



National Defence University

Selections Guide 2020

Graduate and Post-graduate Studies in Military Sciences





National Defence University Selections Guide 2020

■ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Contents

Foreword by the Rector	4
Greetings of the Cadet Corps Association and Students' Union	5
The Officer's Profession	6
Service Commitment	7
An Example of an Officer's Tasks	7
Officer Education	8
Progressing in Officer Studies	8
National Defence University	9
Military Sciences	11
Bachelor of Military Sciences Degree	12
Studying at the National Defence University	13
Service Commitment.....	14
Examples of Tasks (B.Sc. (Mil.Sc.)).....	14
Study Benefits.....	15
Programmes	
Army Programme	16
Navy Programme	21
Air Force Programme	23
Officer Pilots' Programme	25
Applying to the Bachelor of Military Sciences Programme	
Eligibility.....	27
Main Application Procedure for the Bachelor of Military Sciences Programme	
How to Apply	31
Supporting Documents	31
Entrance exam	34
Selection Criteria of the main application entrance exam	36
Separate application procedure for the Officer Pilots' Programme	
How to Apply	38
Supporting Documents	39
Selection Criteria	40
Accepting a Study Place	41
Frequently Asked Questions	42
Contact Information	42
Master of Military Sciences degree	43
Executive Assistance Programme	46
General Staff Officer's Degree	48
Doctor of Military Sciences Degree	50
How to Apply	52
Supporting Documents	53
Additional Information	54

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.

The studies and requirements are based on the needs of the profession. They combine studies that fulfil university-level requirements and learning practical military skills. The teaching methods are varied and modern. A good example of this is high quality exercises in the right kind of 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 everyone who is interested and who meets the entrance requirements, to apply to study in 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. The right to lead, however, also comes with responsibilities: 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. 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, as well as doctoral 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 Kähärä
Chairman of the Cadet Corps Association
Cadet Lassi Pietilä

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. Within the Border Guard they work indifferent tasks involving both military defence and border security as well as air and maritime rescue. 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. An officer's tasks require both mental and

physical endurance. 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
- Finnish 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
- Border and Coast Guard Academy



■ SERVICE COMMITMENT

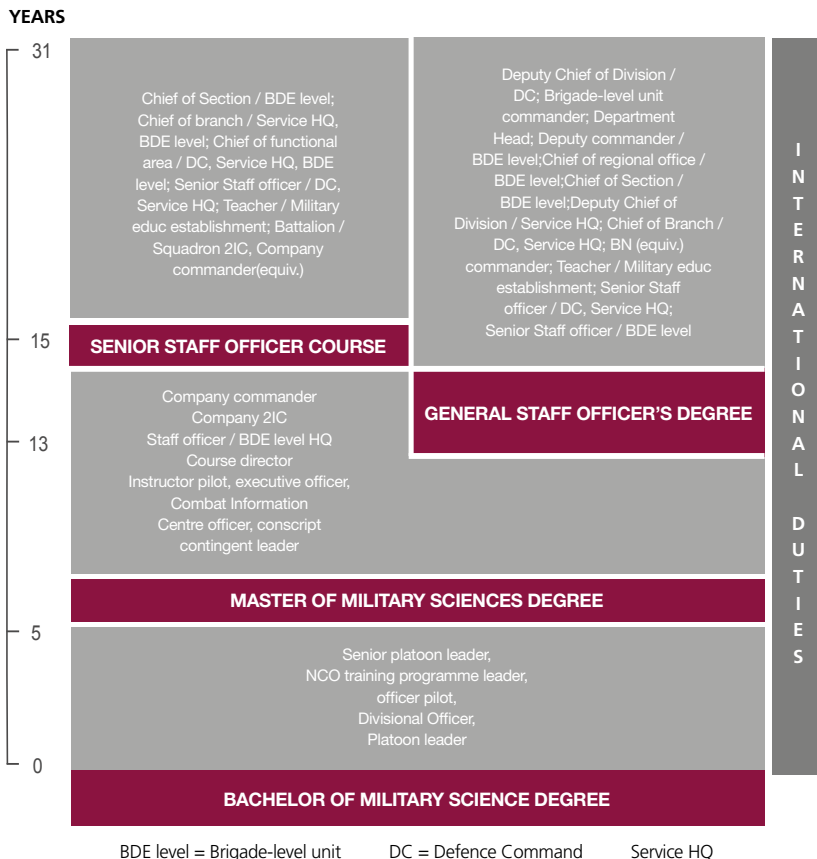
The Defence Forces and Border Guard educate and train the military personnel that they need. The amount of personnel that is needed to fulfil the duties prescribed by law are trained on different degree programmes and courses. Cadets accepted into the National Defence University and students employed 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. The Act on the National Defence University (30.12.2008/1121) requires bachelor's of Military Sciences students who will be appointed as officers sign a statutory service commitment.

The length of the service commitment starting, from the day they receive their degree is as follows: for those completing a master's degree a maximum of four years, for a doctoral degree a maximum of four years, for those completing a bachelor's degree a maximum of three years, for

completing the general staff officer's degree a maximum of three years, and for those trained as military pilots and navigators combining training status and after commissioning a total maximum of 14 years, since the start of training. For the part of the Doctor of Military Sciences Degree and the General Staff Officer Course, the period of commitment is the duration of the studies with only full salary benefit.

