

68650 - Defence systems acquisition policy

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 68650 - Defence systems acquisition policy

Faculty / School: 179 - Centro Universitario de la Defensa - Zaragoza

Degree: 578 - Master's in Direction and Management of Defense Procurement Systems

ECTS: 9.0

Year: 1

Semester: Annual

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

This subject tries to familiarize the student with all the internal and external elements to the process of obtaining the armament and material, which condition the decisions taken in the same. In this way, to provide the necessary and sufficient knowledge to obtain an integral vision of the procurement of armament and material, in its interrelation with its political, industrial, economic and organizational environment..

For a better use in the development of the master, it is recommended that the student takes this subject first.

The specific objectives of the subject are to know:

- Armament and material policy.
- R&D&I policy and innovation strategy for defence.
- Industrial policy, defence industrial strategy and the characteristics of this industry.
- The support policy.
- The Defence planning process.
- The material resources planning and programming process.
- The process of obtaining resources.
- The organization of the Directorate General of Armament and Material, and the specific organization of its program offices.
- Bodies outside the National Government related to defence procurement policy.
- Cost estimation in the process of obtaining material resources.
- Mechanisms to ensure information security in procurement processes.
- Mechanisms to guarantee the quality of supplies.
- The homologation process.
- The process of cataloguing systems and their parts.
- Standardization.
- Defence industry regulation, arms and explosives regulation, and REACH exemptions.
- Specific regulations for air systems (airworthiness, PERAM).

These approaches and goals are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), such that the acquisition of the learning results of the subject provides training and competence to contribute to some extent to their achievement:

- Goal 4: Quality Education.
- Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure.
- Goal 12: Responsible Production and Consumption
- Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Goal 17: Alliances to Achieve Objectives.

There are no prerequisites for this subject. It is advisable to have a basic knowledge of the Organic Law 5/2005, on National Defence, and the organization of the Ministry of Defence.

2. Learning results

The main objective of the subject is to provide the student with a broad perspective that allows understanding aspects related to all the planning necessary to match acquisitions with allocated budgets; the military planning of capabilities, the need for research and development; as well as the in-depth study of the Spanish defence industry . They should also be familiar with the Ministry of Defence organization responsible for procurement, and understand the relationships with other government departments. Students should understand the process of obtaining the Defence systems, the actors involved and the responsibility of each of them in the process, they should familiarize themselves with concepts such as operational solution, procurement alternative and commercial solutions, and should be aware of the tools available to the Ministry to support

procurement (Cost Estimation, Protection of Classified Information, Quality Assurance, Standardization, Cataloguing, Homologation, and Certifications of aerial systems among others).

3. Syllabus

Block 1

1. Defence Systems Acquisition Policy
1. Introduction to public policies
2. Armament and Material Policy
3. Defence R&D and innovation policy
4. Industrial Policy and Defence Industry
5. Sustainability Policy
2. Organization
1. Introduction to organizations
2. DGAM Organization
3. Program Offices
4. Other agencies of the National Government related to procurement policy

Block 2

3. The Defence planning cycle
1. Military Planning
2. Resource Planning
3. Harmonization of the process
4. Resource planning and scheduling process
1. Armament and equipment requirements
2. Material resources objectives
3. Resource scheduling
4. Long-term planning
5. Master Plan and sectoral master plans
6. Coordination mechanisms
5. Process for obtaining resources
1. Conceptual Phase
2. Definition and Decision Phase
3. Execution Phase
4. Service Phase

Block 3

6. Cost estimation in the sourcing process
7. Information Security in the procurement process
8. Quality in the procurement process
1. Quality Assurance in Defence Acquisition Programs
2. Quality Planning in Defence Acquisition Programs
9. Technical services in the sourcing process
1. Approval
2. Standardization
3. Cataloguing
4. REACH Exemptions
10. Weapons and Explosives Regulations
11. Specific regulations applicable to the procurement of airborne systems
1. Airworthiness
2. EMAR Regulations

4. Academic activities

The module is assigned 9 ETCS, which correspond to 225 hours, of which 90 hours correspond to the subject taught by the teachers, and 135 hours to additional work by the students.

Each block corresponds to 1/3 of the teaching load of the module.

Five face-to-face days have been established in which 22 hours of classes or lectures will be given, extendable by the number of virtual classes that each teachers considers necessary to be able to correctly explain the content of their topics.

The rest of the activities until reaching 90 hours will be non-face-to-face learning.

Teaching will be in a *blended* mode combining virtual teaching sessions with face-to-face sessions with a minimum monthly frequency . These face-to-face sessions will be dedicated to exams, and to those thematic blocks that present contents where face-to-face attendance will greatly increase the student 's understanding.

- **NON-FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES.** All activities will be carried out through the virtual campus so that the student will have at their disposal a large amount of material created for this purpose. In addition, this teaching modality will facilitate teacher-student interaction through chats and forums developed throughout the entire term. A basic support element for the student will be a Work Guide for each subject, which will include a recommended chronogram for reading the material and carrying out the activities included in each thematic unit to facilitate follow-up by the teacher..
- **FACE-TO-FACE AND VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES.** Some contents will be addressed in virtual classes where the teacher will connect to a videoconference platform and each student will connect from their device so that student mobility is not necessary. These classes will be held on the platform of the FFAA with its recent migration to Moodle and implementation of a multiple videoconferencing platform, which will allow to build a learning community of teachers and students where doubts, reflections and opinions are shared. It will be possible to participate, on a voluntary basis, in synchronous and asynchronous online meetings through tools such as discussion forums, chat or even videoconferences, in which guest teachers or professionals may participate, which will be planned every two weeks in order to enhance student interaction with the subjects and teachers
- **FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES.** This is the classic lecture teaching where classes of problems as well as the evaluation tests will be addressed. It will be held at the facilities designated by the Ministry of Defence in the Madrid area.

The dates will be set in accordance with the academic calendar and the schedule established by the Centro Universitario de la Defensa.

In the event that the health situation and evolution prevents the holding of face-to-face sessions, they will be held remotely.

5. Assessment system

There will be an evaluation test for each of the blocks in which the module is structured

	SUBJECT MATTER
Practical works	BLOCK 1. Weapons and equipment policy
Theoretical-practical evaluation test	BLOCK 2. Resource Acquisition Process
Theoretical-practical evaluation test	BLOCK 3. Resource acquisition support services

Self-assessment exercises 10%.

The module grade will be obtained as follows:

$$NF=0,3xNP1+0,3xNP2+0,3xNP3+0,1xAE$$

AE: Self-evaluation

Global test:

Students who do not pass the subject by continuous evaluation or who would like to improve their grade, will have the right to take the overall test set in the academic calendar, prevailing, in any case, the best of the grades obtained. This global test will consist of an evaluation test of all the blocks in which the module is structured and will have a weight of 100%. To pass the subject, the student must obtain a final grade greater than or equal to 5.

SECOND CALL

Global test:

Students who do not pass the subject in the first call may sit for a global test set in the academic calendar for the second call. This global test will consist of a test of evaluation of all the blocks in which the module is structured and will have a weight of 100%. To pass the subject, the student must obtain a final grade greater than or equal to 5.