IMAQS - Attachment 1

ACM

Armed Combat Methods

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IMAQS - Attachment 1 - Armed Combat Methods - ACM

INTRODUCTION

The «*International Master of Arms Qualification System of Armed Combat Methods*» (IMAQS-ACM) is the general framework adopted by the AAI to define the qualifications of the teachers who can not be qualified directly through IMAQS.

The objectives of the IMAQS-ACM are:

1) To define qualification and training models for teachers in all disciplines related to armed combat, which are not specified in the IMAQS;

2) To facilitate the implementation of a comprehensive educational system;

3) To align with the evolution within an international contexts (e.g. ISCO-08, EQF, ECVET, etc.) without losing the flexibility and ability to respond to national specificities.

DEFINITIONS

Armed Combat Methods

Armed Combat Methods (ACM) are the disciplines based on the rational use of combat weapons, according to the different practical purposes (defence, art, sports).

Combat weapons

Combat weapons are all offensive and defensive weapons, designed for combat, that is melee weapons, throwing weapons, and firearms, which are not heavy weapons (high destructive weapons, artillery pieces, etc.).

Melee weapons

The melee weapons are all instruments designed for close combat, which produce wounds of cut, thrust or blunt, that is to say, swords of all shapes (eg. one-handed, two-handed, rapiers, dueling epees, sabers, etc.), short weapons (eg. combat knives, daggers, etc.), pole weapons (eg. spears, halberds, fixed bayonets, etc.), blunt weapons (eg. clubs, flails, etc.) and defensive weapons of all kinds (eg. shields, armors, etc.); in some cases, the rational use of weapons may refer to instruments not designed for combat, but turned into weapons as necessary (eg. canes, sticks, knives, capes, etc.).

Throwing weapons

Throwing weapons are all instruments designed for hunting or for distance combat, with projectiles propelled by hand or with a thrower, which are not firearms (bows, crossbows, slingshots, throwing knives, disabling liquids, airguns, etc.).

Firearms

Firearms are all jet weapons that use projectiles propelled by gas produced by an explosion, ie. a rapid and confined combustion of a chemical explosive compound (pistols, rifles, machine guns, etc.).

Rational use of combat weapons

ACM are based on the rational use of combat weapons; that is, on specific educational and training methodologies, designed by masters of arms of all times and all cultures.

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Sport ACM

Sport ACM are based on the playful form of the rational use of weapons, that is to say on the regulated competitions of combat and / or aesthetic and artistic exhibition. The practitioner of a sport ACM is an athlete. The practical exercise of sport ACM can be combat and combat choreography. The sports ACM are intended for sport activities, agonist or not, and leisure.

Stage ACM

Stage ACM are based on the aesthetic form of the rational use of weapons, applied in the professional fields of theatre and cinema. The practitioner of a stage ACM is an artist. The practical exercise of stage ACM is combat choreography. Stage ACM are intended for stage combat training and design of combat choreographies.

Operative ACM

Operative ACM are based on the application of the rational use of weapons in real civilian and military contexts. The practitioner of an operational ACM is an operator. The practical exercise of operational ACM is combat and combat simulation. Operational ACMs are intended for real combat training in both civilian and military contexts and are therefore functional for the training of security experts or at least for the disclosure of the personal defence culture.

Teaching of ACM

The teaching of armed combat in all its forms is subject to training courses and qualifications of the teachers, which must be traceable and acknowledged in an institutional form.

Practice Centers

ACM teacher training and qualification activities take place in certified practice centers (gyms, salles of arms, theatre academies, training camps, etc.).

The main training pathway for sport ACM of European cultural origin, related to cold steel weapons (fencing) is the IMAQS.

A training course of European cultural origin, linked to cold steel weapons, can only be recognised by the IMAQS-ACM if it is related to a stage or operative ACM.

The IMAQS-ACM can operate autonomously in all areas (sport, art, defence) for non-European ACM or related to firearms and throwing weapons.

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STRUCTURE ET CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LEVELS

This section describes in detail the aspects that characterize the ACM teacher's career through the qualifications corresponding to the four levels of IMAQS-ACM.

Who is the ACM teacher?