If a person resigns or is given notice during the time they have 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



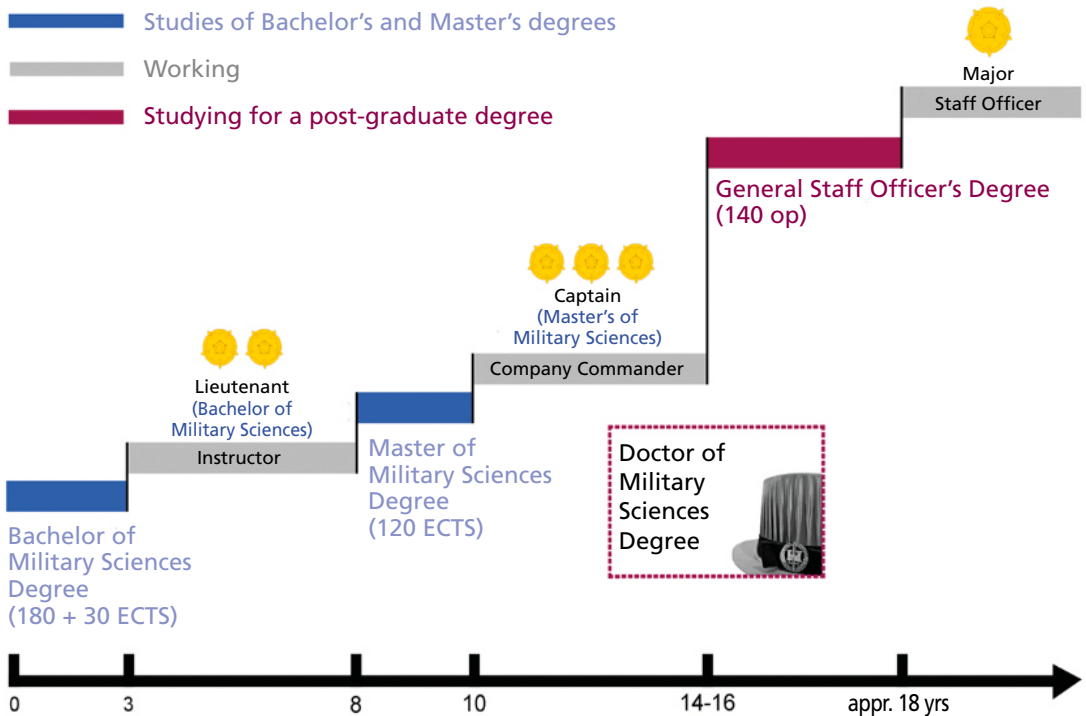
OFFICER EDUCATION

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.

PROGRESSING IN OFFICER STUDIES (EXAMPLE)



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 home 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.

The National Defence University is divided into programmes departments and other adminis-



trative 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 cooperation 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 (Maasotakoulu)
- Naval Academy
- Air Force Academy (Ilmasotakoulu)

The Border Guard

- Border and Coast Guard Academy

Other Military Educational Establishments (FDF) Finnish Defence Forces Logistics Command

- The Logistics School

Army Academy

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

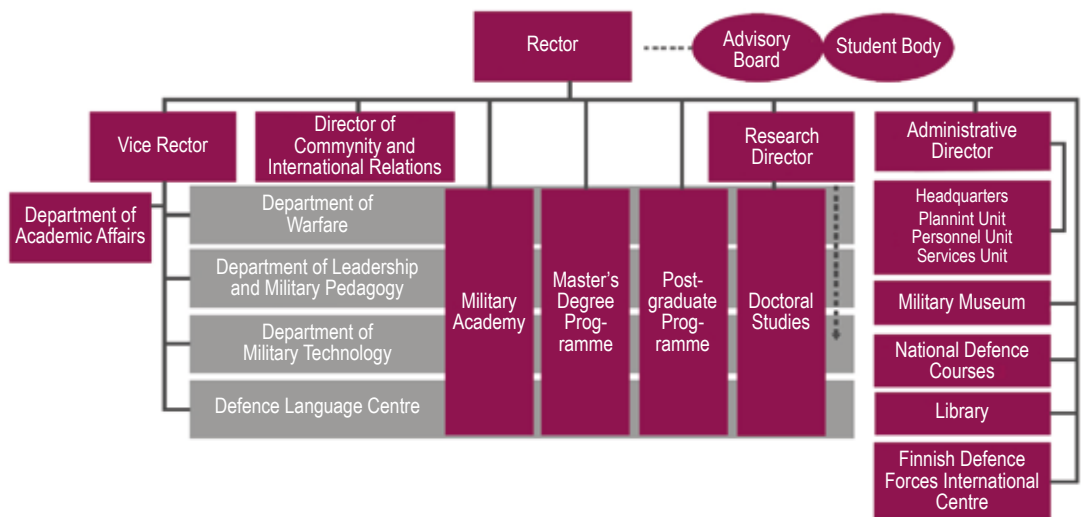
Armoured Brigade

- Electronic Warfare Training Centre

Utti Jaeger Regiment

- Helicopter Battalion

■ ORGANISATION





■ 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

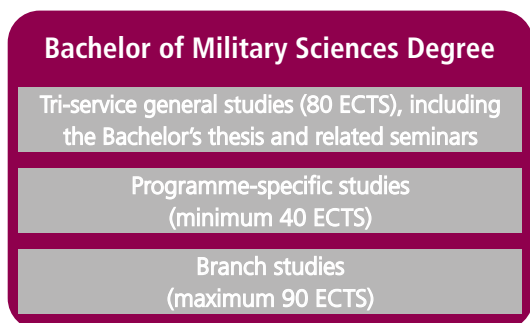
and strategic level complement the overall image of military theory. Its teaching also includes research into international security. The primary task of military history is to analyse military theory with the help of research into history, and at the same time support the studies in other disciplines of military theory.

