

APPROVED

with Directive No. 0.1-3.40/25/91 of the Commandant of the Estonian Military Academy of 18.12.2025

Name of course in Estonian	Jalaväehvitseri baastaseme kursus vahetusüliõpilastele
Name of course in English	<i>Officers Basic level course for exchange students</i>
Code of course	25018
Type of training	In-service training
Curriculum group	Warfare and national defence
Volume	193 academic hours
Nominal duration	3 weeks
Form of study / study load	Full-time
Educational institution	Estonian Military Academy (EMA)
Language	English
Other languages required to achieve learning outcomes	None
Curriculum approved in institution	Directive No. 0.1-3.40/25/91 of the Commandant of the EMA of 18.12.2025
Conditions for applying	Referral by an educational institution of a NATO member state or a partnering country.
Conditions for taking the course	Previously completed training for weapons and tactics at least on infantry squad level; proficiency in English on a STANAG 6001 level 2222.
Objective	To develop the skills of international students to act as commanders of an infantry platoon in an English-language environment.
Learning outcomes	On completion of the course, students will be able to: 1) command the primary standing operating procedures of a light infantry platoon in cold-weather conditions; 2) express their opinion and write texts in English on different general and specialised topics.
Assessment	Non-differentiated (ND)
Learning environment	Classroom, field training areas, e-learning environment ILIAS of the EDF
Learning methods and capacity in academic hours	Seminar - 60 hours Exercise - 96 hours Independent work (IW) - 32 hours Lectures - 5 hours
Short description of the course structure	Studies comprise a single module; classes are integrated with other courses offered within the applied higher education curricula of the EMA and are held mainly in the EMA according to the established schedule.
Qualification, learning and working experience required from the instructors and lecturers	Lecturers must comply with the requirements laid down in the service regulation for academic employees of the EMA.
Instructors and lecturers	Responsibility for each subject area is assigned to an appointed lecture Subject areas are divided as follows:

	Tactics (cold-weather warfare camp) - Chair of Tactics Language (English) - Chair of Foreign Languages
Mandatory reading materials	None
Recommended reading materials	„ <i>Extreme Ownership: How U.S. Navy SEALs Lead and Win</i> “ / Jocko Willink, Leif Babin / 2015. „ <i>Embrace the suck</i> “. Audiobook. 2020 Hackworth, D. H.
List and short description of independent work	1) Preparing and making a presentation. 2) Preparing for a group assignment (debate). 3) Writing a formal letter. 4) Writing a description. 5) Completing the “English B1 + Tartu” learning modules in the EDF e-learning environment.
Conditions for final assessment	None
Assessment methods	Presentation, essay, group assignment (debate), completing cold-weather warfare drills.
Final assessment	The student will receive a "pass" if all assessed assignments in each subject area meet or exceed the required threshold 1) English: a) Formal letter; b) Description; c) Presentation (7–10 min); d) Group assignment (debate). 2) Cold-weather warfare camp: completing cold-weather warfare drills.
Feedback	In English lessons, students will get constant feedback on their performance by lecturers and/or peers. Leadership skills will be evaluated in winter camp throughout the activities.
Settling overdue assignments	Arrangements for completing overdue assignments are made with the lecturer within the duration of the course.
Completing the curriculum	In one module, according to the schedule.
Conditions for completing the course	1) Student took part in the cold-weather warfare field camp. 2) Students achieved threshold level in all evaluated assignments
Documents issued after passing the course	Course certificate
Military qualification obtained from completing the course	None
Rank granted from completing the course	None
Rights granted from completing the course	None
Additional information	Department of Academic Studies of the EMA

