



National Defence University

Selections Guide 2019

Graduate and Post-graduate Studies in Military Sciences



National Defence University Selections Guide 2019

■ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

National Defence University, Department
of Academic Affairs
Administration and Selection Section,
Santahamina
P.O. BOX 7, 00861 HELSINKI, FINLAND

0299 530 214,
0299 530 330

opintoasiainosasto.mppk@mil.fi
www.maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu.fi,
www.upseeriksi.fi

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Marke Hietapakka

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Vinski Vornanen
Axel Mankinen

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Foreword by the Rector

Working as an officer in the Defence Forces and Border Guard

Are you interested in training and leadership tasks that are interesting and include responsibility? This is an integral part of working in the officer's profession in the Defence Forces and Border Guard. To become an officer, you study and train at the National Defence University, which is a unit within the Defence Forces and at the same time one of Finland's fifteen universities.

By completing the Bachelor of Military Sciences at the National Defence University, you graduate to the officer's profession. After the working phase, studies continue towards the Master of Military Sciences degree, after which the officer's career continues in different national and international tasks. The officer's career encompasses the model of life-long learning, where you grow with your task producing security for Finnish society.

Studies at the National Defence University are profession-oriented. They combine studies that fulfil university-level requirements and learning practical military skills. Teaching methods are varied and modern. A good example of this is high quality exercises in a real operational environment. All who graduate as officers form a strong sense of solidarity, which creates a life-long bond with the officer generation and, in addition to professional qualification, also a strong psychological foundation on which to prepare for future challenges.

I encourage all who are interested and fulfil the requirements laid out in this guide to apply to study at the National Defence University. All who study to become an officer graduate to a fine profession and are offered a versatile and progressive workplace.

Rector of the National Defence University
Major General Jari Kallio



Greetings of the Cadet Corps Association and Students' Union

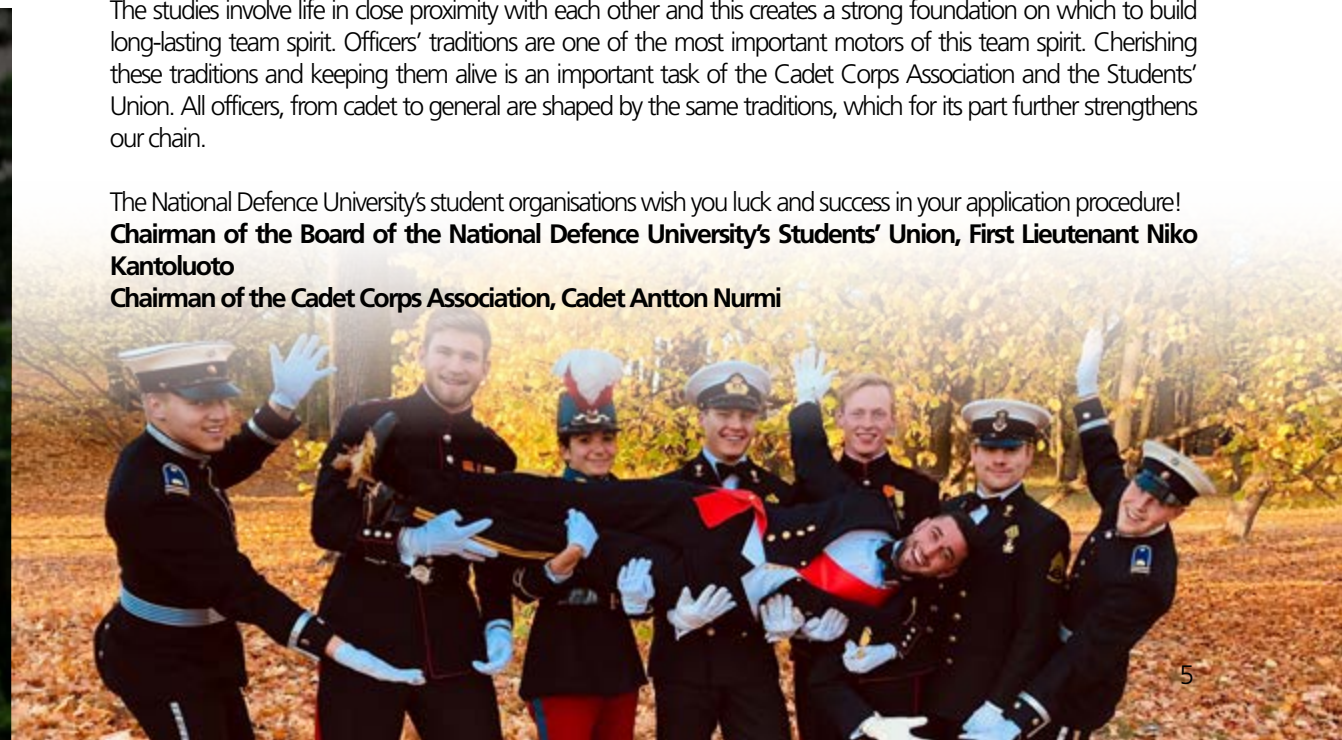
Today's officer is a military leader who also possesses the academic prerequisites for understanding present day warfare and its different phenomena. In an officer's scientific education, this means that they apply the critical thinking skills they have learned to what they experience and see. Depending of the phase of their career, using an enquiry-based method, an officer will first develop training and working methods, and later even tactics and procedures and methods of warfare. However, the right to lead also includes responsibility: officers must have the ability to continuously develop both their own and their subordinates' professional skill in order to meet the demands of the modern battlefield. Professionalism and preparedness to adapt are also part of an officer's workday.

The National Defence University's Students' Union was founded to promote students' interests. Its objective is to give students the best possibilities to bring forth their perspective in the University's decision making, and to give the best possibilities for gaining the high quality education that they need in working life - an education that from an academic viewpoint, is comparable to that of other universities. The Students' Union encompasses cadets, Master's students and those studying on the General Staff Officer Course. The Union promotes their goals within the National Defence University and also within the broader sphere of universities and elsewhere in society. Members of the Students' Union may include cadets, Master's students, those studying on the Senior and General Staff Officer Course, or Advanced Military Economics and Technical Studies students. The Union can also accept other students of the National Defence University as its members. The Union promotes the goals of the students within the National Defence University and also within the broader sphere of universities and elsewhere in society.

The Cadet Corps Association is the student organisation of the Bachelor of Military Sciences students, i.e. the cadets. It tends to cadet traditions, creates solidarity and sees to the cadets' interests, as well as represents and generates cooperation with other institutions of higher education. At times, the availability of free time is scarce during military studies, but the Cadet Corps Association works hard to ensure that the life of cadets is pleasant both on and off of campus. The Association organises many different free-time activities, both in the field of sports as well as for mutual fun. Different celebrations and events are often those from which we have the most lasting memories of our school days. The cadet community is known for its exceptional team spirit.

The studies involve life in close proximity with each other and this creates a strong foundation on which to build long-lasting team spirit. Officers' traditions are one of the most important motors of this team spirit. Cherishing these traditions and keeping them alive is an important task of the Cadet Corps Association and the Students' Union. All officers, from cadet to general are shaped by the same traditions, which for its part further strengthens our chain.

The National Defence University's student organisations wish you luck and success in your application procedure!
Chairman of the Board of the National Defence University's Students' Union, First Lieutenant Niko Kantoluoto
Chairman of the Cadet Corps Association, Cadet Antton Nurmi



The Officer's Profession

Officers serve in the Finnish Defence Forces and the Border Guard as instructors, leaders, planners and subject-matter experts. Tasks vary depending on service and branch. At the beginning of their career, officers work mainly as instructors of conscripts in military service and women in voluntary military service within the Defence Forces, and in different tasks involving both military defence and border security as well as air and sea rescue within the Border Guard. As an officer advances in his career, he acquires a more diverse range of tasks and he has more alternatives to choose from. Officers can also work abroad during their career. Officers of the Defence Forces serve in e.g. crisis management operations and international headquarters. International tasks of officers of the Border Guard primarily relate to the joint border security of the European Union.

To become an officer, you study at the National Defence University. The officer's profession is ever-changing and sets diverse requirements on know-how. The officer's career includes continued and advanced training, which also affects career advancement. Officers must commit to a lifelong development of their skills. An officer's pay grade varies depending on the task: officers are paid in accordance with the pay grade system of the Defence Forces or Border Guard based on how demanding their task is and on their personal work performance.

Officers are required to be capable of taking initiative, have good leadership, organisational and cooperation skills as well as have the courage to work and make decisions independently. You have to be able to get along with different kinds of people even under demanding circumstances. Officers are responsible not only for fulfilling their tasks and for the efficiency of their unit, but also for the well-being and occupational and in-service safety of their staff and for creating team spirit.

Officers' duties require both mental and physical durability. It is essential that every officer maintains his own capabilities.

The unbroken chain of military traditions handed down from generation to generation, the knowledge and skills offered by a modern university education and the ability to prepare for and respond to future challenges all contribute to a strong feeling of belonging and professional pride among the officer corps.

The Defence Forces

Duties:

- Finland's military defence
- support other authorities
- participating in providing international assistance
- participating in international military crisis management

Organisation:

- Defence Command and subordinate institutions
- National Defence University
- Army
- Navy
- Air Force

The Border Guard

Duties:

- border surveillance
- border checks
- crime prevention
- security of maritime territory
- International cooperation
- national defence

Organisation:

- Border Guard Headquarters
- South-East Finland, North Karelia, Kainuu and Lapland Border Guard Districts
- Gulf of Finland and West Finland Coast Guard Districts
- Air Patrol Squadron

■ SERVICE COMMITMENT

The Defence Forces and Border Guard educate and train the military personnel that they need. The amount of personnel that is needed to fulfil the duties prescribed by law are trained on different degree programmes and courses. Cadets accepted into the National Defence University and students employed by the Defence Forces, Border Guard or Ministry of Defence are required to make a commitment in writing that they will serve the minimum amount of time in posts that correspond to their education.

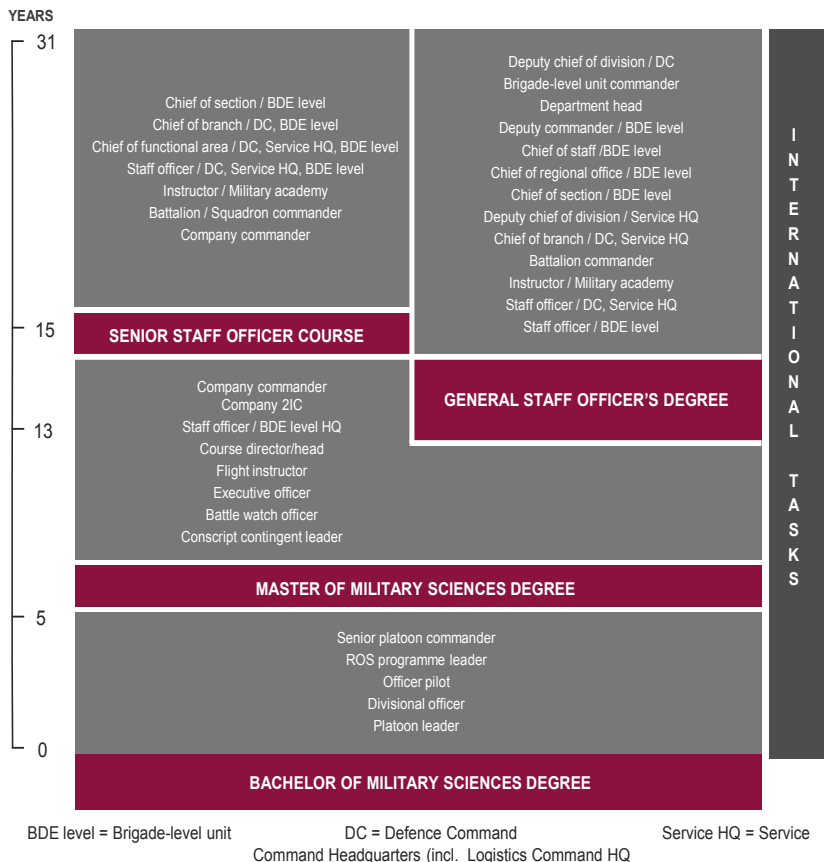
A statutory service commitment is required for bachelor's of Military Sciences students who will be appointed as officers. The service commitment of those graduating with a Bachelor of Military Sciences is three years after completing the degree. Those in pilot training must make a written commitment to serve within the Defence Forces as a student in training for a military post and then in

office for at most thirteen years and three months or in the Border Guard for at most thirteen years and six months.

For Master's degree students and those who have completed the General Staff Officer Course, the service commitment is two years after completing the degree.

If a person resigns or is given notice during the time he/she has committed to serve for reasons other than illness, incapacity for service at sea or lack of aptitude for flying, they must reimburse the state for the cost of their studies. Students can apply to interrupt their studies at the National Defence University without the commitment to serve entering into force. The service commitment of those in pilot training enters into force when they begin their studies. The different reimbursement levels of the commitment are also tied to flight training and other training received.

■ AN EXAMPLE OF AN OFFICER'S TASKS



OFFICER EDUCATION

The education and training of officers is made up of scientific and vocational studies, as well as learning the qualities and character of an officer. The objective of the studies is to give students prerequisites for scientific thinking, applying scientific knowledge and methodology, acting as an expert and developer in their own field, as well as to give them the necessary know-how for carrying out the duties of an officer in war and peacetime. Officer education progresses upwards. It includes military sciences degrees, periods in between where officers will work in the Defence Forces and continuing training related to a particular task. The basic degrees are the Bachelor's (B.Sc. (Mil.Sc.)) and Master's (M.Sc. (Mil.Sc.)) degrees in military science.

