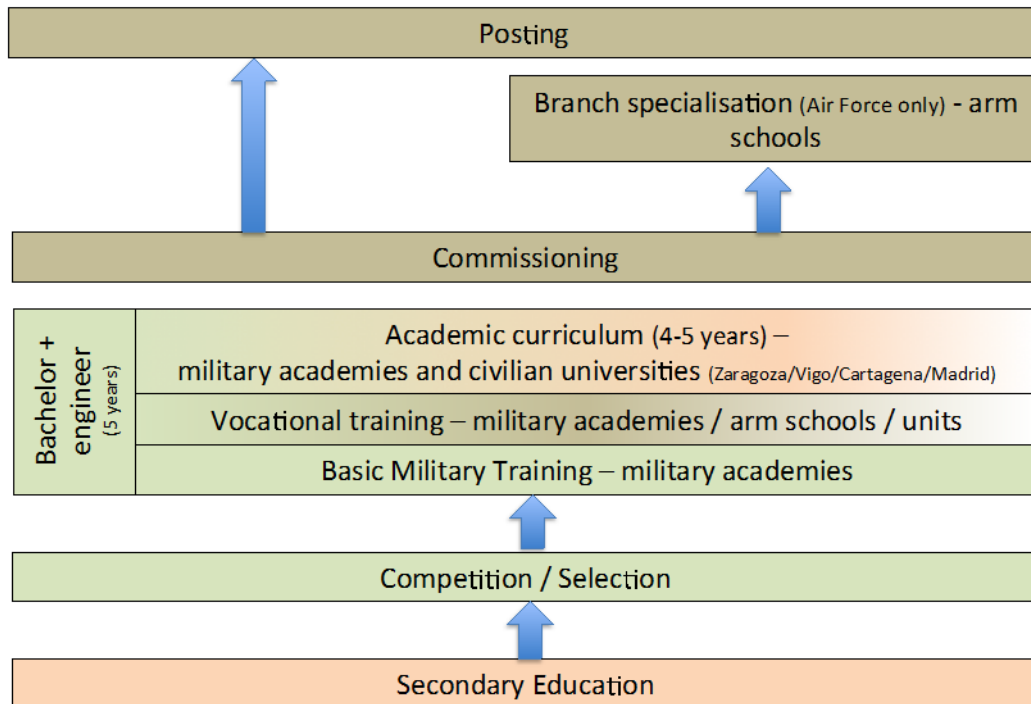




SPAIN

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



Since 2010, Spain and its basic officers' education institutions have implemented the *acquis* of the Bologna Process and, therefore, are fully integrated into the European Higher Education Area. Nevertheless, this implementation did not impede the academies of the Spanish armed forces to adapt the design of their education and training to the respective specificities and requirements of the four services of the armed forces, i.e. the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the Gendarmerie (*Guardia Civil*).

The duration of the academic studies is different from one branch to another: 4 years for Army, 5 for Navy, Air Force and Gendarmerie. In Army education, however, an additional year, which is fully dedicated to the vocational training at the Academy, is necessary in order to complete the basic education. Different organisations of the studies, therefore, but a common goal, which is a specificity of the Spanish military education systems: all future officers of the four branches will be both bachelor-graduated and awarded a diploma of engineer. Spanish basic officer's education particularly stresses the role of technical sciences in the academic learning processes, indeed. To this end, the central role played by the academies in the education and training is completed by the important support provided by the civilian higher education institutions through partnerships in the academic curricula.

One must also note that the scheme presented above only summarizes the path for becoming an officer in the four branches of the armed forces through direct recruitment. It is important in the sense that, in the case of Gendarmerie for example, officers issued from internal (indirect recruitment) must follow a specific basic course in a different academy (in San Lorenzo del Escorial).

ARMY

Army Academy

(<http://www.ejercito.mde.es/unidades/Zaragoza/agm/index.html>)

Academic curricula

Bachelor	Industrial Organization Engineering
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Military specialisations

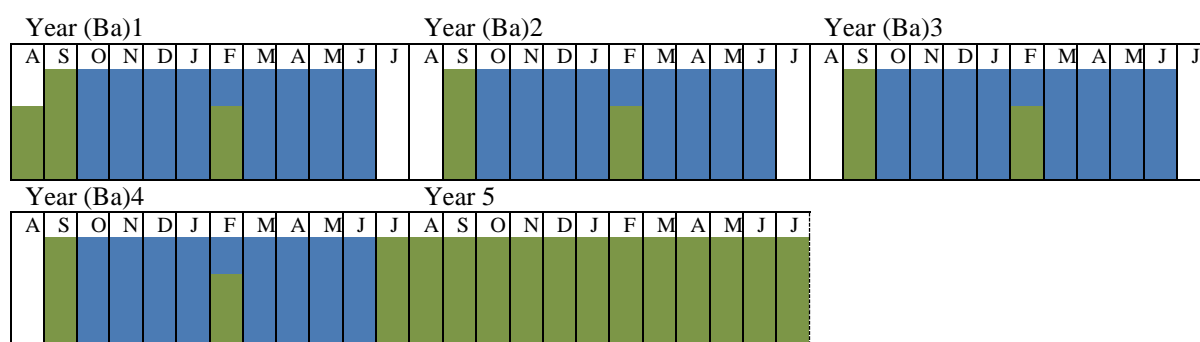
Infantry	Infantry School (Toledo)
Cavalry	Cavalry School (Valladolid)
Artillery	Artillery School (Segovia)
- Engineering - Signals	Engineering School (Hoyo de Manzanares)

Number of cadets first year: NK

Total number of cadets: NK

Organisation of the basic officers' education

Bachelor:



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	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	NK	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		
ECTS	NK	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The Army Academy does not provide doctoral education.	The Army Academy acts in scientific research in the fields covered by its education programme and for the needs of the constant improvement of its education and training.

An exchange culture

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

Spain and the Army Academy have a long-standing tradition and culture of hosting cadets willing to learn and train in Spanish and benefit from the excellence of the education and training. It has constantly developed outward mobility of the Spanish trainees and trainers, within the scope of the Initiative for the exchange of young officers and through bilateral links. The Academy has fully implemented the compatibility instruments as prepared notably through the Bologna Process, even in the vocational training to the possible extent.

Context:

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

Learning of, learning in foreign languages

During their initial education, the Spanish military students must learn English as a part of their regular academic education throughout their curriculum. They have the possibility to learn French as second foreign language at the Academy.

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

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

Before and beyond basic education

The future military officers are recruited among the young nationals who are graduated from secondary education and who have successfully complied with medical, psycho-technical and physical standards. They must also succeed to entrance knowledge and English tests.

In the course of their career, the Spanish Army officers will receive additional education and training at advanced level in Army and joint institutes, such as the CESEDEN.