

PREPARING FUTURE LEADERS AT ABMMC

Abstract— Preparing leaders for the future necessitates consequent means and manpower to achieve this goal. At ABMMC, a great effort is made to enhance the quality of training and education. A description of the major constituents is presented.

I. INTRODUCTION

Preparing leaders for the future necessitates consequent means and manpower. At ABMMC, the necessary means to prepare the leaders to articulate around the military training, the academic programs, the physical education, the leadership program, and the facilities needed to implement them. The leadership of the college has made all the necessary efforts to ensure top military training and benchmarked educational programs carried out by professionals in the field. In this paper, we present briefly the constituents of the military program and the academic one that contribute to the preparation of the leaders of the future.

II. BRIEF HISTORY OF ABMMC

Ahmed bin Mohammad Military College (ABMMC) is a military institution that offers academic degrees. Founded in 1996, following a decree from His Highness the Father Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, ABMMC worked in close collaboration with Qatar University for the academic part and for granting the degrees. As of 2006, ABMMC switched to a new model of military training and education that grants students a dual degree: a bachelor's degree in a selected academic specialization through the Deanship of Academic Affairs that was created to manage and oversee the academic side of the college and grant the degrees and a military diploma based on the Sandhurst military model. Shortly after, the Emiri Decree No. 45 of 2010 concerning the organization of ABMMC was issued. The Decree stipulated among other things the structure of the administration of the college, the mode and duration of the study, the programs offered, the graduation requirements, and the college rules and regulations. To date, twenty-one batches of cadets have been enrolled at ABMMC and seventeen of them have already graduated.

III. VISION OF ABMMC

Ahmed Bin Mohammed Military College envisions itself to become one of the best military colleges that provide academic majors and to perform its national role set by His Highness the Emir.

IV. MISSION OF ABMMC

To prepare highly qualified cadets militarily and academically that are equipped with skills needed to fulfil their roles in the various military and security sectors and contribute to their development.

V. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In line with the college's vision and mission, ABMMC's strategic objectives consist in ensuring that our graduates have an excellent educational and military training, combined with an advanced professional qualification, high levels of leadership skills, physical fitness, sense of loyalty, and cultural awareness.

VI. ABMMC AND QATAR 2030 VISION

ABMMC is aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030, a leading initiative that was introduced by HH to guide and promote the development and prosperity of Qatar for the coming years. Qatar 2030 is a holistic project that seeks to develop various key aspects of the country including the economy, the environment, and social & human life. The educational system is one of the fundamental sectors which the Government of Qatar is particularly focused on to achieve the Qatar 2030 vision. For this reason, tremendous efforts are being made to enhance and fine-tune the educational system to provide Qatari citizens and residents with a world-class educational system that helps them realize their personal and professional goals and at the same time prepares them for their role as active contributors to the development of the country. In line with this vision, ABMMC is continuously and ambitiously striving to bring its own touch of contribution to the realization of Qatar 2030. ABMMC is today at the forefront of the national educational institutions that embody the Qatar National Vision 2030.

VII. THE MILITARY PROGRAM

Cadets at ABMMC undergo a robust military training that aims at equipping them with the physical, personal, mental, and technical skills needed to succeed in their career as military leaders. Figure 1.1 below illustrates the various military courses and trainings offered to ABMMC cadets during their four-year program. Cadets participate in diverse military exercises inside and outside the country.

VIII. THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

To earn a bachelor's degree at ABMMC, cadets must successfully complete the core curriculum courses (51 credit hours) and the courses specific to their chosen discipline (69 credit hours), for a total of (120 credit hours).