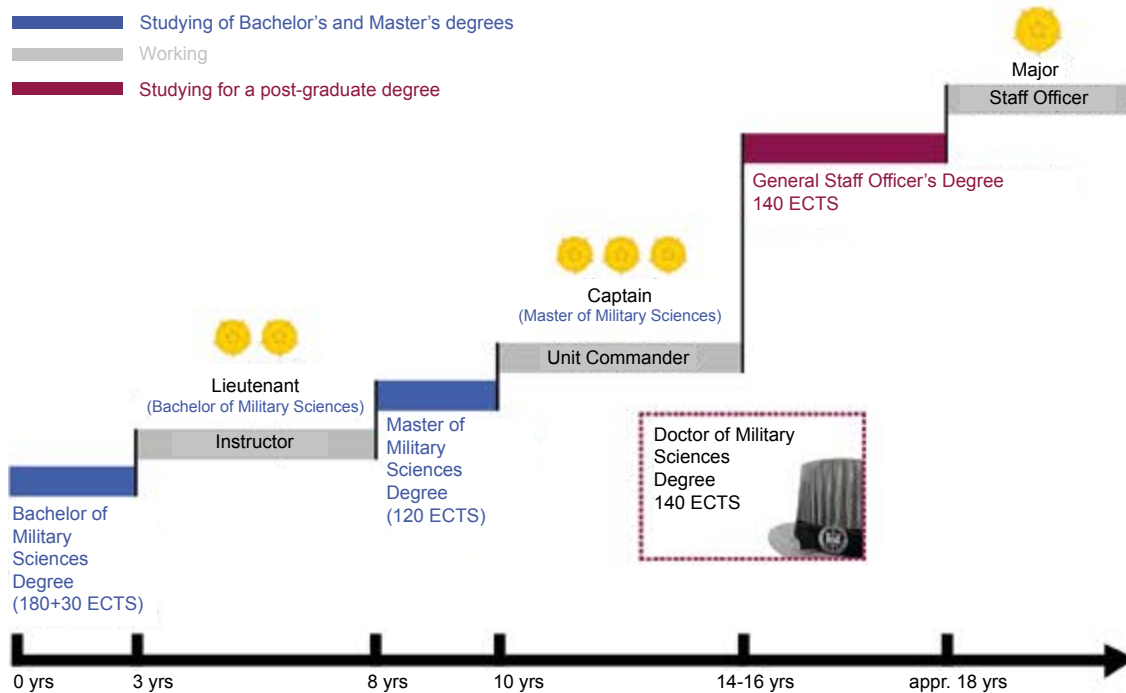
Those who have been selected to study for the Bachelor's degree are also granted the conditional right to study for the Master's degree in military sciences. After the working phase, a person who has completed the Bachelor of Military Sciences Degree can, without a separate application or new selection exam, be ordered to continue their studies in the Master's Degree Programme. The Border Guard further educates its Bachelors of Military Sciences according to its needs, and the Master's studies are carried out at the National Defence University. Postgraduate degrees at the National Defence University are the General Staff Officer's degree and Doctor of Military Sciences. An officer will then serve in expert and leader positions corresponding to the degree that they have completed at the NDU.

National Defence University

The National Defence University is a military tertiary education institution. According to section 2 of the Amendment (559/2016) to the Act on the National Defence University (1121/2008), the National Defence University's task is to advance research in military science, to provide teaching that is based on research and best practices, and to educate students to serve their country and humankind. In carrying out its tasks, the National Defence University is to promote lifelong learning, interact with the rest of society and promote the social effectiveness of research results.

The main task of the National Defence University is to produce the necessary number of knowledgeable and motivated officers for duties under normal and emergency conditions in the Finnish Defence Forces and Border Guard and to conduct research that benefits military national defence. The National Defence University plans and arranges education leading to the degrees Bachelor and Master of Military Sciences, General Staff Officer and Doctor of Military Sciences. The National Defence University leads teaching that is included in the military sciences degrees given in military academies and in the Border and Coast Guard Academy. The National Defence University also arranges continuing training for salaried personnel as well as the National Defence Courses and special courses relating to them.

PROGRESSING IN OFFICER STUDIES (EXAMPLE)



The National Defence University is divided into programmes departments and other administrative units. The Rector leads the National Defence University. Within the National Defence University, the Military Academy, Master's Degree Programme and Postgraduate Programme are responsible for leading the degree programmes and the officer education of students. The Doctoral Degree Programme is led by the Research Director. Departments are in charge of teaching and research within their fields. The departments of the National Defence University are the Department of Warfare, Department of Leadership and Military Pedagogy and the Department of Military Technology. The Finnish Defence Forces International Centre (FINCENT) organises courses in military crisis management for leadership and expert personnel in United Nations, European Union, African Union and NATO-led crisis management operations. The Defence Language Centre produces teaching in foreign languages and other language services. The Department of Academic Affairs is responsible for recruiting to officer education leading to a degree, for student selection and the overall development of teaching in co-operation with the graduate and post-graduate programmes and departments, as well as for producing services relating to administration and student services.

Military Academies

The Defence Forces

- Army Academy
- Naval Academy
- Air Force Academy

The Border Guard

- Border and Coast Guard Academy

Other FDF military educational institutions

Defence Forces Logistics Command

- Logistics School

Army Academy

- Infantry School
- Artillery School
- Military Engineer School
- Signals School
- Armour School

Armoured Brigade

- Electronic Warfare Centre

Utti Jaeger Regiment

- Helicopter Battalion



■ MILITARY SCIENCES

Because military science is such a vast concept with numerous fields of study encompassing wars, crises and the security threats inherent to them and the endeavour to prevent all conflict, the NDU chooses to use the plural form of "military science", hence "military sciences". The NDU offers the following disciplines within military sciences: operational art and tactics, strategy, military history, leadership, military pedagogy, military technology, wartime economy, military psychology, military sociology, military law and biology of physical activity. The first and second degrees include studies in leadership, military theory, military pedagogy and military technology.

Leadership is education in the reaching of goals with the help of people and organisations. The objective is to foster students to become self-guided and critical decision-makers who are responsible and capable of examining basic premises to carry out tasks at different levels. In military leadership understanding the significance of time and choosing the correct mode and position for leading is emphasised, especially in decision-making and the implementation of tasks.

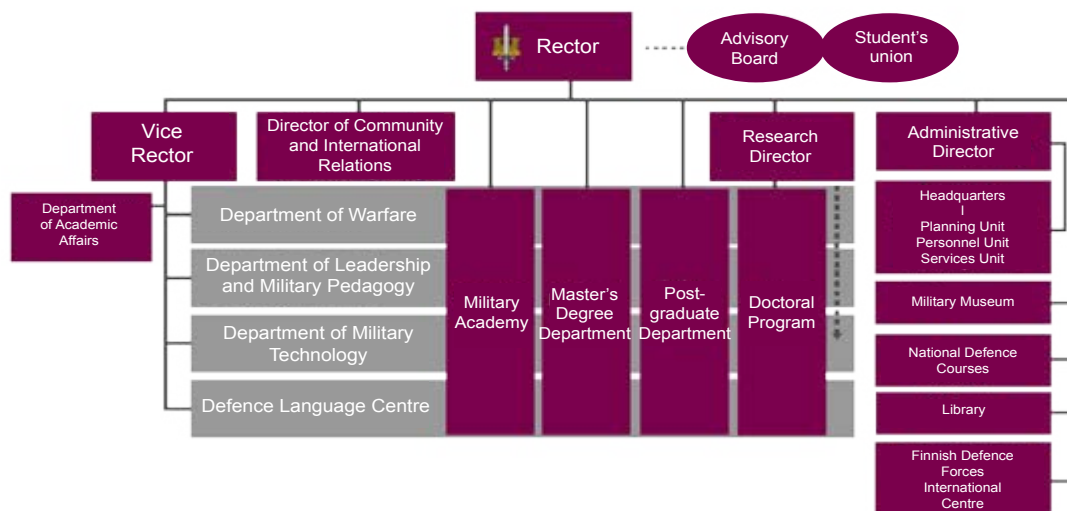
Military theory is a subject composed of three subjects: strategy, military history and operational art and tactics. The most important part of operational art is the capability and skill of commanders and headquarters in planning, preparing and leading an operation. Tactics is the teaching of warfare, the skill to use troops and systems for combat and the accomplishment of a combat mission.

Strategy is a part of military theory, where analyses of the use of the armed forces and military power at tactical, operational and strategic level complement the overall image of military theory. Its teaching also includes research into international security. The primary task of military history is to analyse military theory with the help of research into history.

Military Pedagogy looks at the development of the soldier's capacities and capabilities from the perspective of teaching and learning. The goal of the studies is to get a comprehensive understanding of the concepts and nature of knowledge and competence and to know how to apply and evaluate them. Military Pedagogy deals with the basic phenomena of learning and teaching, education systems, and enabling comprehensive security and national defence in accordance with the degree goals.

The goal of **Military Technology** is to educate students to become logical thinkers and someone able to solve problems analytically with the help of practical applications and mathematics and sciences. Military technology studies provide skills needed especially to support the learning and applying of military theory. It strives to answer questions relating to the operating principles of different weapon and C3 systems, managing the environment's effects on operations and the efficiency of systems. Military economics studies within military technology look at the maintenance of systems and how to develop them.

■ ORGANISATION



Bachelor of Military Sciences Degree

The Bachelor of Military Sciences degree is the first university degree and it comprises 180 ECTS. In addition, Bachelor's students complete 30 ECTS worth of professional studies to become qualified officers. These studies are completed within three years.

The Bachelor of Military Sciences Degree

Tri-service general studies (80 ECTS), including the Bachelor's thesis and related seminars

Service-specific studies (minimum 40 ECTS)

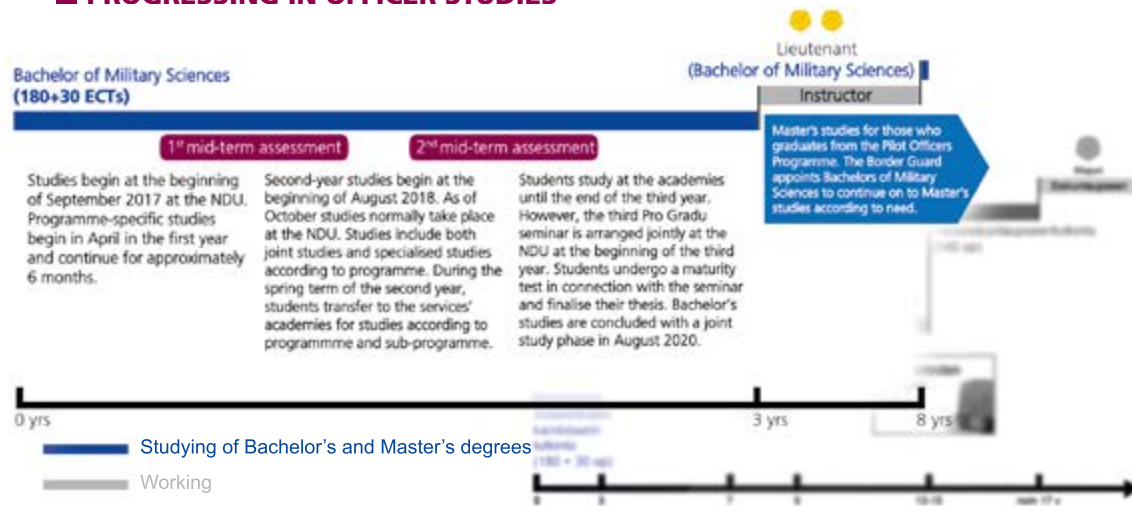
Branch studies (maximum 90 ECTS)

The Bachelor of Military Sciences degree is the first university degree and it comprises 180 ECTS. In addition, Bachelor's students complete 30 ECTS worth of professional studies to become qualified officers. These studies are completed within three years.

Service and branch-specific studies include professional military studies.

Students studying for their Bachelor of Military Sciences degree serve in the rank of cadet. They are paid a per diem for the duration of their studies. For more detailed information on benefits during studies, see section on Study Benefits.

PROGRESSING IN OFFICER STUDIES

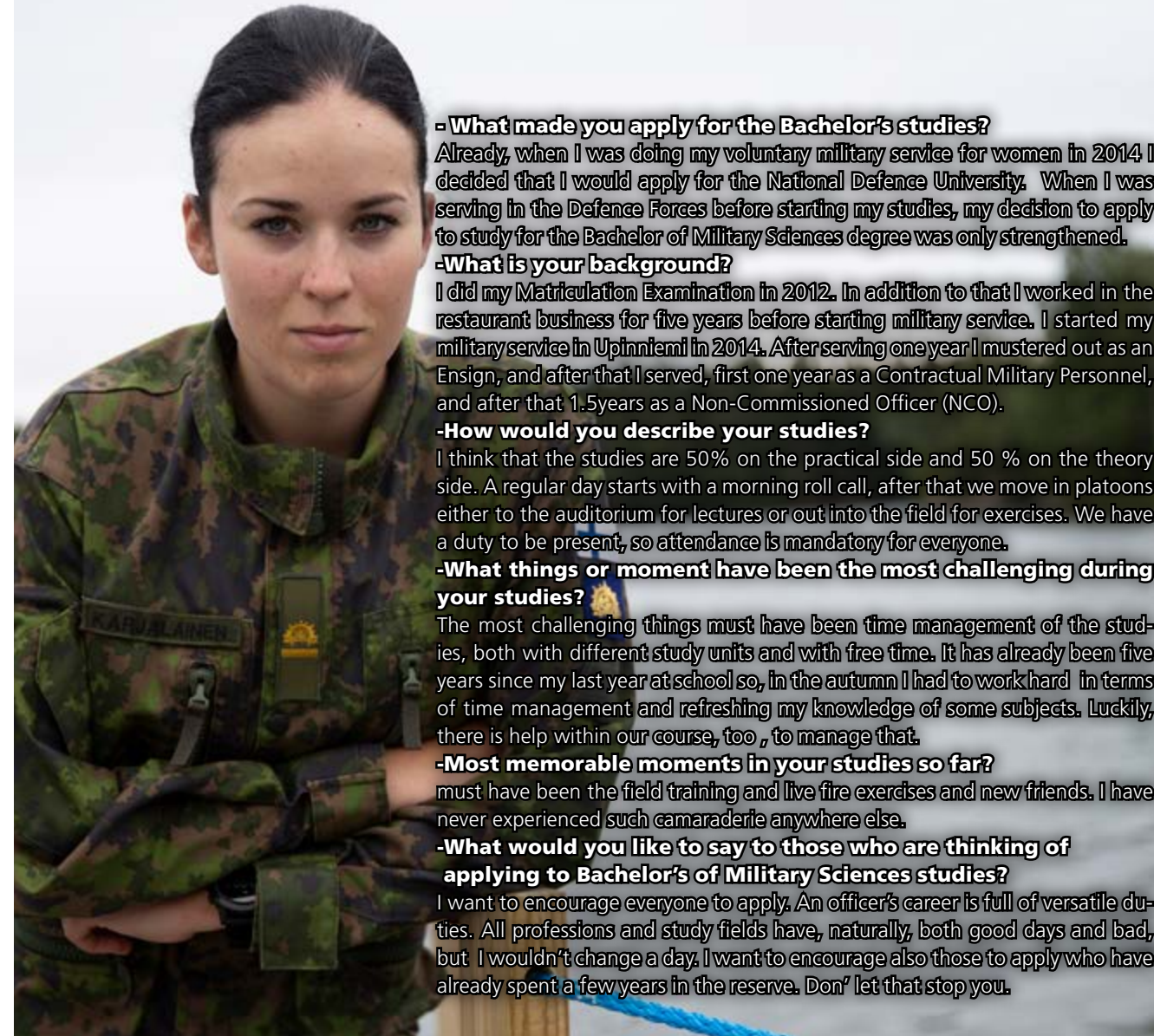


Cadets who complete their Bachelor's degree and begin working in the Finnish Defence Forces receive a fixed-, 10 year-term junior officer's commission and are promoted to the rank of lieutenant. The fixed term can be extended so that the combined length of the term is no longer than 15 years.