Military Pedagogy looks at the development of the soldier's capacities and capabilities from the perspective of teaching and learning. The objective of military pedagogy studies is to give the students a comprehensive understanding of the concepts of soldiers' skills and competence, and a readiness to apply and evaluate those concepts. Military Pedagogy looks at the basic phenomena of learning and teaching, pedagogical skills, training and education systems and promoting national defence and comprehensive security in accordance with 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. Military economics studies within military technology look at topics related to Defence Forces wartime capability planning, building and maintenance, as well as the security of supply during times of crisis.

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 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.

Cadets who complete their Bachelor's degree and begin working in the Finnish Defence Forces

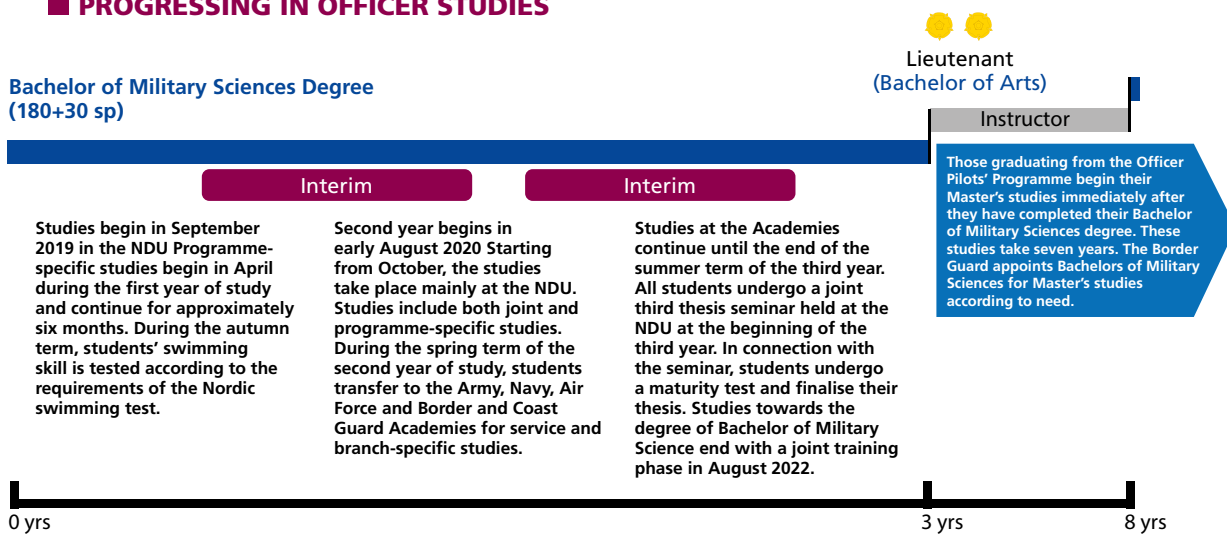
receive a fixed-, 10 year-term junior officer's commission and are promoted to the rank of lieutenant. The fixed term can be extended so that the combined length of the term is no longer than 15 years.

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.

■ PROGRESSING IN OFFICER STUDIES





Bachelor student, cadet Meri

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?

The most memorable 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 Programme, branch specialisation is determined already in connection with the student selection phase. In the Army Programme and the Coast Guard specialisation, branch specialisation is based on the first mid-term assessment.

All programmes under the Bachelor of Military Sciences degree begin at the beginning of September 2020 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.))

A Bachelor's first assignment can be

1. 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 2019, daily allowance used for the basis of calculation was €2. 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 2019, the equipment allowance was €0.75 per week.

Travel Costs

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 reim-

bursed 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. Service 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 4,600 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 450 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-armour troops. Training is versatile and includes most of the infantry's most important weapons systems, incl. anti-tank missile systems. Infantry and anti-armour 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. Branch studies are carried out at 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. Studies include training with battle tanks as well as mechanised infantry

combat 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, rocket 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. Officers trained for reconnaissance and intelligence duties serve in all Army brigade-level units. Branch studies are carried out at 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, mobility, construction of fortification, CBRNe and military construction. 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. Programme-specific studies are carried out in the Military Engineer School in Lappeenranta and in 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. Electronic Warfare Programme students go on to work as platoon leaders in different EW units 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 creates the conditions for infantry to engage in combat. Artillery combines the skills of several branches. Reconnaissance fire 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 direct 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. GBAD is a part of overall air defence. Finnish Defence Forces By means of active and passive measures of the De-

fence 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 operating environment is divided into physical, electromagnetic and cyber dimensions. 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.

■ 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 troops, personnel, and systems. The same applies to the usability of premises and materiel. Logistics is divided into supply, maintenance, transport, medical and repair 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 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.

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 with the Navy's capabilities, together with the other services and maritime authorities.

International cooperation is emphasised in Navy operations. There is daily maritime surveillance co-operation with states in the neighbouring area, as well as on a European scale. 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 programme serve in duties 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. Within Navy Programme you study either in the Naval or the Coastal Forces Programme. Studies begin every year. 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.

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

■ NAVAL PROGRAMME

Teaching in the naval programme concentrates on navigation and on surveillance, leadership and weapons systems. The goal is that the graduating officer has the necessary qualifications for military seafaring, and knows how to use the main weapon 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 serve 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.

PLEASE NOTE! Primarily, only those who have listed the naval programme as their first choice, will be invited to the tests. Others, who have selected it (2nd-4th choice) may be invited at a short notice until the end of June.