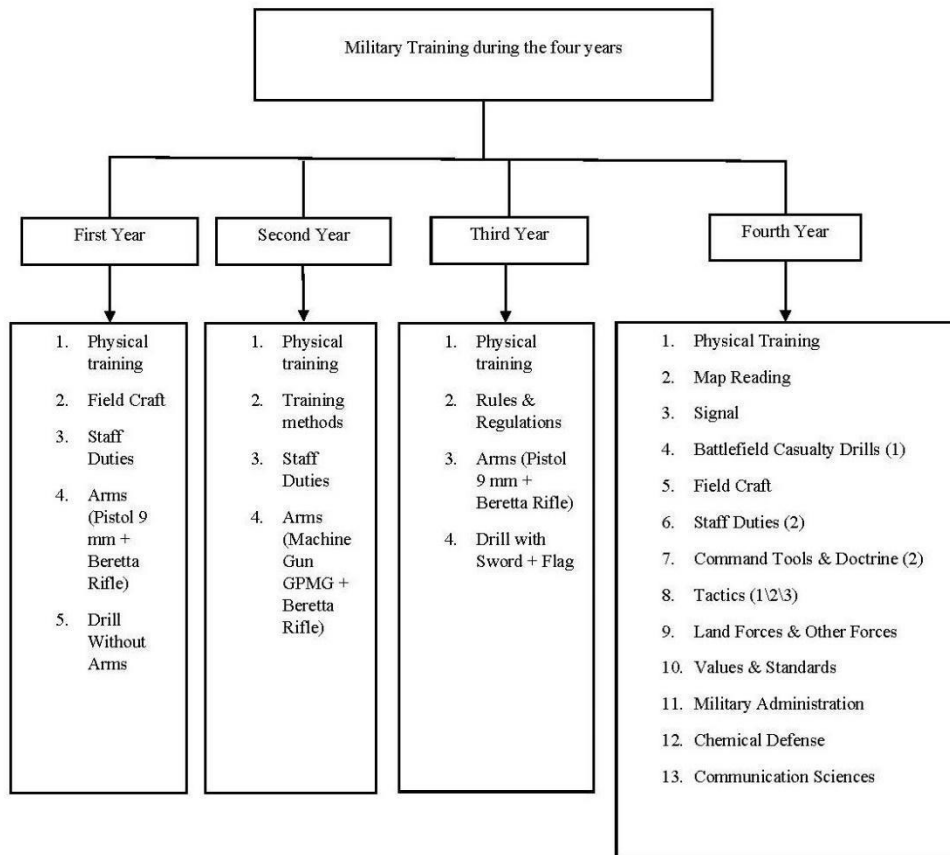


Figure 1.1 Military Training During the four years

A. General Requirements

During their first year, cadets at ABMMC must complete a list of core curriculum courses that help them acquire the basic principles of scientific methodology and develop transferable skills such as communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving. The general requirements courses are designed in accordance with the highest academic standards to help cadets become independent and successful learners equipped with the intellectual and personal skills needed for their careers as military leaders. These courses are intended to provide cadets with a solid foundation in a wide range of fields including Arabic, English, communication, mathematics, information technology, law, administration, international relations, Islamic culture, history and civilization, philosophy, health and physical education, personal development, and human rights.

B. Specializations

After successfully completing their first year at the college, cadets must select an area of specialization from the following list of majors:

- Management
- Logistics And Supply Chain Management
- Accounting
- Computer Science
- Computer Information Systems
- Cybersecurity
- Law

- International Relations
- Russian Language
- Intelligence & National Security

C. Academic staff

The teaching staff at ABMMC have a strong academic background combined with regional as well as international teaching and research experience. The table below lists the faculty members at ABMMC along with their academic ranks:

TABLE 1: Faculty Staff Numbers

Rank	Number
Professor	6
Associate Professor	10
Assistant Professor	73
Lecturer	11
Teaching Assistant	8
Total	108

IX. PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION

The high-quality education and training offered at ABMMC is the result of years of experience, innovation, monitoring & evaluation, cooperation and partnerships with local and international military and civil colleges, universities, and institutions, including but not limited to:

International partners:

- West Point Academy, United States of America
- National Defense Academy of Japan, Japan
- The Australian Defence Force Academy, Australia
- Turkish Military Academy, Turkey
- Royal Military College Saint-Jean, Canada
- Saint-Cyr Military Academy, France
- Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, United Kingdom
- National Defense University, Malaysia
- Moscow State University, Russia
- Ministry of Defence, Mongolia
- Ministry of Defence, Rwanda

Local partners:

- Qatar University
- Community College of Qatar
- Qatar Cybersecurity Academy

X. VISITS

As part of its ongoing efforts to build meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships with partners in the field, ABMMC’s representatives have conducted a series of visits to military academies and universities around the world including:

- Norwich University in the USA
- West Point – The US Military Academy
- National Defense Academy in Japan
- Moscow University in Russia
- Military University of Technology – Wojsko Polskie in Poland
- Australian Defense Force Academy (ADFA)

XI. SYMPOSIA

ABMMC has always been keen to act as a platform for knowledge and expertise sharing, and as such, the college has held various symposia with international partners, as shown in the table below:

DATE	TITLE
April 8 th 2014	Academic education in military colleges: reality and the future
May 27 th 2015	Coordination and integration between military and academic programs.

April 27 th 2016	Developing academic performance in military colleges.
March 28 th 2018	Military and Academic Education in Light of Current Challenges.
Upcoming	Academic majors in academic military academies and colleges.

TABLE 2: Symposia held at ABMMC

Similarly, ABMMC staff have participated in various ISOMA (formerly ISODOMA) symposia organized worldwide, as shown in the table below:

DATE	LOCATION	TITLE
2015 ISODOMA	Spain Academia General Military (AGM)	Comprehensive education for officers to face new security challenges
2017 ISODOMA	Canada Royal Military College Saint-Jean (RMC)	The development of general culture and critical thinking in the training of officers.
2019 ISOMA	Sweden Military Academy Karlberg (MAK)	Managing adaptation in military and education training.
2021 ISOMA	USA Norwich University	Preparing military leaders to effectively resolve 21 st century security challenges.

TABLE 3: ISOMA CONFERENCES

XII. PROGRAM INTERACTION AND INTERCONNECTION

At ABMMC academic education and military training go hand in hand. In fact, ABMMC is keen to provide its cadets with a dual degree: a bachelor’s degree in a selected academic specialization and a military diploma. To realize this objective, the college is continuously making great efforts to ensure effective coordination and cooperation between the military side and the academic side to provide cadets with a harmonious, smooth, and stimulating learning experience, which will help them achieve their highest potential both academically and militarily. The following diagram illustrates the integrated and interconnected nature of the academic program and the military training at ABMMC.

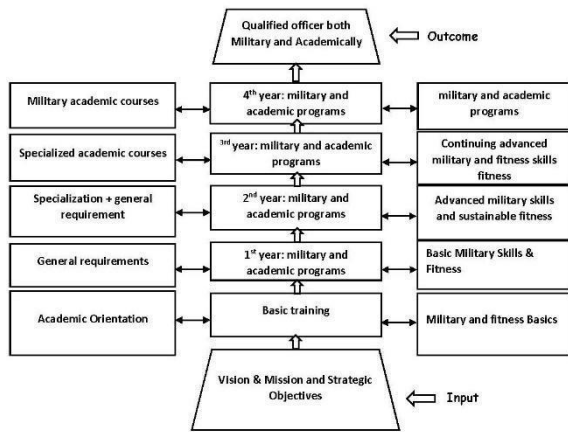


Figure 1.2 Integration and Interconnection between academic and military programs

XIII. CONCLUSION

In this paper, the major components of the ABMMC programs were presented. Many of the graduates of the college have reached leadership positions within the Qatar Armed Forces. It is important that these programs be revised and updated periodically to ensure their relevance to the preparation of the leaders of the future.