Those with a Bachelor of Military Sciences may be appointed to permanent officer's post after they have graduated the Master's Degree Programme or, in some cases, with a Bachelor of Military Sciences and a minimum of 8 years working experience without the Master of Military Sciences Degree.

Those trained as Air Force pilots or Army helicopter pilots receive a permanent officer's commission when they have completed their Bachelor's degree. All those who are in the Officer Pilots' Programme begin their Master's studies immediately after they have completed their Bachelor's degree.

Cadets who finish their Bachelor's degree and begin working in the Border Guard receive a fixed-term junior officer's commission and are promoted to the rank of lieutenant.



- What made you apply for the Bachelor's studies?

Already, when I was doing my voluntary military service for women in 2014 I decided that I would apply for the National Defence University. When I was serving in the Defence Forces before starting my studies, my decision to apply to study for the Bachelor of Military Sciences degree was only strengthened.

-What is your background?

I did my Matriculation Examination in 2012. In addition to that I worked in the restaurant business for five years before starting military service. I started my military service in Upinniemi in 2014. After serving one year I mustered out as an Ensign, and after that I served, first one year as a Contractual Military Personnel, and after that 1.5 years as a Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO).

-How would you describe your studies?

I think that the studies are 50% on the practical side and 50% on the theory side. A regular day starts with a morning roll call, after that we move in platoons either to the auditorium for lectures or out into the field for exercises. We have a duty to be present, so attendance is mandatory for everyone.

-What things or moment have been the most challenging during your studies?

The most challenging things must have been time management of the studies, both with different study units and with free time. It has already been five years since my last year at school so, in the autumn I had to work hard in terms of time management and refreshing my knowledge of some subjects. Luckily, there is help within our course, too, to manage that.

-Most memorable moments in your studies so far?

must have been the field training and live fire exercises and new friends. I have never experienced such camaraderie anywhere else.

-What would you like to say to those who are thinking of applying to Bachelor's of Military Sciences studies?

I want to encourage everyone to apply. An officer's career is full of versatile duties. All professions and study fields have, naturally, both good days and bad, but I wouldn't change a day. I want to encourage also those to apply who have already spent a few years in the reserve. Don't let that stop you.

STUDYING AT THE NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

Studies aiming at the Bachelor's degree in military sciences are divided into different study programmes, these are the Army, Navy, Air Force and Officer Pilots' Programme. In the Navy, Air Force and Officer Pilots' Programmes, branch specialisation is determined already in connection with the student selection phase. In the Army and Coast Guard Programme the branch specialisation is determined after the first interim evaluation.

All programmes under the Bachelor of Military Sciences degree begin at the beginning of September 2019 at the National Defence University. The first year of studies includes general studies and language and communication studies to be completed by all Bachelor's students. The language of instruction and examination is Finnish. During the autumn term, students' swimming skill is tested according to the requirements of the Nordic swimming test. (200 m/ max 6 min). During the first and last year of Bachelor studies the students must pass a running test, running a minimum of 2600 meters in 12 minutes.



During the studies, the entrance exam points have an effect on the order in which the topics for the Bachelor's thesis topics are selected.

Students on the Officer Pilots' Programme take part in flight training that is conducted partly during the general studies phase. During the first academic year, flight training takes place during the general studies phase for two-three days every two months, and there is a corresponding phase during the autumn term of the second academic year.

During the studies a second interim evaluation is also done by the end of the autumn term of the third academic year, where students choose the brigade-level unit that they will work in. Choices made during studies are affected by e.g. desired strengths set by the Defence Command, special requirements of the services, branches functional areas and units, conditions set by the departments, the students' own willingness and success in their studies. The course director provides more specific information and guidelines concerning interim evaluations and choices during studies.

Those graduating from the Officer Pilots' Programme begin their Master's studies immediately after they have completed their Bachelor of Military Sciences degree. These studies take seven years.

■ EXAMPLES OF TASKS (B.SC. (MIL.SC.))

1. A Bachelor's first assignment can be for example that of platoon leader within the Defence Forces
2. The first assignment of a Bachelor in the Border Guard is usually that of instructor, Border Guard officer or second mate of a patrol craft.

■ STUDY BENEFITS

Students studying towards a Bachelor of Military Sciences degree, i.e. cadets, receive teaching, accommodation, catering, clothing, study materials as well as health care and medical treatment free of charge for the duration of their studies. In addition to this, cadets are paid a per diem and certain travel costs.

Daily allowance for service in Finland and equipment allowance

The daily allowance paid to cadets is calculated based on the daily allowance for public servants determined by the Ministry of Defence. In 2018, daily allowance used for the basis of calculation was €42. During their first year, students receive 46 percent, and after the first year 55 percent of the full per diem allowance for civil servants that is in force at the time. Female cadets receive an additional equipment allowance defined by the Quartermaster Depot. This allowance is paid for each day that a student is entitled to free clothing. In 2018, the equipment allowance was €6.75 per week.

Matkustamiskustannukset

A cadet who has a home in Finland will have two of his trips home and back reimbursed

per each full study month.

Cadets are reimbursed according to what would be the cheapest option - irrespective of how they actually travelled. The municipalities of Helsinki, Espoo, Kauniainen, Vantaa, Kerava and Kirkkonummi form a joint public transportation region, within which it is easy and advantageous to travel. People residing permanently in this region can buy a travel card from a Helsinki Region Transport (Helsingin seudun liikenne HSL) service point. On their travel card application, students should state the "National Defence University (Maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu)" as their place of study and "Military Academy/Helsinki (Kadettikoulu/Helsinki)" as the location. Further information on travel cards and applying for one can be found e.g. on-line at www.hsl.fi.

Financial support from Kela (the Finnish Social Insurance Institution)

Students are eligible for different forms of financial assistance from Kela while studying at university level. The financial assistance granted to cadets includes a government backing for a student loan and possibly also general housing allowance. Cadets are not eligible for students' financial aid, because the per diem paid by the National Defence University exceeds the limit for receiving financial aid. For more information on receiving and applying for financial assistance from Kela, see the Kela website <https://www.kela.fi/opiskelijat>



Programmes

Army Programme

A Bachelor's student who graduates from the Army Programme has the readiness to serve as an instructor in a peacetime company and as a commander in a wartime unit. Those who have completed the Master's degree will serve, for instance, as the deputy commander and commander of a peacetime company and as a commander of a wartime battalion. The Army's service-specific studies are done at the National Defence University in Santahamina and in the Army Academy in Lappeenranta. Branch -specific studies are carried out in the branch and functional area schools.

The Army defends Finland's entire land area and carries out all of the Defence Forces'. The Army consists of the Army Command, eight brigade-level units and twelve regional offices with personnel comprising a total of around 4,300 soldiers and civilians. Central aspects in the implementation of the Army's tasks are developing and maintaining the Army's readiness. Army capability is created by among other things training conscripts. The defence of Finland's territory is based on the large reserve created by general conscription. Annually, around 20,000 conscripts and voluntary women are trained in the Army's eight brigade-level units. Refresher exercises, which maintain reservists' skills, involve thousands of reservists each year. The Army carries its social responsibility by providing assistance to other authorities some 400 times a year. The Army leads a majority of the military crisis management operations that the Defence Forces are involved in. It also trains and equips forces for crisis management tasks.

■ Infantry and Anti-tank Programme

This programme provides the basis for planning and leading combat where the combat of an infantry unit is combined with the support of all Army branches. Graduates of this programme are infantry leaders and other leaders upon whose knowledge combat depends.

Those studying in the infantry and anti-armour programme will be able to serve as instructors in infantry company units that train among others jaegers, urban combat jaegers, special jaegers, military police and anti-tank troops. Training is versatile and includes most of the infantry's most important weapons systems, incl. anti-tank missile systems. Infantry and anti-tank officers serve in all Army brigade-level units. The branch studies are done in the Infantry School in Lappeenranta.

■ MORTAR PROGRAMME

Mortars are some of the most important systems on the battlefield. Mortars are an indirect infantry firing system, which, thanks to its mobility, range and effect, fires in places where the outcome of battles is decided.

The mortar programme primarily qualifies students to serve as instructors in mortar companies. They also acquire the prerequisites for serving as instructors in company-level units that train jaegers, among others. Forward observation and firing mortars require comprehensive knowledge in indirect fire operations, the most important of which are, fire position, forward observation, C2 and firing solution determination. Mortar officers serve in all Army brigade-level units. The branch studies are done in the Infantry School in Lappeenranta.

■ ARMOUR PROGRAMME

The armour branch represents the firepower, mobility and protection of the Army. Armoured and mechanised troops are used together in decisive battles. The characteristics of many branches are combined in the tasks of the armour branch. The armour branch gives students very broad, but also very practical knowledge of the equipment, capabilities and principles of use of our armoured and mechanised units. The studies include training with both main battle tanks and armoured fighting vehicles. Many versatile tasks are available to armour officers. The branch studies are done in the Armour School in Parolannummi.

■ RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAMME

Reconnaissance produces situational awareness by acquiring and relaying information on the enemy's most important targets and functions. Information is acquired through patrolling, observation and technical sensors. Reconnaissance soldiers destroy important targets of the enemy by leading the fire of field artillery and rocket launcher systems, and by using their own weapons systems, such as sniper rifles, anti-tank launchers and explosives. Students in the reconnaissance programme go on to work primarily as instructors in units that provide reconnaissance training. They also acquire the prerequisites for serving as instructors in company-level units that train jaegers, among others. The reconnaissance system is versatile, where foot patrol reconnaissance and observation reconnaissance is combined with the use of technical command and control and sensor systems. Reconnaissance-trained officers serve in all Army brigade-level units. The branch studies are done in the Infantry School in Lappeenranta.



■ ENGINEER PROGRAMME

Engineers mould the operating environment so that it is to the advantage of their own troops and limit the effects of the enemy and the prevailing circumstances. Engineer activities are divided into counter mobility, facilitating protection, promoting shelter, CBRNe and building support. Future military engineers verse themselves in the basic methods used in military engineering as well as in the leading and training of engineer and CBRNe units. Studies give engineer officers the prerequisites for working and progressing in their duties in different types of engineer units. The branch studies are done in the Military Engineer School in Lappeenranta and in national centres of excellence of the engineer branch in the Kainuu Brigade, Karelia Brigade and Pori Brigade.

■ ELECTRONIC WARFARE PROGRAMME

Electronic warfare (EW) is present everywhere in the battlefield - in armoured EW vehicles of the spearhead, in supporting air operations and as part of the intelligence system on the ground, at sea and in the air. Electronic warfare is used to gather intelligence and disrupt enemy systems as well as to protect one's own troops from the effects of enemy EW. Students in the Electronic Warfare Programme go onto work as platoon commanders in different electronic warfare unit and as experts in any of the three services. Studying electronic warfare involves versatile work with high technology equipment in the battlefield. Training in electronic warfare is provided at the Electronic Warfare Training Centre in Riihimäki. Some of the studies are arranged at the Infantry School in Lappeenranta in collaboration with the reconnaissance programme.

■ FIELD ARTILLERY PROGRAMME

Field artillery represents the Army's firepower. The concentrated use of field artillery fires creates the conditions for the infantry to engage in combat. Artillery combines the skills of several branches. Reconnaissance forward observers work far behind enemy lines and lead general support fires. The forward observers of the attacking echelon use the Army's most powerful weapons. The signal system of the artillery connects the artillery's command posts to the command and control system and creates prerequisites for the efficient use of the entire artillery system. The logistics system ensures the sufficiency of ammunition. Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) systems are used to reconnoitre and monitor the enemy's rear and flanks and to lead fire. Heavy rocket launchers participate in mining by firing anti-tank mine rockets and they also execute long-range fires. Studies in the field artillery programme are arranged at the Artillery School in Niinisalo.

■ GROUND-BASED AIR DEFENCE PROGRAMME

The most important task of ground-based air defence is to cause significant losses to an attacker's air assets. It is an army branch, but ground-based air defence troops are used in all services in case of emergency conditions. Ground-based air defence is a part of overall air defence. By means of active and passive measures of the Defence Forces' and other authorities, the nation's and neighbouring area's airspace is monitored, the integrity of the airspace is secured, the vital functions of society are protected from air attacks, an enemy and attacks coming by air are subjected to attrition and repelled. In the modern battlefield the importance of GBAD has increased and that is why the branch is developing continuously. Specialised ground-based air defence studies are carried out at the Air Force Academy in Tikkakoski.

■ ARMY C5 PROGRAMME

The C5 programme trains officers for the Defence Forces and the Border Guard. In the C5 programme, students can specialise in signal studies. The signal branch is an example of a modern and developing branch. The operational environment is divided into a physical, electromagnetic and cyber dimension. Operational environment awareness and early-warning capability are all the more important. The objective of communication and signal is to enable operational environment awareness and command of the use of force and logistics with the help of networked information transfer connections and information systems. The command and control system enables network centric warfare that joins decision-makers, weapons systems and sensors, which is an essential part of a successful operation. Studies in command and control offer interesting duties for those interested in technology and tactics. Cadets studying on the C5 system programme spend their programme-specific phase at the Signal School in Riihimäki.

■ BORDER GUARD PROGRAMME

The Border Guard is an internal security authority, with the goal of maintaining peaceful conditions at our borders. The main tasks of the Border Guard are guarding the borders on land and in territorial waters as well as passport control at border crossing points on land and in seaports and airports, and search and rescue, particularly at sea. The Border Guard is also responsible for external security when monitoring territorial integrity and maintaining defence readiness.

The Border and Coast Guard Academy is responsible for border security studies. Studies in the border guard programme form their own independent entity on border security in normal and emergency conditions with focus on border surveillance, border checks, crime prevention and military national defence.

Border security studies provide a competent border guard's education, which includes among other things training in the use of force, operational driving training and leadership training in operational field activities. The first tasks of those graduating from the border guard Bachelor's programme are e.g. instructor in a border jaeger or special border jaeger company and officer of the guard at border guard or border control stations.

Before the choice of branch is confirmed, those who have chosen the border guard programme must undergo a pre-employment examination, which includes a medical examination and a drug test. Those accepted onto the Army's border guard programme are required to be of fitness for service class A, have visual acuity of minimum 0.7 in both eyes without eyeglasses, normal colour vision (maximum four errors in the Ishihara colour vision test) and hearing grade I-II. Those selected cannot have allergies or chronic illnesses that would affect their working capacity.

■ LOGISTICS PROGRAMME

The task of the Defence Forces' logistics system is to create the prerequisites for the use of capabilities and the implementation of operations regardless of the state of readiness or the operating environment. It is also to maintain and restore the functionality of units personnel, and systems. The same applies to the usability of premises and materiel.

