



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
“NICOLAE BĂLCESCU” LAND FORCES ACADEMY
SIBIU, ROMANIA



Sibiu, 2026

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Dear Commandants, Dear Rectors,

“Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy of Sibiu has the pleasure and privilege of inviting you to the third edition of the common module ***Problem Solving and Critical Thinking***, which will be organized between the **16th of November and the 20th of November 2026**.

The module aims to create models and strategies for the resolution of problems in social, economic and logistic contexts inspired from real situations. Upon completion of the module, all participants obtain **2 ECTS** and those who also take the e-learning are awarded with one additional ECTS.

It is our pleasure to invite students to participate in this module in order to develop creative strategies for solving problems critically, together with other cadets from our academy and from other international partner institutions.

LFA offers the participants free lodging and meals throughout the duration of the module. Sending institutions are responsible for their delegations' transport expenses to Sibiu.

No participation fee is required. All EU participants should bear the European Health Insurance card with them or any valid travel/health insurance.

The deadline for registration is the **09th of October 2026**. We kindly request you to submit the attached Registration Form at the e-mail address: international.relations@armyacademy.ro / (POC: Assoc.Prof. Alina Mihaela BABOȘ, PhD).

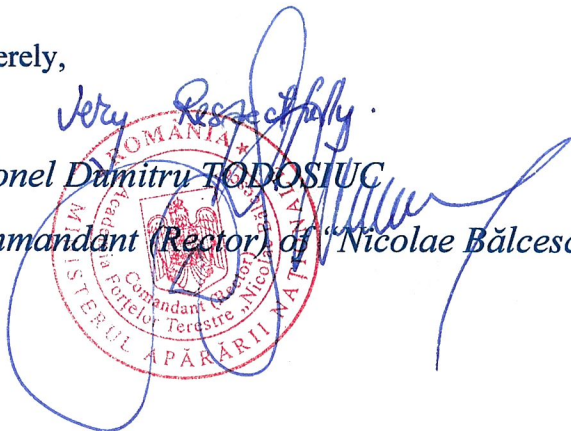
Please find attached further details about the module, a short description and other administrative information.

Looking forward to welcoming your students at “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy of Sibiu!

Sincerely,

Very Respectfully,
Colonel Dumitru TODOSIUC

Commandant (Rector) of “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy of Sibiu





Common Module
Problem Solving and Critical Thinking
 Module Description



Country RO	Institution LFA	Module Problem Solving and Critical Thinking	ECTS 2.0 (+1.0 e-learning)
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Service ALL	Minimum Qualification for Lecturers (Officers and/or NCOs) Officers or Civilian Lecturers: - English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B2 or NATO STANAG Level 3. - Expertise on relevant topics. - Relevant academic publications.
Language English, Romanian¹	

Prerequisites for international participants: - English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B1 or NATO STANAG Level 2. - Basic knowledge of calculus. - Basic knowledge of descriptive statistics.	Goal of the Module Models for the resolution of problem in social, economic and logistic contexts.
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Learning outcomes	Know-ledge	- Formulate problems coming from real situation. - Describe and distinguish different kind of data.
	Skills	- Develops creative strategies and procedures in order to solve problems. - Deals and discusses critically proposed solutions.
	Responsibility and autonomy	- Find solutions for real-world problems. - Evaluate the consistency of proposed solutions and make decisions critically.

Verification of learning outcomes	
Observation: Throughout the module, students are to be observed and evaluated on their understanding to allow for remedial action of needed. Discussions: Throughout the module, students are to discuss given topics in syndicates and in the plenary to allow for reflexions and in-depth understanding. Test: Written tests during the e-learning phase and at the (beginning) end of the module.	

¹ **Remark:** If the Module or parts of the Module are conducted in Romanian language, international participants are to be informed in advance to react properly.