■ 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 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. **You can apply to the Coast Guard Programme by first applying to the Naval Programme. The programme selections are done in conjunction with the first mid-term assessment in the autumn term of the second academic year.**

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 jae-

gers. The first task of an officer graduating from the coastal forces programme is usually instructor in a company-level unit. Master of Military Sciences graduates serve as e.g. unit second-in-command or commanding officer. Coastal forces programme studies are partly convergent with the Army's training programme.



Air Force programme

Bachelors of Military Sciences who graduate from the Air Force Programme serve in versatile instructor, operator 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 defence 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 Air Force's training comprises three programmes: The Air Force C5 programme, Control and Reporting Centre programme and Aircraft Maintenance programme. All of the Air Force programmes are starting studies in 2020. The Air Force main programme accepts applications annually. The sub-programme selections are done in conjunction with the first mid-term assessment in the autumn term of the second academic year. In relation to the selections, during their first year the students will undergo various psychological and medical aptitude tests led by the Air Force Academy. Failure in the tests will make the candidates ineligible for the CRC Programme and the Aircraft Maintenance Programme.

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





■ AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT 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. The main part of the studies are carried out at the Air Force Academy in Tikkakoski. Graduates' first tasks are mainly related to maintenance, instructor, command and expert duties of the Air Force's command and fires systems. The training provides capabilities for working in duties in the fields of cyber defence and intelligence.

■ 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, and for command and expert duties in the aircraft maintenance organisations. This ensures the operational use, maintenance, training and development of aircraft in the Air Force's national and international operating environment.

The main part of aircraft maintenance studies are carried out at the Air Force Academy in Tikkakoski. Graduates' first tasks are mainly related to daily maintenance tasks of aircraft and training those tasks in the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. This will also increase the officers' knowledge of airbase operations.

You can apply to the Air Force Aircraft Maintenance Programme even if you have no previous training in the field.

■ 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.

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 tasks in the Defence Forces or Border Guard.

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. The applicant must list the sub-programmes in order of preference when applying for the Officer Pilots' Programme.

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. This allows flight training to progress forwards and upwards. The Border Guard further educates its Bachelors of Military Sciences according to its needs.

■ 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 by the aircraft type the pilots continue flying with: the Hornet fighter aircraft, transport and liaison aircraft, or Hawk jet trainers.



■ ARMY PILOT'S PROGRAMME

The Army Pilots' 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 sorties include flights in support of the other services and executive assistance to other cooperation authorities (among others search and rescue, and firefighting flights). Graduates of the Army helicopter pilot's programme work as helicopter pilots in the Utti Jaeger Regiment's Helicopter Battalion.

■ BORDER GUARD PILOT'S PROGRAMME

Studies are carried out at the National Defence University, Air Force Academy, Border and Coast

Guard Academy and Air Patrol Squadron. Some military vocational 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.

In the beginning of an officer pilot's career the main focus is in air operations and advanced flight training. 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, and later as aviation safety officers or flight instructors. 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 a supplementary course at the Reserve Officer School before the cadet course begins.

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 supplementary course (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 2020. The National Defence University will instruct the applicant on how to apply for the course if they are selected or placed on a waiting list. The applicant is responsible for registering for the course. Applicants who have completed the course (e.g. 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. More information at upseeriksi.fi and <http://www.studyinfo.fi>

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
- A foreign degree that carries eligibility for corresponding higher education studies in the country in question. (E.g. A Swedish matriculation examination)

With degrees other than the ones recognised by the Finnish National Agency for Education (IB, EB, RB) the applicant is responsible for obtaining an equivalence certificate stating the equivalence to of the grades when compared to the Finnish matriculation examination.

4) 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 01/04/2020.

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 service classification must have had been A in the health examination before conscript service, in the call-up and during conscript service. If the applicant has temporarily dropped out from conscript service (classification E) because of illness or injury, their health must be classification A when applying to the NDU. The services may also have additional health requirements.
2. Hearing must meet for service classification A criteria as prescribed in the Defence Forces' current health examination (TTO2012) 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. If the vision has been corrected with refractive surgery, a sight test cannot be done until 6 months after the surgery.

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).
- Additionally, applicants who have been diagnosed with dyslexia, must bring a separate certificate stating that to the entrance exam. More information on the requirements of the dyslexia certificate are available by telephone (contact information in the end of this guide).
- 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/sotilaslaaketieteen-keskus/terveystarkastusohjeet>

BORDER GUARD

ARMY PROGRAMME'S BORDER GUARD PROGRAMME

- Those accepted onto the Army's border guard programme are required to have visual acuity of minimum 0.7 in both eyes without eyeglasses and
- normal colour vision (maximum four errors in the Ishihara colour vision test).
- They must possess hearing grade I-II.
- Those selected cannot have allergies or chronic illnesses that would affect their working capacity.

NAVY PROGRAMME'S COAST GUARD PROGRAMME

- Visual acuity 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).
- They must possess hearing grade I-II.
- Those selected cannot be prone to sea sickness

OFFICER PILOTS' PROGRAMME - BORDER GUARD PILOT'S PROGRAMME

Requirements concerning the state of health of the Border Guard's flight staff are defined in the European Aviation Safety Agency's norms (EASA Part MED, medical requirements). Pilots must meet Class 1 requirements.

AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME (BG)

Requirements concerning the state of health of the Border Guard's flight crew are defined in the European Aviation Safety Agency's norms (EASA Part MED, medical requirements). Flight Engineers must meet Class 2 requirements.

NAVY PROGRAMMES

In the Navy's Naval 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 vision and hearing grade.

