



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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Swiss Confederation

Swiss Armed Forces



The Military Academy (MILAC) at ETH Zurich

MILAC – committed to scientific excellence, values and professional practice



Basic training courses
Bachelor Course of Studies
Diploma Course of Studies

Military Academy (MILAC) at ETH Zurich

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Training objectives		
Basic qualifications as a career officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none">to professionally perform command duties in Switzerland and abroadto provide quality teaching as instructors and educatorsto act as military science trained expertsto take a stand on non-military issues as broadly trained executives		
Admission requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">A federally recognised cantonal baccalaureate or a federal vocational baccalaureate with a one-year preparatory course («passerelle») and passed the supplementary examination for universities or a nationally recognised technical college certificate (Fachmaturazeugnis) in conjunction with «passerelle».Second Lieutenant (2Lt) and completed practical service as platoon leaderGood military credentialsImpeccable reputationPassing the physical fitness aptitude testFluency in a second Swiss national language (German or French)Approval by the Assessment Centre for Career Officers (ACABO)Driving licence (Cat. B)Employment contract with the Swiss Armed Forces		
Training content		
Public policy <ul style="list-style-type: none">Law (private law / public law)Constitutional foundations of the Security PolicyInternational LawEconomicsBusiness AdministrationSecurity PolicyHistorySociologyPsychologyResearch methodology and statistics as well as other courses including cyber- and technological aspects		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conflict managementCoaching / guidanceStaff managementLeadership trainingCommunication trainingLeading under special conditions (e.g. in the mountains)Risk managementWork techniqueProject managementDecision-making exercises
Military sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leadership and CommunicationMilitary HistoryDefense EconomicsMilitary Psychology and Military PedagogyMilitary SociologyStrategic Studies		Specialised didactics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Military didacticsCombat techniquesTraining in specialised units / leading military exercisesChemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defence (CBRN)Environmental protection in the armed forcesMedical service in the armed forcesSports in the armed forcesMilitary technologyLegal aspects in military operations / Law of Armed ConflictMilitary penal lawBasic courses 1–3 at the Armed Forces Training Centre
Other foci <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scientific activities: methodology of social sciencesLanguages [2nd Swiss national language (German or French), English]SportsStudy trip		Tactics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Swiss Armed Forces / DDPSTraining and Education CommandJoint Operations CommandMission objectives / understanding of combatDefence in military units / general staff work / command simulationsSupporting civilian authoritiesPeace support / interoperability level 1
Programme structure and duration		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">7-semester study programme (45 months) including the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public PolicyPractical modules and Bachelor thesis in the 6th semesterExercises, courses, research papers, examinations and holidays during interim semestersMilitary special training begins in the 7th semester (lectures and courses at MILAC / in specialised application units / and in various competence centres of the Swiss Armed Forces)		
Examinations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basic examination after completion of the first year of studyPeriodic testing according to ETH Zurich’s study regulations during the entire duration of studiesBachelor’s thesis in the 6th semesterMinimum 180 credit points based on European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)Periodic testing in during military special training		
Qualifications awarded		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Federally recognised Swiss Armed Forces Career Officer DiplomaETH Bachelor of Arts in Public PolicyMilitary qualification		

Training objectives		
Basic qualifications as a career officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none">to professionally perform command duties in Switzerland and abroadto provide quality teaching as instructors and educatorsto act as military science trained expertsto take a stand on non-military issues as broadly trained executives		
Admission requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">University degree or state-recognised degree from a university of applied sciencesFirst Lieutenant (1Lt) and completed training as company commanderGood military credentialsImpeccable reputationPassing the physical fitness aptitude testFluency in a second Swiss national language (German or French) (Foreigners: German at C1 level)Approval by the Assessment Centre for Career Officers (ACABO)Driving licence (Cat. B)Employment contract with the Swiss Armed Forces		
Training content		
General sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none">Security policyLegal basis of security policyConstitutional foundations of security policyInternational relations and international organisations as well as other courses including cyber- and technological aspects		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leadership trainingCommunication trainingLeading under special conditions (e.g. in the mountains)Risk managementWork techniqueProject managementDecision-making exercises
Military sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leadership and CommunicationMilitary HistoryDefense EconomicsMilitary Psychology and PedagogyMilitary SociologyStrategic Studies		Specialised didactics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Military didacticsCombat techniquesTraining in specialised units / leading military exercisesChemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defence (CBRN)Environmental protection in the armed forcesMedical service in the armed forcesSports in the armed forcesMilitary technologyLegal aspects in military operations / Law of Armed ConflictMilitary penal lawBasic courses 1–3 at the Armed Forces Training Centre
Other foci <ul style="list-style-type: none">Languages [2nd national language (German or French), English]SportsStudy trip		Tactics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Swiss Armed Forces / DDPSTraining and Education CommandJoint Operations CommandMission objectives / understanding of combatDefence in military units / general staff work / command simulationsSupporting civilian authoritiesPeace support / interoperability level 1
Programme structure and duration		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">3-semester (20 months) study programme including the ETH Diploma of Advanced Studies in Military Sciences (DAS MILWISS)Exercises, courses, examinations and holidays during interim semestersMilitary special training. begins in the 7th semester (lectures and courses at MILAC / in specialised application units / and in various competence centres of the Swiss Armed Forces)		
Examinations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Periodic testing according to ETH Zurich’s study regulationsMinimum 41 credit points based on European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)Periodic testing in during military special training		
Qualifications awarded		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Federally recognised Swiss Armed Forces Career Officer DiplomaETH Diploma of Advanced Studies in Military Science (DAS MILWISS)Military qualification		