Logistics is divided into supply, maintenance, transport, medical and logistics services. The increase in firepower, materiel becoming more and more technological, the increase in the number of weapons and command and control systems and transportation materiel becoming more versatile have increased the need for logistics and maintenance. The logistics programme offers a versatile operational environment and challenging tasks in logistics and maintenance for officers who possess the capability to act and take initiative. Logistics officers serve in all of the Defence Forces' brigade-level units and in the Border Guard. Cadets studying on the logistics programme spend their programme-specific phase at the Logistics School in Riihimäki.

Navy Programme

The Navy offers Bachelor's graduates an interesting and challenging working environment. The Navy is a readiness branch that is responsible for the surveillance of our territorial waters and ensuring their integrity, 365 days a year.

During exceptional conditions the Navy also prepares to repel attacks by sea and to protect sea lines of communication. Finland's sea areas are monitored and protected all year round using maritime surveillance systems and vessels together with the other services and maritime authorities. International cooperation is emphasised in Navy operations. Maritime surveillance is daily cooperating with states in the neighbouring area and also Europe wide. Navy units train often in international exercises and Navy personnel participates actively in naval and Defence Forces crisis management operations.

Motivated and well-trained personnel and modern high-technology materiel are the Navy's most important resources. Officers who have graduated from the Navy's naval, coastal or C5 programmes serve in tasks that correspond with their training at sea and along the coast. Students studying on the Navy Programme complete their service and branch studies at the Naval Academy in Suomenlinna in Helsinki.

You can apply to the Navy Programme even if you have not previously served in the Navy. Naval programme studies are begun annually. Those interested in the coast guard programme also apply first to the naval programme and then to the coast guard programme after the first midterm assessment. The Navy's coastal forces and C5 programme begin every other year. Navy C5 programme studies will be organised in 2019.

A separate additional test will be organised in the Aeromedical Centre, for those applying for the Navy's Naval programme or Navy C5 programme Applicants' tendency for seasickness, among other things is tested. More information about the additional test can be found under "additional tests for the Air Force" and "additional tests for the Navy."

■ NAVAL PROGRAMME

Teaching in the naval programme concentrates on navigation and on surveillance, command and weapons systems. The goal is that the graduating officer is familiar with the use of the main weapons systems of combat vessels. Those who graduate from the naval programme have completed the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW). Practical training on Navy ships is part of the studies. Bachelors of Military Sciences who graduate from the naval programme can work as e.g. a junior officer or navigation officer on a combat vessel. After receiving training, graduate officers can also work as officer of the watch or battle watch captain on combat vessels. After having completed their Master's degree, duties can include e.g. combat vessel battle watch officer or commanding officer.



■ COAST GUARD PROGRAMME

The Border Guard is an internal security authority, with the goal of maintaining peaceful conditions at our borders. The main tasks of the Border Guard are guarding the borders on land and in territorial waters as well as passport control at border crossing points on land and in seaports and airports, and search and rescue, particularly at sea. The Border Guard is also responsible for external security when monitoring territorial integrity and maintaining defence readiness.

The Border and Coast Guard Academy is responsible for border security studies. Studies in the border guard programme form their own independent entity on border security in normal and emergency conditions with focus on border surveillance, border checks, crime prevention and military national defence.

The coast guard programme focuses on border security within the framework of working as a maritime authority. Cadets in the coast guard programme receive the training of an official border guard and the theoretical studies required for a deck officer's qualification certificate. Upon graduation and after receiving specific training, officers can work as officer of the watch on Border Guard vessels and as officers at coast guard stations and international border crossing points. The Coast Guard Programme studies are carried out at the National Defence University, the Naval Academy and the Border and Coast Guard Academy.

Before the choice of branch is confirmed, those who have chosen the border guard programme must undergo a pre-employment examination, which includes a medical examination and a drug test. Those accepted onto the Navy's coast guard programme are required to be of fitness for service class A, have visual acuity of minimum 1.0 in both eyes without eyeglasses, have near vision capable of reading machine written text without eyeglasses, normal field of vision, sharp colour vision (passed Ishihara colour vision test or ascertained through additional tests) and hearing grade I-II. Those selected cannot have allergies or chronic illnesses that would affect their working capacity (e.g. Coeliac disease), be prone to sea sickness or have severe lactose intolerance (where low-lactose products cause symptoms).

■ COASTAL FORCES PROGRAMME

Teaching in the coastal forces programme focuses on students' skills as military instructors as well as on leading a company and on tactics. The coastal forces programme provides the prerequisites for working as an instructor in the Navy's coastal units that train among others coastal jaegers. The first task of an officer graduating from the coastal forces programme is usually instructor in a company-level unit. These officers' wartime task can be e.g. platoon leader or unit second-in-command, Master of Military Sciences graduates can work as e.g. unit second-in-command or commanding officer. Coastal forces programme studies are partly convergent with the Army's training programme.

■ NAVY C5 PROGRAMME

The Navy's C5 programme prepares young officers for work in demanding and interesting tasks in a combat vessel environment. Networking, functioning information, sensor and command and control systems (incl. electronic warfare systems), and command and control officers specialised using in these, are an important part of the overall capability of a modern combat vessel. Later on in their career, command and control officers can work also elsewhere in the Navy and Defence Forces in versatile duties requiring special knowledge in their field. Studies in military technology and military theory are emphasised in these studies. Midshipman cadets in the Navy's C5 programme carry out their branch studies at the Naval Academy on Suomenlinna. Some of the studies are carried out together with students in the naval programme.

Air Force Programme

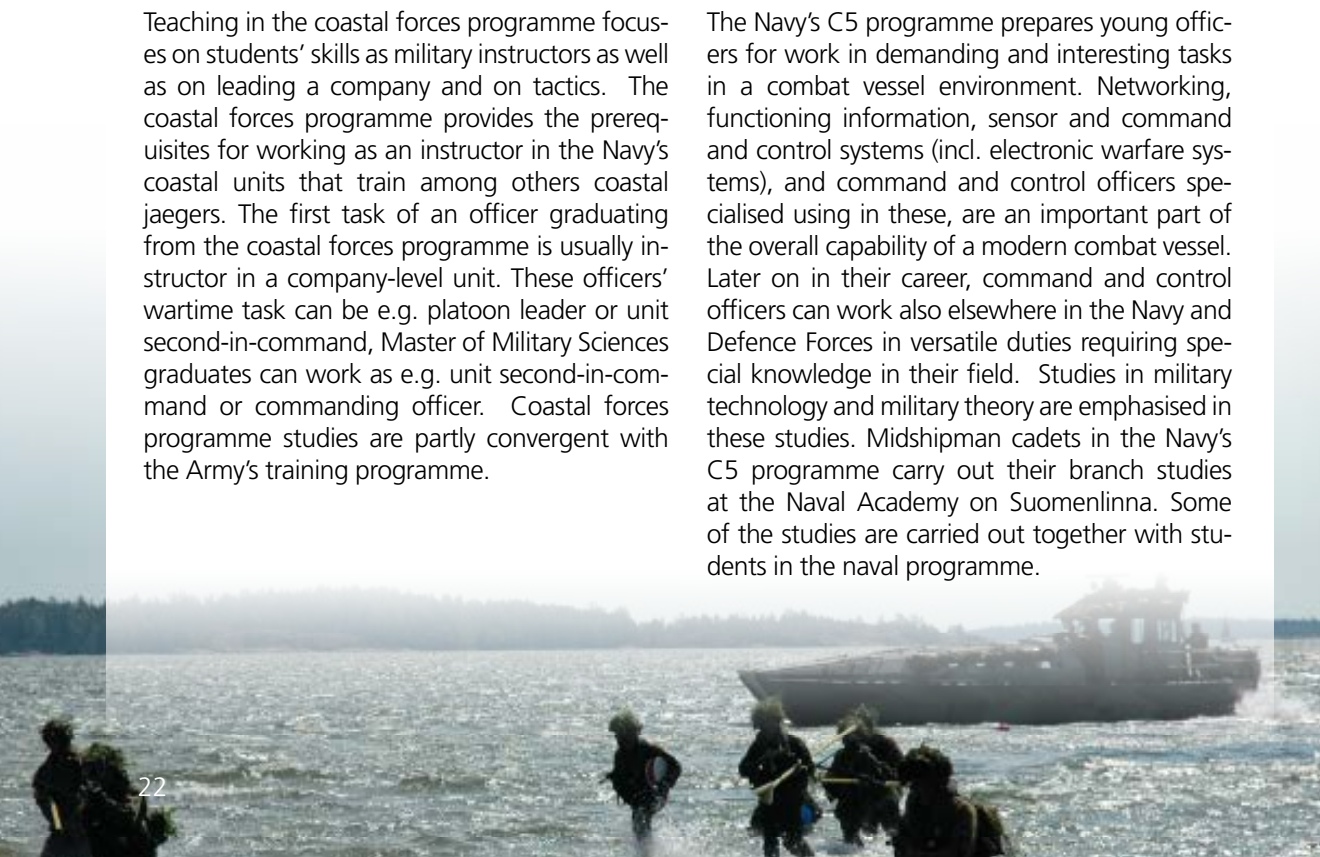
Bachelors of Military Sciences who graduate from the Air Force Programme serve in versatile instructor, operational and expert duties in their own field. How an Air Force officer's career develops depends on the officer's abilities and ambitions.

The Air Force is a qualitatively top-level, high readiness service. The Air Force monitors surroundings and provides round-the-clock surveillance and air policing of Finland's airspace. The credibility of the Air Force's capability significantly prevents military threats aimed at Finland. During peacetime the Air Force's activities centre around surveillance and the safeguarding of territorial integrity as well as on intervening in cases of airspace violation. The Air Force provides executive assistance to other authorities and supports securing the vital functions of society. The Air Force's flexible, rapid and internationally interoperable capabilities are an important tool of the state leadership for use in military crisis management and international tasks.

The objective of Finland's air defense system is to prevent and when necessary engage any threat directed against the nation from the air. The Air Force monitors military developments in the region as well air defense trends on a global scale, using changes in the operating environment as a yardstick for assessing its own performance.

The Air Force's training comprises three programmes: The Air Force C5 programme, Control and Reporting Centre programme and Aircraft Maintenance programme. All of the programmes begin in 2019. In the year that the programme does not begin, those selected are offered the possibility to familiarise themselves with the field as Contractual Military Personnel. During this phase the basic know-how that may be required for the programme is acquired (e.g. In CRC programme).

You can apply to the Air Force Programme even if you have not previously served in the Air Force.





Officer Pilots' Programme

Only persons who have completed the Pilot Reserve Officer Course may apply for the Officer Pilots' Programme. A Bachelor of Military Sciences who has graduated from the Officer Pilots' Programme has the readiness to serve as an aircraft commander in the Air Force, Army or Border Guard. Those who have completed the Master's degree in military sciences can, for instance, serve as a deputy flight commander or flight commander. In their career, Masters of Military Sciences have the possibility of progressing to more demanding FDF and Border Guard tasks.

The Air Force is a qualitatively top-level, high readiness service. The Air Force monitors surroundings and provides round-the-clock surveillance and air policing of Finland's airspace. The credibility of the Air Force's capability significantly prevents military threats aimed at Finland. During peacetime the Air Force's activities centre around surveillance and the safeguarding of territorial integrity as well as on intervening in cases of airspace violation. The Air Force provides executive assistance to other authorities and supports securing the vital functions of society. The Air Force's flexible, rapid and internationally interoperable capabilities are an important tool of the state leadership for use in military crisis management and international tasks. The objective of Finland's air defense system is to prevent and when necessary engage any threat directed against the nation from the air. The Air Force monitors military developments in the region as well air defence trends on a global scale, using changes in the operating environment as a yardstick for assessing its own performance.

The Utti Jaeger Regiment is a brigade-level unit subordinate to the Army Command that trains and produces helicopter and special forces as well as related support services for the Defence Forces. Utti Jaeger Regiment is located in Kouvola. The Utti Jaeger Regiment is a high readiness unit that develops and maintains special forces capabilities and carries out the statutory tasks of the Defence Forces. The Regiment, which functions as a branch school, provides conscript and military professional training as well as academic teaching within the Bachelor and Master's programmes in military sciences. The Commander of the Utti Jaeger Regiment functions as commandant of the branch school.

The Air Patrol Squadron carries out flight functions needed for the statutory tasks of the Border Guard using helicopters and aircraft. The main tasks of these aircraft are border surveillance on land and at sea and air and sea rescue. Another central task of the patrol aircraft is maritime environmental control. The Air Patrol Squadron maintains continuous capability for air and sea rescue in Turku, Helsinki and Rovaniemi. Aircraft are used to support cooperation authorities in search and rescue tasks, medical evacuations, forest fire fighting and other executive assistance tasks. If necessary, the Air Patrol Squadron participates in international border control operations within the EU area and in environmental control in the entire Baltic Sea area.



■ AIR FORCE C5 PROGRAMME

The Air Force C5 Programme trains officers in the operational use and maintenance of FDF, and particularly Air Force, C5 systems and for any tasks supporting C5 operational use and maintenance. Studies give students the prerequisites needed to work in maintenance, instructor, leadership and expert tasks in this field.

■ AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

Students in this programme are trained for officers' tasks in aircraft systems and repair and maintenance tasks in the Defence Forces and Border Guard. In this way, the operational use, maintenance, training and development of aircraft materiel is ensured in the airbase environment.

The programme is open to those who have completed aircraft maintenance NCO training or an aircraft or helicopter mechanic's degree. The necessary basic skills in aircraft maintenance can be acquired through applying for a position as Contractual Military Personnel in this field, and by on-the-job training. After this the person can apply for the aircraft maintenance programme on the next cadet course. In uneven years only those who have completed aircraft maintenance NCO training or an aircraft or helicopter mechanic's degree can apply.

The main part of aircraft maintenance studies are carried out at the Air Force Academy in Tikkakoski. Graduates' first tasks are closely related to daily aircraft maintenance tasks and training in them, which increases their own know-how in the different functions of an airbase.

■ AIR FORCE CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTRE PROGRAMME

Control and Reporting Centre programme students are trained for versatile and challenging tasks, for example as Fighter Controllers in the Air Force Control and Reporting Centre. Fighter controllers coordinate the use and operations of Air Force fighters during flight operations. Additionally, students in this programme can be trained, for example for electronic warfare or intelligence tasks. Studies at the Air Force Academy and in the air commands give students the prerequisites needed to work in operator, leadership and expert tasks in this field. One-day psychological tests led by the Air Force Academy are arranged at the Finnish Defence Research Agency's Human Performance Division in Tuusula for those who apply for this programme. After the pre-selection, the Air Force Academy will send a letter containing instructions to those who are to undergo additional testing. Applicants must note that attending the tests is mandatory if they wish to apply to these branch studies. The additional testing day is usually at the end of May or on the first week of June. The applicant must also note that failure in the tests will make them ineligible for the CRC Programme.