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. Please note that others, who have selected the naval programme as their 2nd-4th choice may be invited to the tests at AMC at a short notice until the end of June.

AIR FORCE PROGRAMME

During their first year the students will undergo various psychological and medical aptitude tests led by the Air Force Academy. The medical requirements concerning the Air Force Control And Reporting Centre Programme and Aircraft Maintenance Programme are as follows:

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

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 2020

■ MAIN APPLICATION 18 March – 1 April 2020:

- Army Programme
- Air Force programme
- Navy - Naval Programme
- Navy - Coastal Forces Programme

All programmes begin their studies in 2020.

■ HOW TO APPLY

The National Defence University's main application procedure is the second joint application period of the Finnish universities. Applications can be filled in on-line at www.studyinfo.fi / www.opintopolku.fi.

The application period starts on 18 March 2020 and ends on 1 April at 15:00.

The period for accepting application attachments ends on 8 April 2020 at 16:15.

Applications or attachments that arrive after the deadline 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 08/04/2020 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 +358 299-530 330 or Admissions Officer +358 299-530 214
1. A copy of the latest military education certificate /Reserve Officer Course/NCO Course (if you have completed both, send both. The certificate must show the number of points given for the general grade that will be used in pre-selection points system. Also include the possible 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 2020, must submit copies of their certificates by 5 June 2020 at 15:00. If you are graduating in spring 2020, remember to make a note of it at the [studyinfo](http://studyinfo.fi) website/ email the Department of Academic Affairs.

Applicants with a vocational degree*

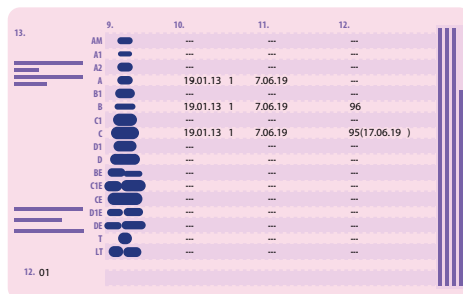
Submit copies:

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 a competence-based qualification must submit a copy of their qualification certificate and transcript of record, which show the grades of 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 1 April 2020. 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.

***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.

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



Points for work experience are given as follows:

1. Working as Contractual Military Personnel for 3 months or more = 1 pt
2. Working in a Crisis Management Operation, as a salaried NCO or working in a Border Guard position for 3 months or more = 2 pt

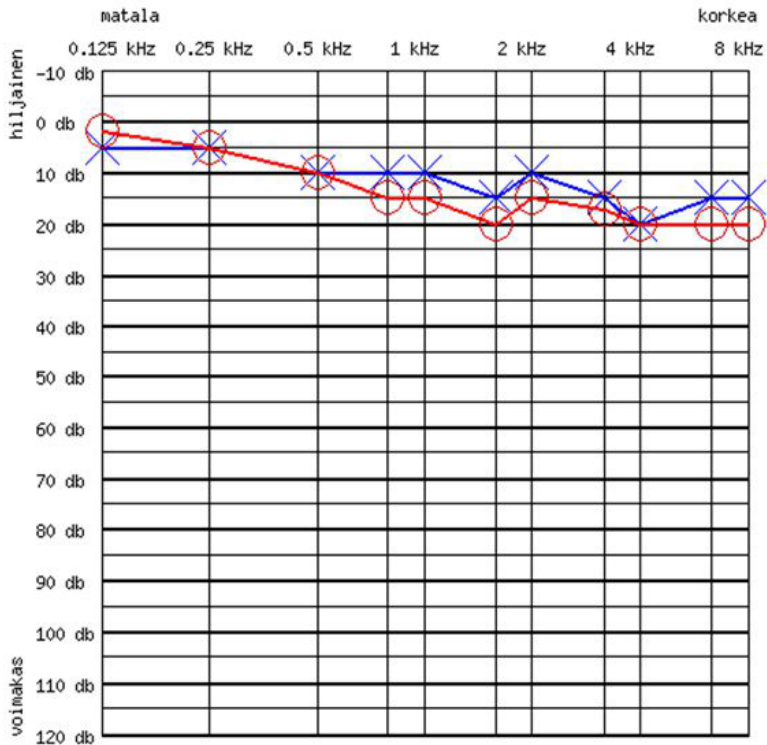
Please note! The submission date for supporting documents is not the same as for other universities in the joint application system. Additional information can be obtained from: opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi. Supporting documents that arrive after the deadline will not be accepted. Applicants may be 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 1 April 2020.
- Submit the supporting documents electronically via <http://www.studyinfo.fi> by 8 April 2020 at 15.00.
- If you are graduating in spring 2020, make a note of it at the [studyinfo](http://www.studyinfo.fi) website.
- Have a medical certificate (form T, no older than 6 months) and a colour vision certificate and an audiogram ready for potential entrance exams, as well as a certificate of dyslexia, if you have been diagnosed with it. 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.

***Please note that a conscript physical examination form is not the same as a form T.**

Example of an audiogram:



■ IMPORTANT DATES

Applications 2020	18 March–1 April 2020
Supporting documents submitted by	15.00 on 08 April 2020
Invitations to the entrance exam	30 April 2020
Have a medical certificate for the entrance exam	No later than 08 May 2020
Main application entrance exam	11 May–15 May 2020
Certificates submitted for those who graduate spring 2020	15.00 on 5 June 2020
AMC testing complete	30 June 2020
Results published	8 July 2020
Confirming intention to study at the NDU	15.00 on 15 July 2020
Waiting list queuing ends	15.00 on 31 July 2020
The 107th Cadet and 90th Midshipman Courses start	02/09/2020

■ 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.