Common Module
Problem Solving and Critical Thinking
Module Description



Module Details			
Topic	Residential	E-learning	Details
Introduction to problem solving and critical thinking	2	1	• Definition of problem solving. • Definition of critical thinking. • Applications in defence and security contexts.
Basic Mathematics Knowledge	-	4	• Calculus (elementary functions, their properties and graphics, derivatives) • Elements of combinatorics • Statistics indices
Shifts and codes	2	1	• Applications of permutations and combinations in security and defence contexts.
Reading data	2	1	• Statistics indices to read and interpret data and reports
Dynamic models	2	1	• Analysis of examples of dynamic models in security and defence contexts.
Strategic games	2	1	• Deterministic games in security and defence contexts.
Optimization problems	2	-	• Guideline for solving optimization problems. • Examples: maximization and minimization in different contexts. • Discussion of the solution.
Working group	10	-	• Problem solving and critical thinking activities on real-world problems. • Team building for problem solving activities. • Collaborative learning to find resolute strategies.
Presentations and discussions	2	-	• Presentation of results and discussion.
Total lectures and e-learning lessons	24	10	• In case of a 3 ECTS PSCT CM Version (BIP) it is required 1/3 of lectures via e-learning. The selection of e-learning topics is up to the Course Director.
Self-studies	26	15	• Preparation for the upcoming lessons and for exam(s). • Reflection of the topics issued. • E-learning self-studies are also counted.
TOTAL	50 2 ECTS	25 1 ECTS	• The total amount of hours depends on the selected version (2 or 3 ECTS) and it is up to the course director according to national law or home institution's rules. • The Course Director is invited to integrate in the module some syndicate works in order to emphasize the team working.



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS:

B1, B2.....	Common Reference Levels
BIP.....	Blended Intensive Programme
CEFR.....	Common European Framework of Reference for Language
CM.....	Common Module
ECTS.....	European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
ESDC.....	European Security and Defence College
IG.....	Implementation Group
LFA.....	Land Forces Academy
LoD.....	Line of Development
PSCT.....	Problem Solving and Critical Thinking
RO.....	Romania
STANAG.....	Standardization Agreement
WH.....	Working Hour



"Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy - Sibiu



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1.	Dates, Location, Participants
	Participants are cadets/young officers who are willing to take part in the Blended Intensive Program "Problem Solving and Critical Thinking". The module will take place in the period 16th-20th November 2026 . ▪ Basic knowledge on English (B1 level according to CEFR) or NATO STANAG Level 2 ▪ Basic knowledge of calculus ▪ Basic knowledge of descriptive statistics Up to 15-20 participants will be admitted.
2.	Accommodation and meals
	The participants who will choose to stay in the Academy's buildings will be offered accommodation and meals free of charge . Each room in the Academy can accommodate 2-3 persons.
3.	Costs
	Accommodation and meals are provided free of charge for all participants who decide to stay inside the Academy. No course fee is required.
4.	Transportation
	Participants are requested to make their own travel arrangements to "Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu. Participants are kindly requested to arrange their arrival at Sibiu International Airport on November 15th , before 20:00 (Local Time) and departure on November 21st . "Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy will provide free transport from the above mentioned locations to the Academy and back.
5.	Uniform/dress code
	Arrival/Departure/Sightseeing/Social events: Civilian clothes. Opening/Closing ceremony: Best dress uniform. Classes: Combat uniform/Service uniform.
6.	Registration
	Please use the attached registration form (if you do not have your transport details on this stage, you can send them later on) and send it to the POC (Assoc.Prof. Alina Mihaela BABOȘ, PhD), at the e-mail address: international.relations@armyacademy.ro . Deadline for registration is 09th of October 2026 . Any additional and up-dated information will be passed to the sending institutions in due time.
7.	POC
	Alina Mihaela BABOȘ "Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy 3-5 Revolutiei Street, Sibiu, Romania, 550170 Tel: +40 269 432 990/int. 1317 (office) E-mail: international.relations@armyacademy.ro

- The detailed module description of the BIP "Problem Solving and Critical Thinking" can also be found on the EMILYO homepage: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>

