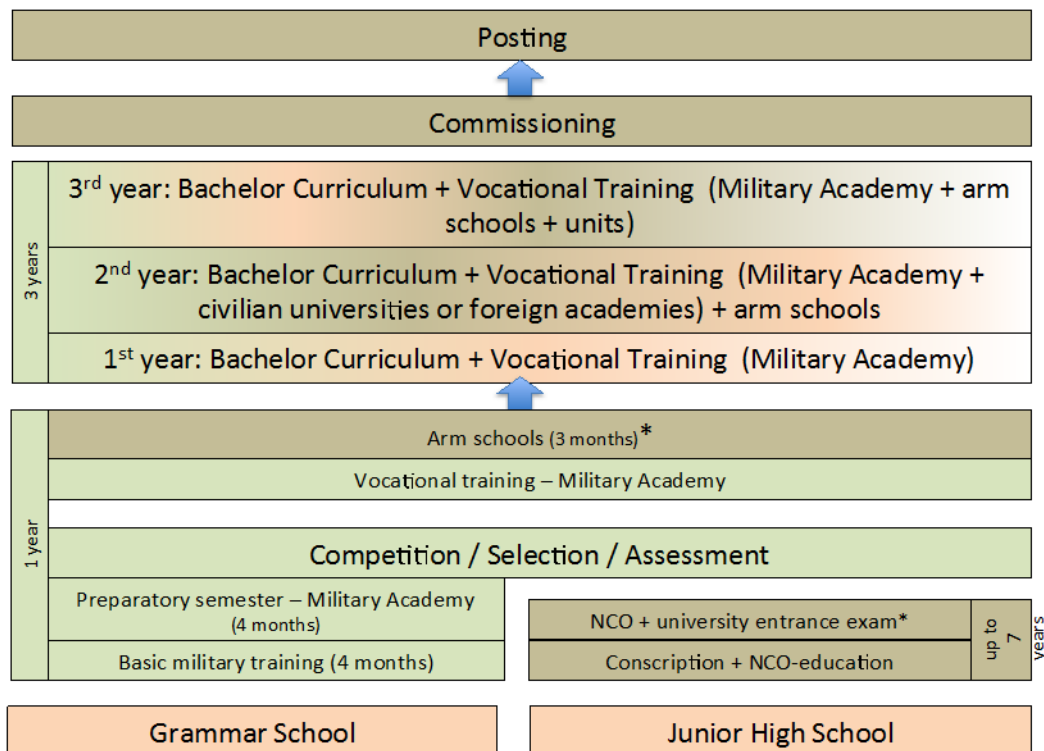




AUSTRIA

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



* Pilots are to complete their education before selection to become a professional officer. It will take longer than for all the other branches.

The basic education and training of the officers of the Austrian armed forces, including the Air component, is the role of the Theresan Military Academy.

The Military Academy, for candidates of both direct and internal recruitments, is recognized as fully integrated in the European Higher Education Area and, like any other Austrian university, provides a higher education curriculum. In order to be commissioned as officers, the Austrian cadets must obtain the Bachelor of Arts in Military Leadership from the Academy, after three years of academic studies, which include a training period, similar to a stage, in units of foreign armed forces. The academic aspect of the basic education of an Austrian officer, therefore, is necessarily the product of an international cooperation or, in some cases, of the cooperation between the Academy and civilian universities. Every cadet spend one international semester abroad as well as an internship (International Training on the Job) in the course of his/her education.

The vocational training also is the product of cooperation between the Military Academy and the operational units of the armed forces themselves, since the national conscript service contributes also to the acquisition of basic military skills.

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The Theresan Military Academy does not organise the doctoral studies of the Austrian officers.	The research projects are administered by the Institute of Basic Officer Education and touch on all areas of teaching, with a special focus on <i>military leadership</i> .

An exchange culture

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: 93

Austria and the Theresan Military Academy have a long-standing tradition of mobility in both academic and vocational fields. 100% of the future officers are exchanged twice during the “international training on the job” as well as during an international semester in the course of their education, as they are sent to units in Europe and worldwide. They also acquired considerable experience in hosting and exchanging teachers and instructors from and to many European and some non-European countries.

Context:

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
Y	EMACS	Y	Y (pending)

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	N	CSDP, LOAC, CMO, BME, MC	Y

Learning of, learning in foreign languages

Within the Theresan Military Academy, the military students must learn English as a first foreign language. They must also take a second foreign language. They must also choose courses of second foreign languages (French or Arabic). If students have a prior knowledge in an other language they may continue their studies at the Academy. The cadets must also attend courses in English during their education and, also as a part of their academic education, complete their international exchanges in practicing these foreign languages. Finally, the Academy regularly provides parts of its vocational training in English. The Theresan Military Academy offers 30% of its education and training courses in English language.

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

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Bachelor curriculum	C1 / SLP 3	B2 / SLP 2+	C1 / SLP 3	C1 / SLP 3

Before and beyond basic education

The future military officers are recruited among the young nationals who are graduated from secondary education and who volunteered to become a reserve or professional officer. Those who want to become professional officers volunteer after a 4-month basic training for a second 4-month term (“preparatory semester”), concluded by an entrance examination.

In the course of their career, the Austrian officers will be proposed additional education and training at an advanced level: up to Battalion-Staff at the Military Academy (Institute for advanced Officer Training) and up to Brigade-Level at the National Defence College in Vienna where a Master programme in Military Leadership is offered.