■ INVITATION

The following items are sent together with the entrance exam invitation: invitation for possible additional tests (Navy's Naval Programme), instructions for filling out security clearance application (link) and instructions for obtaining supporting medical documents (T form, audiogram, colour vision).

Security clearance and ties to foreigners, foreign businesses or governments:

Those invited to the entrance exam will get a link and instructions to filling out a security clearance application and a form for listing ties to foreigners, foreign businesses or governments. They will also get a note on how the forms information is used and stored after the entrance exam and selections. The applicants must be ready to fill out the form according to the instructions provided when they arrive at the entrance exam. You can fill out the form in advance. In the entrance exam the applicants are briefed on the security clearance process, and it is ensured that the applicants fill out the forms correctly.

The entrance exam is held at the National Defence University in Helsinki from 11.–15 May 2020.

Invitations to the entrance exams and notifications to those who did not pass pre-selection will be sent in April 2020. 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 11 May–12 May 2020
- 2nd detachment 12 May–13 May 2020
- 3rd detachment 13 May–14 May 2020
- 4th detachment 14 May–15 May 2020

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

FIRST DAY OF ENTRANCE EXAM				
	I PLATOON	II PLATOON	III PLATOON	IV PLATOON
By 09.00	Reporting and platoon assignment			
09.15 - 09.45	Entrance exam opening remarks			
09.45 - 10.15	Accommodation			
10.15 - 11.30	Physical fitness tests	Medical exam	Group test	Interview
11.30 - 12.45	Interview	Physical fitness tests	Lunch	Group test
12.45 - 14.00	Lunch	Lunch	Medical exam	Lunch
14.00 - 15.15	Group test	Interview	Physical fitness tests	Medical exam
15.15 - 16.30	Medical exam	Group test	Interview	Physical fitness tests
16.30 - 17.30	Dinner			
17.30 - 18.30	Service pitches Dinner (for those who failed or dropped out from physical fitness tests)			
18.30 -	Separate interviews			
SECOND DAY OF ENTRANCE EXAM				
	Detachment 1 (I & II PLATOON)		Detachment 2 (III & IV PLATOON)	
07.00 - 12.00	Aptitude test		07.00 - 09.15 open-book exam 09.45 - 11.15 Aptitude test's form test 11.15 - 12.00 Closing remarks and feedback	
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch			
13.00 - 18.00	13.00 - 15.15 open-book exam 15.45 - 17.15 Aptitude test's form test 17.15 - 18.00 Closing remarks 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 2020. opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi

PREPARING FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAM

BRING WITH YOU TO THE ENTRANCE EXAM:

- A medical certificate no older than 6 months** (form T or SALääk 1141, examinee's copy), must include the result of the hearing (incl. Audiogram, a separate attachment and vision (incl. colour vision) tests. The entrance exam of applicants who do not bring their certificate and all supporting documents with them to the exam, will be suspended due to incomplete documentation.
- Leadership profile 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 profile 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 profile** at the entrance exam if they do not have it with them. It is up to the applicant to make sure that a leadership profile is constructed for them.
- Outdoor and indoor sportswear.** Civilian clothing is worn during the entrance exam.
- 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 jump (3 jumps)
- 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

Plan your arrival in advance and reserve enough time for arrival to Santahamina. You can find the journey planner for the Helsinki metropolitan area at [Osoitteesta www.reittiopas.fi](http://Osoitteesta.www.reittiopas.fi). Due to limited parking space, you should avoid arriving by car. During the summer months, the Hevossalmi bridge to Santahamina opens to vessel traffic 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 2020. 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 50 pts |
| 2. Open-book exam | max 25 pts |
| 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 profile. 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) a 12-minute running test (m) |
| 2,0 m or less = 0 pts | 28 repetitions or less = 0 pts | 2599 m or less =fail |
| 2,4 m or more = 2 pts | 36 repetitions or more = 1 | 2600 m = 0 pts |
| | | 3000 m = 5 pts |

■ TIED 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 2020, it is possible to apply to the following Bachelor of Military Sciences degree programmes through separate application:

- Officer Pilots' Programme
- Officer Pilots' Programme
- Officer Pilots' Programme

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

■ HOW TO APPLY

Applications and supporting documents are submitted using the application form "Hakemus Maanpuolustuskorkeakouluun sotatieteiden kandidaatin ja maisterin tutkintoihin johtavaan koulutukseen / LENTOUPSEERIN KOULUTUSOHJELMAAN" (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 Martti Manner

- By email: martti.manner@mil.fi
- by telephone: Tel. +358 299 257 220.

Application period is 1-27 May 2020. Applications and supporting documents must arrive by closing on 27 May 2020 at 15:00 at:

Ilmasotakoulu Koulutuspatalljoona
ILMAVRUK
KADK 107. ohjaajaopintosuuntien haku
PL 7
41161 TIKKAKOSKI

Any applications arriving after this deadline will not be accepted.





13.	9.	10.	11.	12.
AM
A1
A2
A	19.01.13 1	7.06.19
B1
B	19.01.13 1	7.06.19	96	...
C1
C	19.01.13 1	7.06.19	95(17.06.19)	...
D1
D
BE
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T
LT

12. 01

■ 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 April 2020. 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. contractual Military Personnel or crisis management personnel)

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.

■ 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 2020.
- 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 applications arriving after the 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 8 July 2020 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 acceptance email 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 15 July 2020. 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 their study place, the place is offered to the next applicant on the waiting list. The waiting list for study places closes on 31 July 2020 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 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 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 Academic Studies Element. Instructions for requesting an amendment will be sent with the acceptance announcement email.

