mechanical Engineering - Electrical Engineering - Construction Engineering - Sports Science
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Military specialisations

Naval Operations	Naval Operations School (Bremerhaven)
Engineering	Engineering School (Parow)
Leadership / Seamanship	Naval Academy (Mürwik) Sail Training Ship SSS GORCH FOCK (Kiel)
Infantry	Petty Officer School (Plön)
Health Services	Naval Medical Institute (Kiel)

Number of cadets first year (Officers' School): 240

Total number of cadets: 270

Organisation of the basic officers' education

Master:

Year (Ma)1												Year (Ma)2												Year (Ma)3											
J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
Year (Ma)4												Year (Ma)5												Year (Ma)6											
J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J

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	-	300	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y

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		
N			Y	Y	Y	N	N

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The two universities of the Bundeswehr provide opportunities for doctoral curricula in all areas of their educational offer.	Examples of research areas engaged in by the universities of the Bundeswehr: “Nanotechnologies”, “Galileo”, “Smart cars”, “Aeronautical Technologies”, “Cyber Security”.

An exchange culture

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: 420 (all services)

All schools of the German Navy and both universities of the Bundeswehr have a long tradition of the mobility for students and teaching-training personnel. The universities have acquired considerable experience in exchanging with civilian universities notably via the Erasmus programme. Next to the universities all schools of the German Navy attract and constantly share their excellence with civilian and military students from all over the world where appropriate.

Context:

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

Learning of, learning in foreign languages

In the German system, the future officers learn foreign languages - English in a first place – not only in academic education but also in vocational training institutions. Mastering foreign languages is compulsory since it is considered to be a part of the leadership capacities of a military officer. A ten weeks course is fully dedicated to this, at the beginning of the vocational curriculum. Within the universities of the Bundeswehr, approximately 2% of the courses proposed are provided in English and the students may choose, additionally, to write their master thesis in English.

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

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Master curriculum	SLP 2	SLP 3	SLP 2	SLP 3

Before and beyond basic education

The future Navy officers are recruited among the young nationals who are graduated from secondary education - or a civilian professional training regarding applications by non-commissioned officers - and who have successfully complied with knowledge, physical and psychological tests. The results obtained at these tests are important for the choice of the curriculum followed in the universities of the Bundeswehr afterward.

In the course of their career, the German officers will receive additional education and vocational training opportunities at an advanced level. A Lieutenant course is obligatory and will follow approximately two years after the first posting. Additionally a Staff Officer Course has to be passed prior to promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Later on, an elite of staff officers is offered to participate in a Joint Staff Course (Lieutenant Commander). Numerous additional trainings for all officers in different ranks are either obligatory or facultative.