The Officer Pilots' Programme is divided into three sub-programmes: the Air Force pilot's programme, the Army helicopter pilot's programme and the Border Guard pilot's programme. Border Guard pilots are also trained in the officer pilots' programme. On their application, those applying to the Air Force Officer Pilots' Programme must indicate which sub-programme they are primarily submitting their application to. As an exception to the others, all officer pilots' Master's studies begin directly after completion of the Bachelor's degree and last for seven years, which allows flight training to progress forwards and upwards. The Border Guard appoints Bachelors of Military Sciences for Master's studies according to need.

■ AIR FORCE PILOT'S PROGRAMME

Graduates of the officer pilot's programme mainly serve as fighter pilots and if necessary also in other officer pilot tasks using transport and liaison aircraft. Fighter pilots' tasks include e.g. participating in monitoring the integrity of Finland's airspace and if necessary repelling air attacks (defensive counter air missions). In today's battlefield, the importance of air defence is great, and for this reason the profession is characterised by internationality and continuous development.

Air Force pilots receive most of their training at the Air Force Academy in Tikkakoski. As the Master's studies continue the officer pilots will continue their flight training in the Air Force Academy in Tikkakoski, in Lapland Air Command in Rovaniemi, in Karelia Air Command in Kuopio or in the Satakunta Air Command in Pirkkala. The location is determined based on if the Master's students continue flight training with Hornet fighters, transport and liaison aircraft or with Hawk advanced jet trainers.

■ ARMY HELICOPTER PILOT PROGRAMME

Officer pilot studies are carried out at the National Defence University, Air Force Academy and Utti Jaeger Regiment's Helicopter Battalion. In addition to basic Air Force flight training, pilot training is given on MD500 helicopters and, during the Master's phase, on NH90 transport helicopters.

The beginning of an officer pilot's career focuses on flight service. Flight training progresses upwards with consideration on individual characteristics. In addition to the pilot training programmes, flight service also includes supporting the services and other authorities. Such flight tasks are e.g. air operations in support of the other services and executive assistance to other cooperation authorities (among others search, rescue and fire fighting flights). Graduates of the Army Helicopter Pilot Programme work in the Utti Jaeger Regiment's Helicopter Battalion.

■ BORDER GUARD PILOT PROGRAMME

Studies are carried out at the National Defence University, Air Force Academy Border and Coast Guard Academy and Air Patrol Squadron. Some military professional training is acquired as purchased services from outside of the Defence Forces and Border Guard. In addition of basic flight training organised by the Air Force, the pilots are also trained using helicopters designated by the Border Guard. Together with the studies leading to a degree and the military pilot's qualification, the Bachelor of Military Sciences degree is required for a permanent officer's post.

The beginning of an officer pilot's career focuses on flight service. Flight training progresses upwards with consideration on individual characteristics. As the career progresses, the amount of administrative and development duties increase and tasks become more challenging as the operating environment becomes more international. Officers graduating from the Border Guard's officer pilot's programme work as pilots in the Air Patrol Squadron in Helsinki, Rovaniemi or Turku. Officer pilots who have completed their Master's degree within the Border Guard, work as flight operations officer or aircraft maintenance officer in the Air Patrol Squadron. In their career, Masters of Military Sciences have the possibility of progressing to more demanding Border Guard tasks.



Applying to the Bachelor of Military Sciences Programme

■ ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must :

1) Be a Finnish citizen

2) Have completed Reserve Officer School or Non-Commissioned Officer Course*

*Applicants who have completed reserve NCO training can also be accepted conditionally, if they successfully complete the Platoon Leader Course at the Reserve Officer School before the cadet course begins. The National Defence University will instruct the applicant on how to apply for the Platoon Leader Course if they are selected or placed on a waiting list. A special requirement is that those applying to the pilot's programme must have successfully completed the Pilot Reserve Officer Course.

PLATOON LEADER COURSE

The Platoon Leader Course must be completed before studies in the National Defence University begin. The Reserve Officer School will hold the Platoon Leader Course in July-August 2019. The applicant is responsible for registering for the course. Applicants who have completed the platoon leader course earlier must mention this on their application form at www.opintopolku.fi/www.studyinfo.fi, and send a copy of the course certificate together with the supporting documents to their application.

3) have completed either

- the Finnish Matriculation Examination
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- European Baccalaureate (EB)
- Reifeprüfung (RP)
- at least a three-year vocational degree or corresponding previous studies.
- A competence-based qualification is a vocational upper secondary qualification, further vocational qualification or specialist vocational qualifications or a corresponding previous degree
- g. a foreign degree that carries eligibility for corresponding higher education studies in the country in question.

4) Maximum 26 years old at the start of their bachelor's studies*

Applicants to the pilot's programme may be at most 23 years of age at the start of their bachelor's studies.

*The Rector of the National Defence University may grant an exception to the age limit. The basis for the exception can be the applicants conscript service or voluntary military service for women completed later than normal or previous service in the Finnish Defence Forces, Border Guard, or in crisis management duties. Applicants over the age of 26 must submit a well-substantiated application for an exception to the age limit together with the supporting documents to their application.

5) a Class B driving licence

Applicants must have completed phase I of the Category B driving licence by 03 April 2019.

6) Be suitable for the officer's profession with regard to their psychological and physical fitness, habits and also otherwise.

Be able to swim (Nordic swim test, (200m/6 minutes). The swim test is administered at the beginning of the studies and it is a requirement for continuing studies.

Security Clearance

Applicants undergo basic personnel security clearance investigation in accordance with the act on Security Clearances (726/2014) in order to establish applicants' suitability for the officer's career and determine what kind of life they lead. The pre-selection result for those selected to the entrance exam is conditional until the security clearance process is complete.

Health Requirements



ALL PROGRAMMES

1. The applicant's fitness class must be A.
2. Hearing must meet for service classification A criteria as prescribed in the Defence Forces' current health examination guidelines. In practice this means that hearing must be 20 dB or better in the mid-frequency area (500-2000 Hz). There must not be significant weakening in the absolute threshold of hearing outside of the mid-frequencies.
3. Vision must be in accordance with group 2 as stated in the Driving Licence Act: minimum 0.8 in the better eye and 0.1 in the weaker eye, if necessary the strength of the correctional lens is at most ± 6 diopters.

ADDITIONALLY:

- The applicant must disclose all health related limitations and be aware of the health requirements of the different programmes. (Familiarise yourself with the Defence Forces' current health examination guidelines (Terveystarkastusohje, TTO 2012 (in Finnish))
- The applicant gives the National Defence University permission to handle their medical information during the application process.
- The applicant will submit the T form (also the part that includes the results), and medical statements about their colour vision and audiogram results. Applicants called to the entrance exam must bring the medical certificates with them. (Not included as annexes in the application).
- Specific health requirements are presented in the Defence Forces' health examination guidelines (Terveystarkastusohje, TTO) which is available in Finnish at <https://puolustusvoimat.fi/tietoa-meista/sotilaslakietieteen-keskus/terveystarkastusohjeet>

ARMY PROGRAMME'S BORDER GUARD PROGRAMME

- Vision must be a minimum of 0.7 in both eyes without glasses.
- The applicant must have normal colour vision. Colour vision is determined so that the person passes the Ishihara test or anomaloscope test with normal differentiation of the three basic colours (trichromacy).
- hearing grade I-II

BORDER GUARD

- Those assigned to maritime duties (those working on vessels, not incl. small boats) must have fitness class A.
- Additionally, must meet the following criteria: have near vision capable of reading machine written text without eyeglasses

The health requirements for Border Guard aircrews are listed in the norms issued by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA Part MED, medical requirements). Pilots must meet Class 1 requirements.

NAVY PROGRAMMES

In the Navy's Naval programme and C5 programme, there are special requirements relating to vision, sense of colours and other physiological characteristics.

- The applicant cannot have allergies or chronic illnesses that would affect their working capacity (e.g. Coeliac disease or easily symptomatic lactose intolerance).
- Applicants cannot be prone to sea sickness.
- In addition to this, those applying to the naval programme are also required to have flawless vision (1.0/1.0 without eyeglasses) and sharp colour sense.

ADDITIONAL TESTS FOR THE NAVY

-One-day physiological tests are arranged at the Aeromedical Centre (AMC) in Meilahti in Helsinki. After the pre-selection, the Naval Academy will send a letter containing instructions to those who are to undergo additional testing. The applicant must book a testing time independently, according to the instructions provided or their application to the programme in questions is considered cancelled. The applicant will be personally notified of the test results (failed tests) and in that case the application to the programme in question is automatically cancelled.

AIR FORCE PROGRAMMES

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

- Vision requirement: Landoltin C chart, distance of 5 metres, at least 1.0 separately in both eyes without or with eyeglasses, in which case the strength of the correctional lens is at most ± 5 diopter
- exact colour vision (examined with a daylight lamp using Ishihara plates)
- normal fields of vision examined by means of a perimetry test
- Applicants cannot have strong allergies.
- hearing grade I-II

CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTRE PROGRAMME

- Vision requirement: Landoltin C chart, distance of 5 metres, at least 1.0 separately in both eyes without or with eyeglasses, in which case the strength of the correctional lens is at most ± 5 diopter
- exact colour vision (examined with a daylight lamp using Ishihara plates)
- normal fields of vision examined by means of a perimetry test
- Applicants cannot have strong allergies.
- hearing grade I-II

ADDITIONAL TESTS FOR THE AIR FORCE

Additional tests are arranged for applicants to the Air Force's C5 system programme. One-day psychological tests are arranged at the Finnish Defence Research Agency's Human Performance Division in Tuusula. After the pre-selection, the Air Force Academy will send a letter containing instructions to those who are to undergo additional testing. The applicant must book a testing time independently, according to the instructions provided or their application to the programme in questions is considered cancelled.

7) Losing the Right to Study

Act on the National Defence University 599/2016) 27§ . Losing the right to study. A student will lose their right to study if s/he:

- 1) Has provided false or misleading information while applying to the National Defence University, or withheld information about themselves, if providing the correct information would have prevented them from being selected as a student.

Main Application Procedure for the Bachelor of Military Sciences Programme

Programmes 2019:

MAIN APPLICATION 20 March- 3 April 2019:

- Army Programme
- Navy - Naval Programme
- Navy- C5 Programme
- Air Force -Aircraft Maintenance Programme
- Air Force- C5 Programme
- Air Force-Control And Reporting Centre Programme

All programmes begin in 2019.

■ HOW TO APPLY

The National Defence University's main application procedure uses the joint application system used by the Finnish universities. Applications can be filled in on-line at www.studyinfo.fi / www.opintopolku.fi. **Applications open 20 March 2019 and close on 03 April 2019 at 15.00. Late applications will not be accepted.**

When filling in the application, you will need information on your previous education, and requested attachments, and therefore it is good to have your certificates and diplomas ready at hand. The system will guide you in filling in the application and tell you when it has been saved in the system.

Think about your order of preference, it is binding. You cannot change the order of preference later. Then, if you are selected for a programme that is higher on your list of preferences, you cannot accept a study position at a lower ranked programme even if you were accepted into it.

■ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Submit the supporting documents electronically via <http://www.studyinfo.fi> by 10 April 2019 at 15.00.
- Do not send unnecessary attachments. Attachments submitted late will not be noted.
- Applicants must be ready to present original certificates. Giving false or incomplete information may lead to the loss of the right to study.
- If you are unable to submit attachments electronically, contact opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi or Training Coordinator 0299-530330 or Selection Officer 0299-530214

1)A copy of their latest military education certificate Reserve Officer/ NCO Course (If you have completed both, send both certificates. The certificate must show the number of points given for the general grade that will be used in pre-selection points system. Also the Platoon Leader Course certificate)

2)A copy of education showing eligibility for higher education, if it is other than a Finnish Matriculation Examination certificate. Matriculation examination information is obtained directly from the Matriculation Examination Board through the national electronic register. *

3)Copy of both sides of the class B driving licence**

4)Copies of certificates showing work experience that supports studies or a copy of the applicant's personal record***

The eligibility for higher education of those graduating or raising their grades in spring 2019, must submit copies of their certificates by 06 June 2019 at 15:00.

If you are graduating in spring 2019, remember to make a note of it at the studyinfo website/ email the Department of Academic Affairs.

Applicants with a vocational degree*

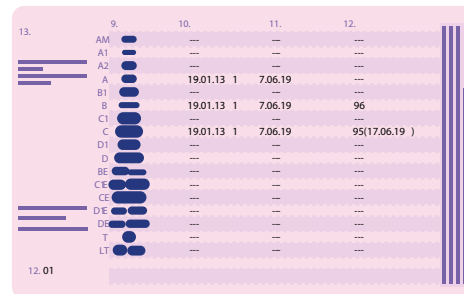
Submit copies:

1. Diploma
2. Transcript of records, which show the grades of mandatory subjects that points are given for in the pre-selection. (Finnish/Swedish (mother tongue), mathematics, Advanced Syllabus language (A-kieli) and Intermediate Syllabus language (B-kieli)).
3. Vocational school competence certificate
4. Applicants who have completed only a competence-based qualification must submit a copy of their qualification certificate and transcript of record, which show the grades of mandatory subjects that points are given for in the pre-selection. (Finnish/Swedish (mother tongue), mathematics, Advanced Syllabus language (A-kieli) and Intermediate Syllabus language (B-kieli)). Otherwise the applicant will not get pre-selection points.

**Applicants must have completed phase I of the Category B driving licence by 03 April 2019.

A photocopy that shows both sides of the driving licence should be sent. Applicants who have not yet received their licence, should send an official certificate of successful completion of phase I.

"A photocopy showing both sides of your driving licence should be sent..."



**Points for work experience will note the applicants previous service in the Defence Forces or the Border Guard, for example as Contractual Military Personnel, as a Non-Commissioned Officer or in Crisis Management Operations. Only work experience gained in the Defence Forces or the Border Guard will be noted.

Points for work experience are given as follows:

1. Working as Contractual Military Personnel for 3 months or more = 1 pt
2. Working as a Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) for 3 months or more = 2 pts

Please note! The submission date for supporting documents is not the same as for other universities in the joint application system. Additional information available at: opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi. Supporting documents that arrive after the deadline will not be accepted. Applicants may be asked to present original certificates. Giving false or incomplete information may lead to the loss of the right to study.

■ APPLICANT'S CHECKLIST (MAIN APPLICATION PROGRAMME)

- choose the programmes you want to apply to (1-6 programmes) and check that you are eligible to apply.
- Complete the main application forms on-line at www.opintopolku.fi/www.studyinfo.fi. The deadline is 15:00 on 03 April 2019.
- Submit the supporting documents electronically via <http://www.studyinfo.fi> by 10 April 2019 at 15.00.
- If you are graduating in spring 2019, make a note of it at the studyinfo website.
- Have a medical certificate (form T) and a colour vision certificate and an audiogram ready for potential entrance exams. Make sure you get all of the necessary information for the T form and that you have all of the required appendices.
- Start training for the physical fitness tests systematically and in good time.
- If you need to ask about something, contact the National Defence University in good time. Any applications arriving after the deadline will not be accepted. Remember to inform the Department of Academic Affairs if your contact details change in the meantime.