■ BEGINNING ONE'S STUDIES

The 107th Cadet and 90th Midshipman Courses start on 2 September 2020. 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 network-assisted learning environment FDFMOODLE at www.pvmoodle.fi. Students must be registered in the portal before starting their studies. 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 2020.

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 as well as an audio-gram with you.

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 in the NDU always start from the basics, so you can apply for the Navy or Air Force Programmes even if you did your conscript service in the Army (the only exception is the separate application procedure for the Officer Pilots' Programme, which always requires completion of the Air Force's Pilot Reserve Officer Course.

7. At which point do the Army and Air Force 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: opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi or +358 (0)299 530 214 (Admissions Officer) and +358 (0)299 530 330 (Education Coordinator).
- Officer Pilots' Programme and separate application procedure: Captain Martti Manner, martti.manner@mil.fi or during office hours by telephone +358 (0)299 257 220.

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 (SMMAA)
- Navy Programme (SMMERI)
- Air Force Programme (SMILMA)
- Officer Pilots' Programme (SMLENTOUPS)
- Border Guard Programme (SMRVL)
- Executive Assistance Programme (SMVIR)



The time allowed for completing a Master's degree is determined by the Defence Command and the Border Guard Headquarters. 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. Officers in the officer pilot's programme begin their Master's studies immediately after they have completed their Bachelor's degrees.

They complete their studies over the course of seven years.

Master's studies start with an orientation phase approximately one year before the actual studies begin. During the orientation phase the students will select their Master's thesis topic, begin drafting their personal competence development plan, and complete possible supplementary studies required for changing their study programme.

The pre-requisite for the assignment and confirmation of the right to study is that the officer has served

satisfactorily 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.

The Border Guard proposes Bachelors for the programme based on their performance in their studies, on their own willingness and suitability demonstrated in their work. All Border Guard officer's with a Bachelor's can state their willingness to do the Master's degree.

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.

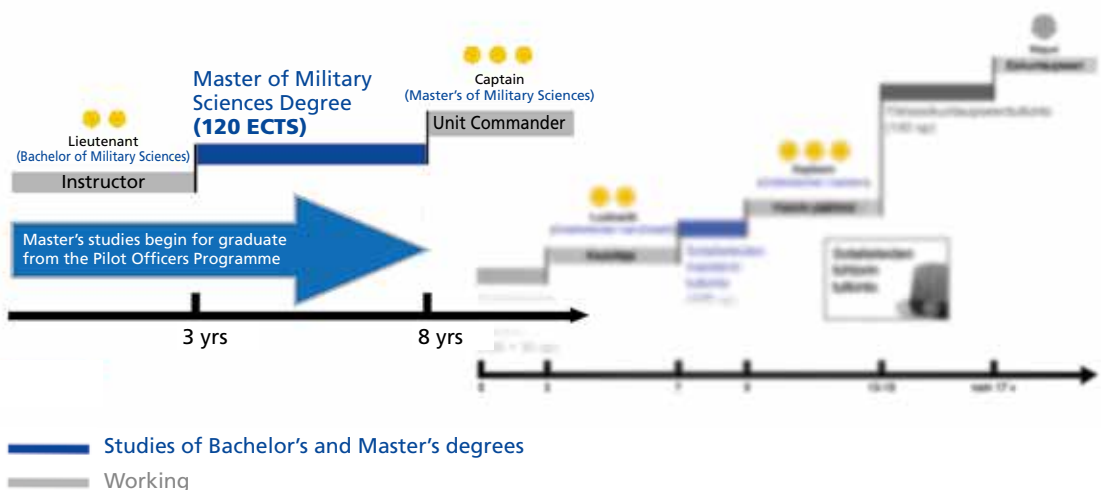
■ EXAMPLES OF TASKS (M.Sc. (Mil.Sc.))

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 (conscript unit, border control point) border or coast guard station) or a Staff Officer in 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 (incl. Readiness Officer, Head of Border Checks Sector, Head of Border Surveillance Sector.)

■ COMMITMENT

The period of statutory service 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 STUDIES





Master's student Heikki

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, the studies have given me good basis for being a company commander, or a staff officer in a battalion or brigade-level unit, or in a 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 national 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. Studies according to the revised programme will begin in autumn 2021. Applications for studies in the programme will be accepted in spring 2020. Anyone with a suitable bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences or university may apply for the Executive Assistance Programme. It is to the applicant's advantage if they already have connections to the field of national defence or interagency cooperation actors.

A person selected for the Executive Assistance Programme can be required to complete supplementary studies to fulfil the necessary prerequisites for the programme.

The maximum amount of credits required is 60 ECTS. The supplementary studies must be completed before the actual studies begin, and they will not be included in the programme studies. The need and amount of supplementary studies is determined based on the student's knowledge, background and entrance exam results. If there is not need for supplementary studies, the student may begin degree studies already during the orientation phase if separately permitted to do so.

Further information on applying and grounds for selection can be found on the NDU's website in the spring of 2020.

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

opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi tai
+358 (0)299 530 214 (Admissions 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. Particularly the group projects done during contact studies have been very fruitful, thanks to the conversations had during them.

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

How or with what have you conquered these challenges?

Has is, 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 6 ECTS Strategic

Security environment 25 ECTS

Leadership and commandship 31 ECTS

Operational art ECTS

Applying scientific practices 35 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.