Course schedule					
Topic No.	Topic	Location	Instructor	Volume in hours	Study method
1.	Winter skills: Familiarization of Estonian weapons and equipment.	EMA	PLT OC	10	Exercise
2.	Introduction: Familiarization of the training events flow, safety instructions brief. What is winter warfare.	EMA classroom	1LT Kiisel	1	Lecture
3.	Winter skills: Med. lesson (avoiding and dealing with cold injuries).	EMA classroom	Ltn Voomets	2	Lecture
4.	Winter skills: Effective use of MRE in cold weather conditions, Weapon and equipment maintenance, principles of clothing & PPE and winter hygiene.	EMA classroom	MSGT Ivanov	2	Lecture
5.	Administration: General preparations, providing of unit equipment, required individual equipment check; Equipment loading on transport. Road march.	EMA Nursipalu training area	1LT Kuus 2LT Tedrema	6	Exercise
6.	Administration: General preparations, providing of unit equipment, required individual equipment check, preparations for next day.	Nursipalu	MSGT Ivanov SFC Vihar SFC Vissel SFC Kens SFC Liivak SFC Laats	3	Exercise
7.	Winter skills (circuit training): Squad attack on trench line, trench line clearing, defensive procedures in trench line; Setting up accommodation, "Siberian check" in trench line.	Nursipalu	2LT Tedrema SFC Kens MAJ Nõlvak 1LT Kuus	15	Exercise
8.	Winter skills (circuit training): Ice safety/recce/"Ice hole" 1 (Rescue techniques, hypothermia)/ Bonfire; Principles of setting up bonfire and accommodation(bivouac shelter), "Siberian check".	Kubilita lake	1LT Hunt SFC Luhamäe SFC Liivak	3	Exercise
9.	Winter skills: Foot march.	SE Estonia	PLT OC	4	Exercise
10	Winter skills: Firing exercises day and night time	Keretu range	MSGT Ivanov SFC Vissel	8	Exercise
11	Winter skills (circuit training): Squad ambush.	Tsiatsungõlmaa	1LT Kiisel CPT Lumiste	10	Exercise

12	Winter skills (circuit training): How to fight against thermal cameras; Principles of setting up bonfire and accommodation (tent/bivouac shelter); "Siberian check".	Kubilita	1LT Hunt SFC Luhamäe SFC Liivak	3	Exercise
13	Winter skills: Setting up accommodation, "Siberian check".	Kubilita	1LT Hunt, SFC Luhamäe SFC Liivak	2	Exercise
14	FTX: Infiltration to AoO, SQD ambush, EXFIL, PLT attack, Clearing trench lines, fight with recce, Support patrol, night time routines.	Nursipalu and Tsiatsungelmaa	1LT Hunt	26	Exercise
15	Squad LFX competition.		MSGT Ivanov SFC Vissel	2	Exercise
16	Administration: Maintenance and preparations for road march to EMA.	SE- EMA	MSGT Ivanov SFC Vijar SFC Vissel SFC Kens SFC Liivak SFC Laats	4	Exercise
17	English.	EMA classroom	Ms Külli Saarniit Ms Mariina Viia	60 32	Seminar IW

Assessment	
Non-differentiated outcome-based assessment	
Assessment method	Assessment criteria (threshold)
Completing cold-weather warfare drills (Learning outcome 1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students prepare their accommodation and gear according to Cold-warfare drills, ensuring that the preparation does not reduce combat effectiveness. 2. Students check partners condition according to "Siberia test", completing all required stages without omission. 3. Students prepare and conduct a hasty attack in a build up area, considering the specific traits of cold-weather warfare. 4. Students complete the "ice hole drill" in a manner not affecting soldiers battle efficiency.
Group assignment, presentation (Learning outcome 2)	Assignment is based on their task. Students express their opinions on familiar topics clearly, rationalising these and bringing relevant examples. Students consider the opinions of discussion parties, using proper strategies and suitable phrases to hold up a dispute. Students ask relevant questions. They pronounce words correctly so that the meaning is understandable. The use of the primary grammatical constructions is correct. The use of language is appropriate. Students consider previously received feedback.

Letter, description
(Learning outcome 2)

The formal letter is 180–200 words, and the description is 200–205 words long. Students write proper texts on familiar topics, give factual information and explain their standpoints. They organise their text in a logical manner, using different connectives. The use of the primary grammatical constructions is correct. Even if the impact of native language is detectable, it does not hinder understanding. Orthography is good and does not hinder understanding. The use of language is appropriate. Students consider previously received feedback.