■ IMPORTANT DATES

Applications 2019	20 March- 3 April 2019
Supporting documents submitted by	15.00 on 10 April 2019
Invitations to the entrance exam	30 April 2019
Main application entrance exam	13 May- 17 May 2019
Certificates submitted for those who graduate spring 2019	15.00 on 06 June 2019
Results published	28 June 2019
Confirming intention to study at the NDU	15.00 on 08 July 2019
Waiting list queuing ends	31 July 2019
The 106th Cadet and 89th Midshipman Courses start	04 September 2019



■ ENTRANCE EXAM

Applicants are called to the entrance exam based on pre-selection points. A maximum number of 500 applicants who fulfil the eligibility requirements and give the required consent are called to the entrance exam. The entrance exam measures the applicants' motivation, suitability for the profession and personal interest in the field. During the entrance exam, all participants give their consent to undergo personal security clearance and drug testing, and their written feedback is collected.

The entrance exam is held at the National Defence University in Helsinki from 13-17 May 2019.

Invitations to the entrance exams and notifications to those who did not pass pre-selection will be sent in April 2019. The entrance exam includes:

1. Aptitude test (personality and ability tests, a group test and an interview)
2. Open-book exam (reading comprehension and writing exam)
3. Physical fitness tests (a warm-up, muscular fitness test, limber-up, a 12-minute running test and cool-down)
4. Medical examination, and a drug test for separately determined applicants.

Applicants are called to the entrance exam in four detachments:

- 1st detachment 13 - 14 May 2019
- 2nd detachment 14 - 15 May 2019
- 3rd detachment 15 - 16 May 2019
- 4th detachment 16 - 17 May 2019

Applicants can state their willingness to participate in a certain entrance exam detachment on their application form, but the entrance exam date is determined by several factors, e.g. selected branch/programme. It is not possible for the applicant to change the assigned detachment.

The entrance exam lasts two days. It is possible for applicants to stay the night between the two entrance exam days at the National Defence University. Because the National Defence University campus' accommodation capacity is limited, accommodation is not available for the night before the entrance exam begins. Those completing military service during the entrance exam may ask their own brigade-level unit to contact the Guard Jaeger Regiment for possible accommodation for the night before the entrance exam.

■ PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAM

DAY 1 OF ENTRANCE EXAMS				
	PLATOON I	PLATOON II	PLATOON III	PLATOON IV
By 09:00	Roll call and division into detachments			
09:15 - 09:45	Entrance exam briefing			
09:45 - 10:15	Accommodation			
10:15 - 11:30	Physical fitness tests	Medical exam	Group test	Interview
11:30 - 12:45	Interview	Physical fitness test	Lunch	Group test
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Medical exam	Lunch
14:00 - 15:15	Group test	Interview	Physical fitness test	Medical exam
15:15 - 16:30	Medical exam	Group test	Interview	Physical fitness test
16:30 - 17:30	Dinner			
17:30 - 18:30	Information on services Dinner (Those who failed or their physical fitness tests)			
18:30 -	Individual interviews			
DAY 2 OF ENTRANCE EXAMS				
	Detachment 1 (PLATOON I & II)		Detachment 2 (PLATOON III & IV)	
07:00 - 12:00	Aptitude test		07:00 - 09:15 Material-based test 09:45 - 11:15 Aptitude tests's form test 11:15 - 12:00 Final briefing and feedback	
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch			
13:00 - 18:00	13:00 - 15:15 Material-based test 15:45 - 17:15 Aptitude tests's form test 17:15 - 18:00 Final briefing and feedback		Aptitude test	
18:00 - 19:00	Dinner			

-Applicants taking the entrance exam also receive free meals. Catering is included in the service of conscripts and female volunteers doing their military service. Confirm your participation in meals and notify of any special diets when you apply.

There are also two Soldier's Home canteens on campus that you can go to during breaks in the entrance exam.

Those who were invited to the entrance exam and wish to cancel their participation, must notify the National Defence University's Department of Academic Affairs by email by 6 May 2019. opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi

■ PREPARING FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAM

BRING WITH YOU TO THE ENTRANCE EXAM:

- 1) A medical certificate no older than 6 months (form T or SALääk 1141, examinee's copy), must include the result of the hearing and vision (incl. colour vision) tests. The entrance exam of applicants who do not bring their certificate and supporting documents with them to the exam, will be suspended due to incomplete documentation.
- 2) Leadership index and assignment orders on conscripts and female volunteers doing their military service. (Information of applicants already in the reserve will be found directly in the information system) The leadership index must include evaluations by subordinates, peers and superiors, as well as their self-evaluation together with its numerical values. Applicants cannot be given points for their leadership index at the entrance exam if they do not have it with them. It is up to the applicant to make sure that a leadership index is calculated for them.
- 3) Clothing and shoes for indoor and outdoor sports. Civilian clothing is worn during the entrance exam.
- 4) Personal hygiene and overnight necessities (sleeping bag or equivalent).



■ PHYSICAL FITNESS TRAINING

It is good to train in advance for the running and muscular fitness tests both systematically and progressively. Take into consideration that this is a comprehensive test of maximum physical fitness. It is good to prepare for the entrance exam's fitness tests by practising doing the tests as they will be done in the actual entrance exam.

Test content:

- Test instructions (Physical Fitness Officer)
- Common warm-up indoors approximately 10-15min
- Standing long jumps (3 tries)
- 5-minute recovery
- Push-ups (1 minute)
- Independent 5-10 minute limber-up before the 12-minute running test.
- A 12-minute running test (pacemakers for 2,600m and 3,000m distance)

Applicants who are unable to do the physical fitness tests at the time of the entrance exam because of illness or injury must present a medical certificate regarding this at the entrance exam. If necessary, physical fitness tests are arranged during the month of June for applicants who are not able to do the tests for medical reasons at the time of the entrance exam. Tests are taken as a whole in the same way as during the entrance exam. Training tips and instructions for improving your physical fitness can be found at www.upseeriksi.fi and marsmars.fi

ARRIVAL

You can find the timetables for public transportation in the Helsinki area on-line at www.reittiopas.fi. Due to limited parking space, you should avoid arriving by car. During the month of June, the Hevossalmi bridge to Santahamina opens at half-hour intervals, on the hour and at half past.



■ SELECTION CRITERIA AND CALCULATION OF SCORES IN THE MAIN APPLICATION PROCEDURE

In the Defence Forces' action plan, the Commander of the Finnish Defence Forces annually confirms the number of students to be accepted to complete degrees and continuing training. The Border Guard Headquarters confirms the number of students accepted for service in the Border Guard. The National Defence University will adjust the number of students accepted in the meeting of the Selections Board in June.

The Defence Command confirms the selection criteria for the main and separate applications on an annual basis. The National Defence University does not have a so-called first-timer quota in its selection process in 2019. More detailed information on selection criteria and calculation of scores is available at www.upseeriksi.fi.

The final entrance score consists of the initial points awarded for the application papers, and of the entrance exam's results. The maximum number of selection points is 170.

Initial (pre-selection) points max 87 pts.

1. Previous studies max 50pts
2. Latest military education certificate max 35pts
3. Work experience (FDF/BG) max 2 pts

Selection points max 83 pts

1. Aptitude test max 50pts
2. Open-book exam max 25pts
3. Physical fitness max 8 pts

The aptitude test can be a restricting factor. The aptitude test includes psychological tests, a group test, an interview, aptitude assessments and final assessments from military service or voluntary military service for women and the leadership index. The aptitude test is administered by a psychologist who specialises in aptitude testing. You cannot prepare for the aptitude test in advance.

The open-book exam is based on a scientific article or other material that applicants are given to read. Applicants must write answers to questions based on this material. You cannot prepare for the material-based test in advance

The level to be achieved in the physical fitness tests (12-minute running test and muscular fitness test) is the same for women and men. The distance you run is measured with a 5 meter accuracy, rounded down to the closest 5 meters. The elimination limit for the running test is 2,600m. The muscle fitness test is not an eliminating event.

1) Standing long jump (m)	2) Push-ups (repetitions)	3) 12min juoksutesti (m)
2,0 m or less =0pts	28 repetitions or less =0p	2599m or less = fail
2,4 m r more =2pts	36 repetitions or more =1p	2600m = 0pts
		3000m = 5pts

EQUAL POINTS

Applicants who reach the same overall number of points are ranked according to who achieved the greater score in the following:

1. Aptitude test
2. military education certificate
3. Previous studies
4. Work experience points

If all the aforementioned scores are the same, all of the applicants who have received the exact same score are selected for the course.

Separate application procedure for the Officer Pilots' Programme

In 2019, it is possible to apply to the following Bachelor of Military Sciences degree programmes through separate application:

- Officer Pilots' Programme - Air Force Pilot's Programme
- Officer Pilots' Programme Army Helicopter Pilot's Programme
- Officer Pilots' Programme - Border Guard Pilot's Programme

■ HOW TO APPLY

Applications and supporting documents are submitted using the application form (Application form to education leading to the Bachelor of Military Sciences and Master of Military Sciences degrees at the National Defence University / OFFICER PILOT'S PROGRAMME). Application forms are available from the Air Force Academy's Director of the Pilot Reserve Officer Course, Captain Lasse Konttinen

- by e-mail: lasse.konttinen@mil.fi
- by telephone: +358 (0)0299 257 220.

Application period is 1-27 May 2019. Applications and supporting documents must arrive by closing on

27 May 2019 at 15:00 at: Ilmasotakoulu
Koulutuspatalljoona
ILMAVRUK
KADK 106. ohjaajaopintosuuntien haku
PL 7
41161 TIKKAKOSKI

Any applications arriving after this deadline will not be accepted.

■ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Applicants must send by mail:

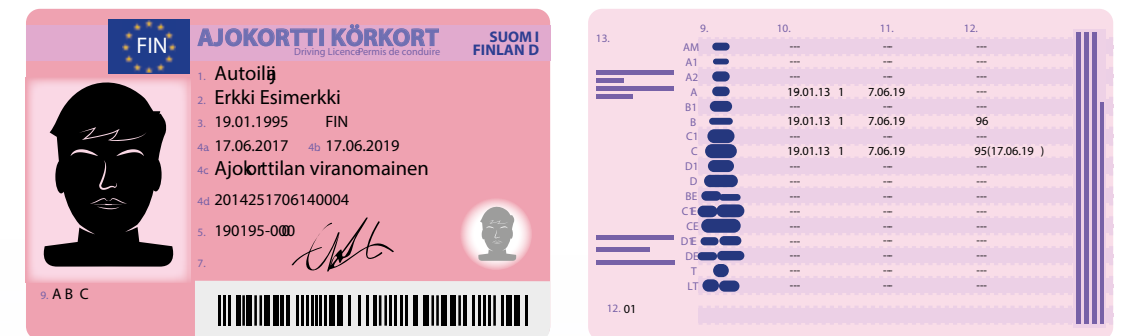
- 1) A copy of their latest military education certificate (Pilot Reserve Officer Course)
- 2) A copy of a certificate showing eligibility for higher education

(e.g. a copy of their matriculation examination certificate or leaving certificate or proof of study from a polytechnic or vocational school)

Applicants with several degrees should send copies of all of these certificates.

3) A copy of their Class B driving licence

Applicants must have completed phase I of the Category B driving licence by 03/04/2019. A photocopy that shows both sides of the driving licence should be sent. Applicants who have not yet received their licence, should send an official certificate of successful completion of phase I.



- 4) Copies of certificates showing work experience that supports studies or a copy of the applicant's personal record. (Service in the Defence Forces or Border Guard as e.g. an enlisted soldier or crisis management personnel)

Supporting documents arriving after the deadline will not be accepted. Applicants may be asked to present original certificates. Giving false or incomplete information may lead to the loss of the right to study.

■ SELECTION EVENT

There is no separate entrance exam for applicants applying directly from the Pilot Reserve Officer Course to the Cadet Course. If necessary, applicants who have previously served on the Pilot Reserve Officer Course are called for physical tests in June. At the same time they give their consent to undergo personal security clearance and drug testing.

■ APPLICANT'S CHECKLIST

- The special application and all supporting documents must reach the Air Force Academy (address above) by 15:00 on 27 May 2019.
- If you need to ask about something or you do not receive any notification about the selection process, contact the National Defence University in good time. Any documents arriving after this deadline will not be accepted. Remember to inform the Director of the Pilot Reserve Officer Course if your contact details change in the meantime (contact information listed earlier in this guide).
- Start training for the physical fitness tests systematically and in good time.
- Acquire all of the documents required for selection in good time (e.g. the medical certificate).

■ SELECTION CRITERIA AND CALCULATION OF SCORES IN THE SEPARATE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Selection points max 200 pts

1. Previous studies max 30pts

2. Performance during the Pilot Reserve Officer Course max 170 pts (Reserve Officer Course certificate, flying skill, aptitude test and physical fitness.)

Accepting a Study Place

All applicants who have taken part in the entrance exam will receive an email concerning acceptance. Information on those accepted through the student selection, and those who have been placed on the waiting list will be made public on 28 June 2019 at the latest. The decision on acceptance can also be conditional, in which case its confirmation requires the successful completion of e.g. additional tests or platoon leader course.

Applicants accepted to study at the National Defence University will receive an email of acceptance with instructions on how to accept their student place.

At this time the applicant chooses to:

1. accept the student place
2. accept the student place and notifies that they will be waiting in line for a higher preference of their list
3. not accept the student place.

Notification of acceptance is binding and cannot be changed or cancelled.

Those accepted directly as students must confirm that they accept their place by 15:00 on 08 July 2019. Applicants will lose their right to study if they do not accept their place by this deadline. A student may accept only one student place leading to a university degree during the same academic year.

If an accepted applicant does not accept his/her study place, the place is offered to the next applicant on the waiting list. The waiting list for study places closes on 31/07/2019 at 15:00. It is the responsibility of the applicant to give current contact information so that they can be contacted in regards to waiting list arrangements.

■ POSTPONING THE RIGHT TO STUDY

Before studies begin, applicants who have received a student place through the main application procedure can apply to the Rector of the National Defence University for the right to postpone their right to study. The request must be submitted to the National Defence University when notifying the university of the acceptance of a study place. It is possible to apply for postponement for one year e.g. for health reasons. Postponement is not usually granted on financial grounds or based on fixed-term employment or crisis management duties. The reason for requesting postponement of the right to study must be stated clearly. Granting postponement is at the Rector's discretion due to the fact that the National Defence University is under obligation to annually produce a sufficient number of officers for service in the Defence Forces and Border Guard. A request for postponement of the right to study is delivered together with the selection notification.

■ REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO STUDENT SELECTION

An applicant who is dissatisfied with the student selection can apply for amendment in writing within fourteen (14) days of the publication of the selection results. For the main application procedure the request for amendment must be addressed to the Rector of the National Defence University. Those applying through separate application procedure submit their request for amendment to the Air Force Academy Education and Training Centre's College Section. Instructions of how to request for an amendment will be sent with the selection notification.