■ APPLYING

The General Staff Officer Course begins every other year and the application period is ap-

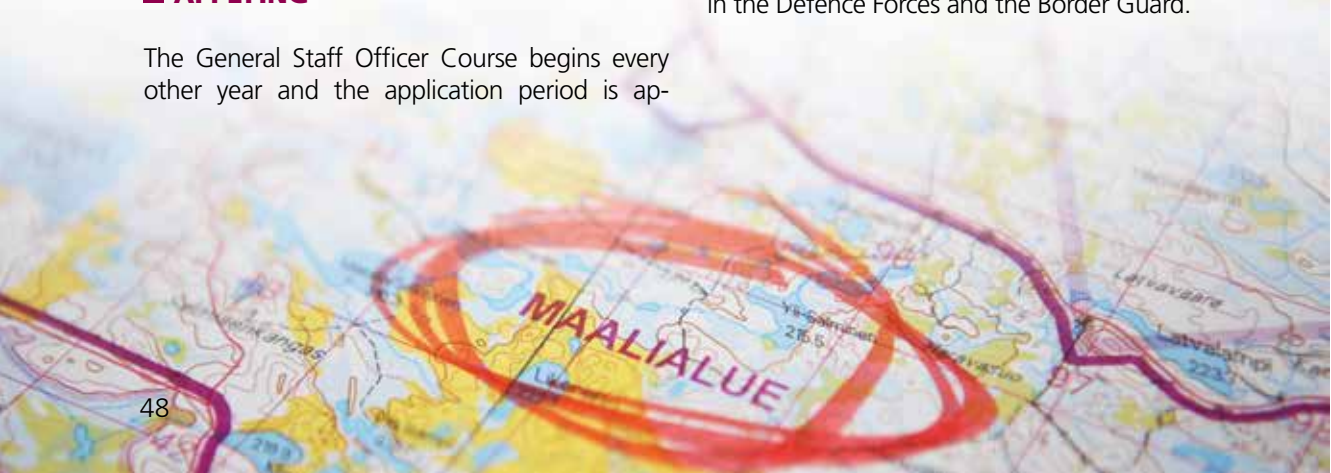
proximately two years before the course begins. Separate instructions on how to apply and the application period are given for each course. Application to this course primarily takes place 4-6 years after completion of the Master of Military Sciences degree. Exceptions to this main rule can be made based 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 six months before the course begins. A student may accept only one student place leading to a university degree during the same academic year.

■ 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.



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?

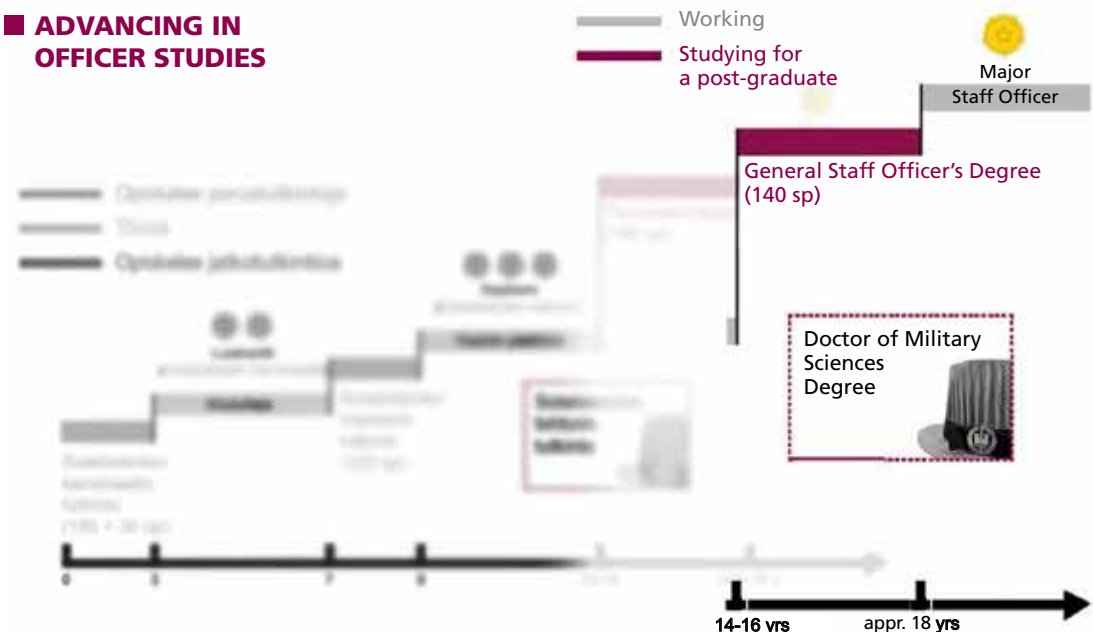
The course has had many length- and time-limited papers to write. This was challenging at first, when you lacked routine for them. Repetition as seen by the behaviourist school has been a key factor also here, and writing doing the papers has improved.

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

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



■ ADVANCING 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.

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 with full salary benefit. More detailed information on commitment can be found in the section The Officer's Profession.



Doctoral student Niina

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. It has changed slightly since. 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.



■ 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 tertiary degree (Master's, 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)

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 postgraduate 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:



Applicants may be asked to present original certificates. Giving false or incomplete information may lead to the loss of the right to study.

Further 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:
opintoasiainosasto.mpkk@mil.fi or
+358 (0)299 530 214 (Admissions Officer) and +358(0)299 530 330 (Education Coordinator).

Officer Pilots' Programme and separate application procedure:
Captain Martti Manner, martti.manner@mil.fi or
during office hours by telephone +358 (0)299 257 220.

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)



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100
56

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