■ BEGINNING ONE'S STUDIES

The 106th Cadet and 89th Midshipman Courses start on 04 September 2019. During the first week of studies, new students must be prepared to spend both days and nights in Santahamina, as well as the first weekend. Instructions on beginning one's studies will be sent to all new students together with the letter of acceptance. The National Defence University uses the PVMOODLE network-assisted learning environment, that you sign into before your studies start, at pvmoodle.fi. The network-assisted learning environment contains a student workspace for each individual student that is administrated by the Course Director. Through the student workspace students can access courses of all departments. The workspace also contains more detailed information concerning the beginning of the course. Instructions on registration are found in the "Instruction on starting your studies" enclosed with the letter of acceptance.



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I apply for the National Defence University, if I have only completed the Non-Commissioned officer course?
• Yes you can, if you apply with a conditional acceptance and the condition is removed when you complete the Platoon Leader's Course. The information about the course will be given later, in July-August 2019.

2. If I do not have a medical certificate in the entrance exam, can I still participate?
• The entrance exam will be terminated when signing in if you do not have a medical examination conducted in the last 6 months and a certificate of the exam.

3. Can you stay overnight at the National Defence University already the night before the entrance exam?
• Unfortunately it is not possible due to limited accommodation capacity. Those completing military service during the entrance exam may ask their superior to contact the Guard Jaeger Regiment for possible accommodation.

4. Can I change my entrance exam dates?
• The days have been divided according to the programmes and changing is not possible because of limited accommodation capacity.

5. Can I postpone starting my studies, for example if I am in Crisis Management Operations?
• The studies can only be postponed for health reasons.

6. Can I apply for a different service than where I did my conscript service in?
• Yes you can. Studies at the NDU always start from the beginning, so you can apply for the Navy even if you did your conscript service in the Army (one exception is the application to the Air Force Officer Pilot programmes, that always requires the Pilot Reserve Officer Course).

7. At which point do the Army students get their branch selections?
• Selections are done approximately 1.5 years after the studies have started.
More frequently asked questions can be found at www.upseeriksi.fi/UKK

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on applying to study, student selections and starting studies you can contact:

-Applying for Bachelor of Military Sciences in the main application and student selection: opinto-asiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi or +358 (0)299 530 214 (selections officer) and +358 (0)299 530 330 (Education Coordinator).

-Lentoupseerin koulutusohjelma ja erillishaku: Captain Lasse Konttinen, lasse.konttinen@mil.fi or during office hours at +358299 257 220.

Address:
National Defence University/ Department of Academic Affairs P.O. Box 7, 00861 Helsinki

www.studyinfo.fi (electronic application)
www.upseeriksi.fi
www.mpkk.fi
www.puolustusvoimat.fi
www.raja.fi
www.marsmars.fi (Training programmes)
www.doria.fi (Electronic study and selection guides)

Master of Military Sciences Degree

The Master's Degree in Military Sciences is a higher university degree completed in the National Defence University, comprising 120 ECTS. The degree is part of the officers' education system that consists of undergraduate and graduate degrees, post-graduate degrees and of continuing education. The Master of Military Sciences Degree is situated between the Bachelor's of Military Sciences and General Staff Officer Degree and Doctor of Military Sciences Degree.

Alongside of the Master of Military Sciences degree, those to be appointed to an officer's post carry out military vocational studies worth 13 ECTS. Military vocational studies are done at the military educational establishments, primarily according to the branch the officers were selected in when completing the Bachelor of Military Sciences Degree. These studies are completed in two years of full time study.

The programmes of the new Master of Military Sciences Degree are:

Army Programme (SM MAAV)

Navy Programme (SM MERIV)

Air Force Programme (SM ILMAV)

Officer Pilots' Programme (SM LENTOUPS)

Border Guard Programme (SM RVL)

Executive Assistance Programme (SM VIR)



A new class of the Master of Military Sciences Degree Programme will not start in 2019 (excl. SM LENTOUPS) due to the lengthening of the working phase following graduation with a Bachelor's degree. The next reformed Master of Military Sciences degree programme will start in 2020. Further information on the Master's degree and its programmes will be published in the 2020 Selection Guide.

The time allowed for completing a Master's degree is determined by the Defence Command and the Border Guard Headquarters. In the future officers will primarily be assigned to the course five years after they have completed their Bachelor's degree. At that time, with his decision, the Rector also then confirms the Master's students' right to study.

The pre-requisite for the assignment and confirmation of the right to study is that the officer has served normally since graduating with a Bachelor's degree and that based on their personal qualities they are suitable to be further appointed as officers. Only after these actions does the option, received when accepted into the Bachelor's programme, become a right for them to complete the Master's studies in the National Defence University.

During their studies, officers completing a Master's degree in military sciences serve in their own military rank and earn a salary in accordance with the collective agreement for public servants. There is no significant difference in the salary level of officers serving in the Border Guard and the Defence Forces.

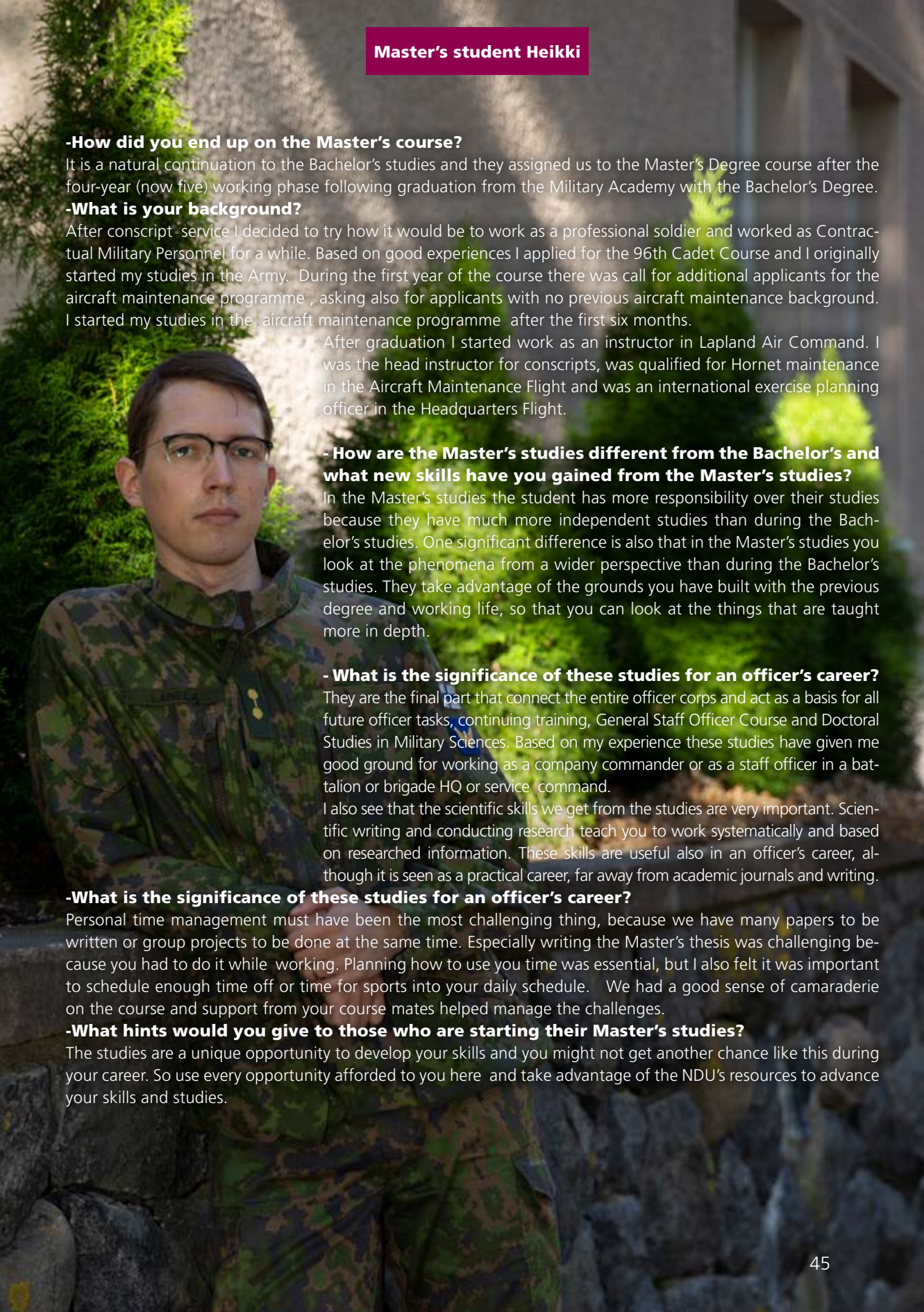
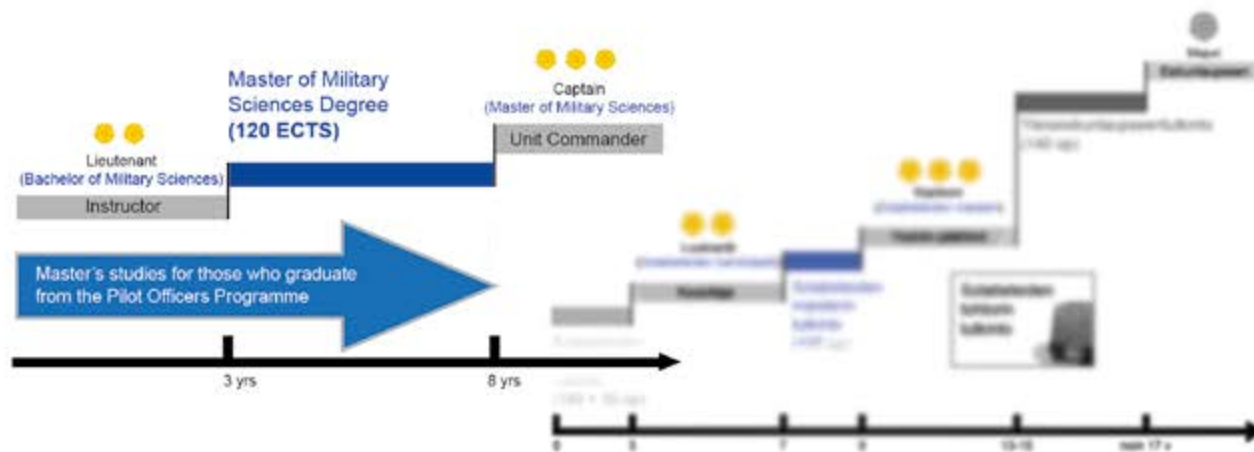
■ **EXAMPLES OF TASKS (M.Sc. (Mil.Sc.))**

In the Defence Forces, the first task for an officer who has just completed his/her Master's degree may be company second-in-command or a Staff Officer. In the Border Guard, the first task for an officer who has just completed his Master's degree may be company second-in-command or branch chief in an administrative unit in a headquarters. After a few years, typical duties include e.g. commanding officer of a conscript unit, guard station commander or chief of a functional area in a headquarters.

■ **COMMITMENT**

The period of statutory commitment of those who have completed the Master's degree in Military Sciences within the officer's and officer pilot's programme is two years starting at graduation. More detailed information on commitment can be found in the section The Officer's Profession.

■ **PROGRESSING IN OFFICER'S STUDIES**



-How did you end up on the Master's course?

It is a natural continuation to the Bachelor's studies and they assigned us to the Master's Degree course after the four-year (now five) working phase following graduation from the Military Academy with the Bachelor's Degree.

-What is your background?

After conscript service I decided to try how it would be to work as a professional soldier and worked as Contractual Military Personnel for a while. Based on good experiences I applied for the 96th Cadet Course and I originally started my studies in the Army. During the first year of the course there was call for additional applicants for the aircraft maintenance programme, asking also for applicants with no previous aircraft maintenance background. I started my studies in the aircraft maintenance programme after the first six months.

After graduation I started work as an instructor in Lapland Air Command. I was the head instructor for conscripts, was qualified for Hornet maintenance in the Aircraft Maintenance Flight and was an international exercise planning officer in the Headquarters Flight.

- How are the Master's studies different from the Bachelor's and what new skills have you gained from the Master's studies?

In the Master's studies the student has more responsibility over their studies because they have much more independent studies than during the Bachelor's studies. One significant difference is also that in the Master's studies you look at the phenomena from a wider perspective than during the Bachelor's studies. They take advantage of the grounds you have built with the previous degree and working life, so that you can look at the things that are taught more in depth.

- What is the significance of these studies for an officer's career?

They are the final part that connect the entire officer corps and act as a basis for all future officer tasks, continuing training, General Staff Officer Course and Doctoral Studies in Military Sciences. Based on my experience these studies have given me good ground for working as a company commander or as a staff officer in a battalion or brigade HQ or service command.

I also see that the scientific skills we get from the studies are very important. Scientific writing and conducting research teach you to work systematically and based on researched information. These skills are useful also in an officer's career, although it is seen as a practical career, far away from academic journals and writing.

-What is the significance of these studies for an officer's career?

Personal time management must have been the most challenging thing, because we have many papers to be written or group projects to be done at the same time. Especially writing the Master's thesis was challenging because you had to do it while working. Planning how to use your time was essential, but I also felt it was important to schedule enough time off or time for sports into your daily schedule. We had a good sense of camaraderie on the course and support from your course mates helped manage the challenges.

-What hints would you give to those who are starting their Master's studies?

The studies are a unique opportunity to develop your skills and you might not get another chance like this during your career. So use every opportunity afforded to you here and take advantage of the NDU's resources to advance your skills and studies.

Master of Military Sciences Executive Assistance Programme

The task of the Executive Assistance Programme is to train security experts for needs relating to national defence and providing executive assistance. The aim of the programme is to produce understanding in military sciences and promote overall security and safety and cooperation within it. This degree does not lead to an officer's post or a post within the Defence Forces.

Planning for the Executive Assistance Programme will be begun in the autumn of 2018. Additional information about the Executive Assistance Programme and potential starting dates will be published in the 2020 Selection Guide

For more information on applying to study, student selections and starting studies you can contact:

Opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi or +358 (0)299 530 214 (selections officer) and +358(0)299 530 330 (Education Coordinator).

Executive Assistance Programme student Tero

-What made you apply for the studies?

I work in the Finnish National Bureau of Investigation in online crime prevention and it is a ringside seat to online crime. We have an important job from a comprehensive security perspective, and of course it is important to know our counterparts and the field of comprehensive security.

In my job it is important to be able to analyse the security environment and its changes as widely as possible- With that background I thought it was necessary to expand my own knowledge and skills. The thought of studies supporting my job came to me gradually. After weighing different options I chose the Executive Assistance Programme, because I thought it fitted my needs the best. Another factor was that with these studies you can combine study units containing security policy, strategic studies and leadership.

-What is your background?

I have been a police officer for over 22 years and have worked as an investigator for most of that time. Since 2005 I have worked in command positions as the investigator in charge, both in daily crimes as in violent crimes. I also spent 18 months working in an exchange with the Finnish Customs, where I worked in counter-smuggling operations. In 2013 I transferred to the National Bureau of Investigation and it's Cyber crime unit, where I worked as an investigator in charge at first. I took command of the unit last year.

-What kind of skills do you think you have gained from these studies?

Although you might think that studies about wartime leadership might be far and away from civilian authorities' peacetime environment, the knowledge I have gained have been directly applicable to my job in leading police activities. They have also made me think of totally new ways of thinking and of applying things by applying what I have learned.

-How have these studies supported your career? Have you been able to use your previous knowledge to your studies here?

The studies have helped to break my so-called tunnel vision. It has been great to shake up old ways of thinking and looking at things from a new perspective and to look at things from a new perspective and to study new things. Especially the group projects during contact studies have been extremely fruitful thanks to the conversations we have had while doing them.

-What things or moment have been the most challenging during your studies?

How or with what have you conquered these challenges? Has it, for example, been difficult to combine work and studies?

I am studying while working, so naturally there are challenges in combining work and studies. However, my employer is very supportive of furthering one's education so getting study leave has been flexible.

-Who would you recommend the Executive Assistance Programme to and what tips would you give to those thinking about applying?

I would recommend the programme to anyone interesting in Military Sciences and who want to look at their own work from a new standpoint.

It's good to think carefully about how to fit work and studies together because there are a lot of studies here that have mandatory attendance.

General Staff Officer's Degree

The General Staff Officer's degree is post-graduate degree in military sciences. The primary task is to train general staff officers for the Defence Forces and the Border Guard who have the knowledge and skills as well as prerequisites for conducting research required for senior officers' tasks in normal and emergency conditions. The degree is at a minimum 140 ECTS credits. Studies take approximately two years.

General Staff Officer Course

General studies 5 ECTS
Strategic security environment 25 ECTS
Leadership and commandship 31 ECTS
Applying scientific practices 35 ECTS
Operational art 60 ECTS

The focal point of studies on the General Staff Officer Course is military theory, which comprises more than half of the studies. The aim of the degree is for students to gain the knowledge and skills needed in senior officers' tasks. They also gain the prerequisites needed for conducting research at university postgraduate level.

ELIGIBILITY

The General Staff Officer's degree is aimed at officers who have completed their Master's degree. For special reasons, applicants who have another Master's level degree and who are otherwise found to possess the necessary knowledge and skills for these studies can be accepted to complete this degree

COMMITMENT

The period of commitment of those who complete the General Staff Officer Course is two years upon completion of the course. More detailed information on commitment can be found in the section The Officer's Profession.

EXAMPLES OF TASKS (GS)

Those who complete the General Staff Officer Course are usually placed in senior officers' tasks in the Defence Forces and the Border Guard

APPLYING

The General Staff Officer Course begins every other year and the application period is approximately two years before the course begins. Separate instructions on how to apply and the application period are given for each course. The period of application to the next General Staff Officer Course (GSOC61) will begin in 2019. The course begins in August 2021.

Application to this course primarily takes place 4-6 years after completion of the Master of Military Sciences degree. Exceptions to this main rule can be made based on the special need of a certain branch or functional area. Such exceptions are always determined by the Defence Command.

Applicants undergo an aptitude test as part of a pre-selection. Those who move on to the next selection phase are called to an entrance exam that last approximately one week. The final selections are made approximately one year before the course begins. A student may accept only one student place leading to a university degree during the same academic year.

GS student Raine

-What made you apply for the GS studies?

At some point I understood that an officer's career is long and will get even longer in the future as the pensionable age is raised. A General Staff Officer Degree offers the best variety in assignments for an officer and that is why I applied for the General Staff Officer Course.

-What is your background?

After I completed my Master's studies I started working in Häme Regiment on an officer's career path from a platoon leader to a company commander. I also spent a year in crisis management duties in Syria and Lebanon. After Häme Regiment was disbanded I transferred to the National Defence University to work as a lecturer on research education and I worked in that position until the start of the General Staff Officer Course.

-What do General Staff Officer studies give you for your career?

To paraphrase the study guide, GS studies provide you with "knowledge and researcher skills to prepare you for the most demanding duties in the officer corps, both during normal and wartime conditions. When working in future operating environments "one must be able to apply knowledge, skills and new approaches flexibly and to be able to lead both people and issues responsibly."

-What new skills have you gained from your studies?

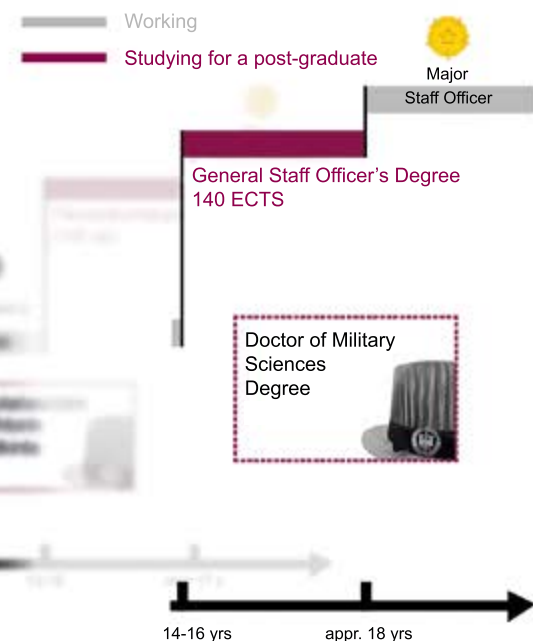
So far the studies have considerably improved my understanding of our current defence system and the factors affecting it. I have also gained tools, good practices and theories that I imagine I will need in my future duties.

-What things or moment have been the most challenging during your studies?

The course has had many length- and time-limited papers to write. This was challenging at first, when you lacked routine for them. Repetition as seen by the behaviourist school as been a key factor also here, and writing doing the papers has improved.

-What hints would you give to those who are starting their GS studies?

Practice writing, and a short and clear way of doing presentations.



PROGRESSING IN OFFICER STUDIES

Doctor of Military Sciences Degree

The Doctor of Military Sciences (D.Sc. (Mil.Sc.)) degree is a postgraduate degree in military sciences. The objective of this degree is conducting research and science as well as producing new researched data to support teaching and decision-making and to develop military science.

The degree is being reformed and further information will be posted on our website: <https://maanpuolus-tuskorkeakoulu.fi/tohtoriksi>. The degree can be completed in four years of full-time study. In addition to studies, a thesis is also written.

■ DISCIPLINES

The Doctor of Military Sciences degree can be completed in among others the following disciplines:

- leadership
- Operational art and tactics
- Military history
- Military pedagogy
- Military sociology
- Military technology
- Military economics
- Strategic studies

Doctors of Military Sciences work in different types of demanding expert tasks and as university professors within the Defence Forces and elsewhere in society.

■ COMMITMENT

For the part of the Doctor of Military Sciences Degree, the period of commitment is the duration of the studies will full salary benefit. More detailed information on commitment can be found in the section The Officer's Profession.

-What made you apply for the Doctoral Degree studies?

I applied for a position in the Finnish Defence Research Agency, and one of the prerequisites was starting doctoral studies. Already before that I was applying for doctoral studies in the Helsinki University of Technology, but the National Defence University seemed more suitable career wise at the time since I had ended up working in the Finnish Defence Forces and I wanted to learn as much as I could about the organisation and its activities, so that I could perform my own duties in the best possible way.

-What is your background?

I have a Master of Science (Technology) from Helsinki University of Technology.

-How are the Doctor of Military Sciences studies different from your previous studies and what new skills have you gained from your studies?

In my previous studies there were always some path and guidelines about what courses you must complete, which courses you should complete and what courses you can do if you want. It was a surprise when it wasn't like that in the Doctor of Military Sciences studies, but you had to put together the entire degree and its contents from scratch, independently. Things have changed since then. The studies have taught me a lot of new things and deepened my Defence Forces knowledge.

-Quite exceptionally, you are studying on the General Staff Officer Course at the same time. Has it been difficult to combine the studies?

After I started on the GSOC it was clear that the doctoral studies would have to wait. Studying on the GSOC and writing papers for it and its diploma thesis won't give you time to do anything else.

-What things or moment have been the most challenging during your studies?

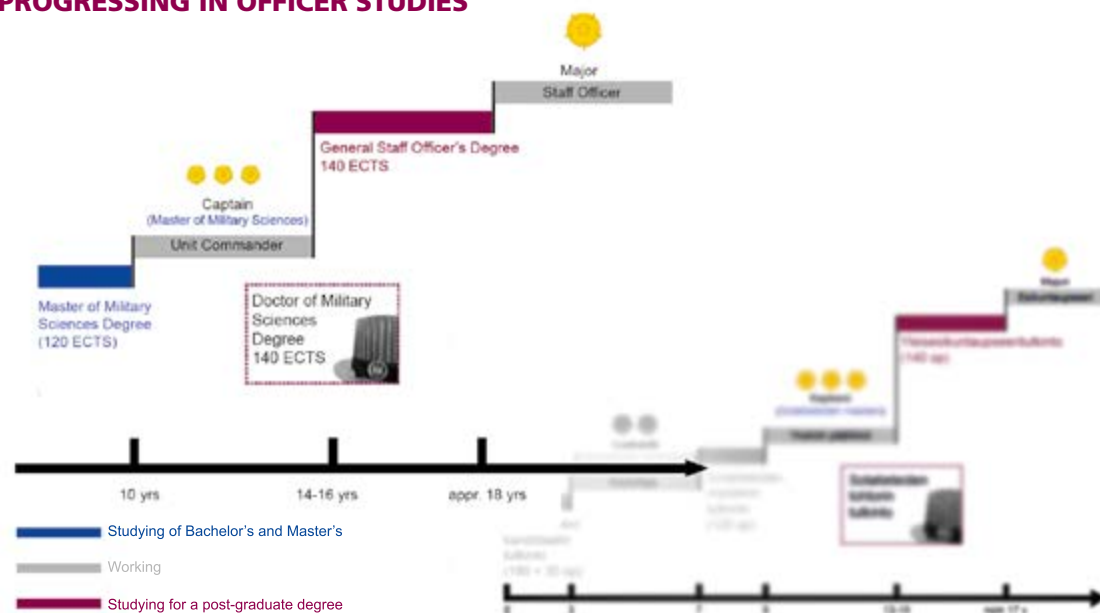
At first, I did not receive any kind of guidance, except that my dissertation should be about a topic somehow connected to my work. I didn't know what to do or how. I didn't know how to choose my research topic or how to limit it. I just did something and hoped it would take me forward, or at least in some direction. If it looked like the wrong direction, I tried something different again. After changing departments and thesis supervisors, the research became clearer but some large challenges still remain.

-What tips do you have for those considering doctoral studies?

Being methodical and doing background research. Hindsight is 20/20, now I would choose and limit my research topic very carefully before starting my studies. Additionally, I would thoroughly figure out, what kind of new contribution is my research going to make. This is the way it should actually go, but my path was different.



■ PROGRESSING IN OFFICER STUDIES



■ APPLYING

The Doctor of Military Sciences degree is aimed primarily at officers who have completed the General Staff Officer Course. For special reasons, a person who has completed a suitable Master's or higher degree at the National Defence University or other university can be accepted to study towards this degree.

It is possible to apply to take the Doctor of Military Sciences degree at any time. Before submitting an application, applicants must consult the professor at the National Defence University, within whose discipline the planned research subject belongs. A supporting statement by the professor is required in order to be accepted for postgraduate studies. A supporting statement by the professor is required in order to be accepted for postgraduate studies. Contact information for the professors can be found from our home page at <https://maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu.fi/professorit>

■ SELECTION

The decision to accept a postgraduate student is made by the Rector of the National Defence University based on the proposal of the Research Council. Foreign applicants are approved by the Defence Command's Chief of Personnel upon proposal by the Rector of the National Defence University. Applicants are informed by letter as to whether their application was successful or not. A student may accept only one student place leading to a university degree during the same academic year.

■ ELIGIBILITY

Applicants who have completed a Master's or higher degree in a discipline that is relevant to military sciences may apply to complete a doctoral degree in military sciences. In order to be accepted, the National Defence University must have the prerequisites to supervise the prospective student and dissertation subjects must fall within the field of military sciences and be useful from the point of view of total national defence.

A further requirement is that students accepted have received at least the following review of their previously completed Master's or higher level (Master's Thesis, officer's degree, diploma) thesis:

- minimum cum laude approbatur (on the Finnish academic grading scale of approbatur-laudatur)
- minimum 2 (on a numerical scale of 1-3)
- minimum 3 (on a numerical scale of 1-5)

If some other scale has been used for evaluation, the review received must reach at least an equivalent level. Exceptions to this general rule can be made upon proposal by the professor of the discipline in question.

■ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Together with their application form, applicants must submit:

1) A research plan, describing:

- research topic
- earlier research in the area
- research problem and preliminary research questions
- theoretical framework for the research
- research material and research methods to be used
- a short account of the planned progression and schedule of the research

2) A certificate of their earlier Master's or higher university degree, based on which the right to conduct post-graduate studies is sought

- It is not necessary to submit a certificate if the earlier degree has been completed at the National Defence University.

3) A free-form letter of application

Stating how the research topic will benefit the National Defence University and the Finnish Defence Forces.

4) Consent to undergoing a personal security clearance investigation

- Fill in items: B1, B2, C, D, E).
- **PLEASE NOTE!** Remember to sign the consent form!
- According to Section 19 of the Act on the National Defence University (1121/2008), the National Defence University requests security clearance of students applying to the National Defence University in accordance with the Act on Security Clearances (726/2014).

5) Curriculum Vitae (CV) or personal record

- is also submitted for security clearance.

If you want to, you can attach the following supporting documents to your application:

- letter(s) of reference
- a list of possible publications in scientific journals.

Please submit your application with supporting documents to the National Defence University's Registry Office addressed to the Rector of the National Defence University:

National Defence University
Registry Office
P.O. Box 7
00861 Helsinki



DOCTORAL DEGREE CEREMONY 2018

The second Doctoral Degree Ceremony in the history of the National Defence University was arranged on 7 September 2018. The Doctoral Degree Ceremony is one of the most estimable of academic ceremonies: the doctoral degrees of those who were conferred a degree were confirmed and they received the official right to carry the doctoral hat and sword. This event was also one of the most important during the 25th anniversary year of the National Defence University. With consideration on the special characteristics of the National Defence University as a university of military sciences, and the only institution of higher education offering the highest level of military education in Finland, the Doctors of Military Sciences, who have defended their doctoral theses according to academic university tradition since 2013, were conferred their degree at the Doctoral Degree Ceremony in the autumn of 2018.

National Defence University
P.O. BOX 7, 00861 HELSINKI
maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu.fi



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