The ACM teacher is the professional who organizes the preparation / education / training of ACM in its various forms, for individuals and groups (athletes/artists/operators) and coordination of other professional figures involved.

What does an ACM teacher do?

The ACM teacher is involved in the diffusion and promotion of the ACM culture as a sport, artistic, or operative discipline, with the aim of improving the physical, psychic and technical characteristics of each practitioner.

The ACM teacher can work within various fields (sport, historic, or artistic) and structures, which may include high levels of technical performance.

The ACM teacher is also an observer for selecting talent and fostering their professional career.

Where does an ACM teacher work?

Field of interest	Description
Organized sports (sports federations, organizations for sports promotion, sports associations, etc.).	Organizations that manage sports at an international, national, and local level.
Entertainment (theater, cinema, etc.).	Organizations that manage artistic activities at an international, national, and local level.
Operative fields (civil and military).	Organizations that manage operational, intervention or training activities at the international, national and local levels.

The ACM teacher's career in IMAQS-ACM

The IMAQS-ACM model is based on three levels:

Credits	Level	Title
10	**I**	**Assistant-Instructor**
20	**II**	**Instructor**
20	**III**	**Master**

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LEVEL I – ASSISTANT-INSTRUCTOR

Level I is not a professional qualification that allows one to act in an independent manner immediately, but it's necessary to start the career of an ACM teacher.

The activities must be carried out as an apprentice, under the direction and supervision of an experienced ACM teacher (Master or Instructor).

Assistant Instructor		
Certification = AAI Diploma		
N° of Credits for Qualification = 10 (3 for Skills, 7 for Knowledges)		
Minimum access conditions for the evaluation		1) 18 years of age; 2) Compulsory school license; 3) Participation in a specific training course (theoretical and practical) for the examination; 4) Practice register in a practice center, recognized by AAI.
Assessment		The examination must be carried out no later than two years after the beginning of the course. After that deadline, the candidate will have to repeat the course. **Examination on general subjects**: multiple choice written test. **Examination on ACM subjects**: question (oral or written). **Practical examination**: demonstration of basic actions, according to the course program and the questions from the examination committee.
Professional profile		The Level I is not a professional qualification that allows you to act immediately in an independent form, but it is necessary to start a career as an ACM teacher. The activities must be carried out as an apprentice, under the direction and supervision of an expert teacher (Master or Instructor).
Skills	***General***	Uses the basic general skills (observe, synthesize, communicate, etc.) needed to carry out simple actions, governed by rules and well-defined strategies.
	Training	Organizes and conducts training sessions using methods, tools, and equipment, under the guidance of more qualified experts. He leads, always under supervision, the evaluation of training and performance.
	Management of events	Organizes and helps practitioners during the screening events, under the guidance of an expert with a higher qualification, ensuring the safety conditions necessary. He conducts, always under surveillance, the evaluation of the results.
	Teaching and management	Limited to the management of practitioners during training, always under surveillance.
	Professional training and research	The Assistant-Instructor has no competence in this area.
Knowledges	***General***	He has the knowledge necessary to handle regular training sessions. He aids in the teaching of combat/choreography/simulation techniques.

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Assistant Instructor		
	Training and events	He has knowledge of: 1) training management principles; 2) basic motility; 3) basic combat/choreography/simulation techniques; 4) basic styles.
	Teaching and management	He has knowledge of: 1) role, responsibility, and management according to the level of an Assistant-Instructor 2) assessment of basic conduct in combat/ choreography/simulation; 3) basic combat elements in its different forms; 4) management of practitioner's safety.
	Professional training and research	The Assistant-Instructor has no competence in this area.
Credits	At the end of the training course, candidates will have accumulated a minimum of **10 credits**: *Skills* **3 credits** for apprenticeship in a practice center = 72 hours. *Knowledges* **4 credits** for ACM subjects = 32 hours in class plus 64 hours of personal study; **3 credits** for general subjects = 24 hours in class plus 48 hours of personal study. The training course for the Assistant Instructor (course and apprenticeship) must take place over a certified period of at least 12 months.	
Practice (72 hours)	The hours of practice (apprenticeship) must be properly recorded and a copy of the register must be submitted during the examination. The practice must be carried out in a practice center recognized by AAI and certified by a Master (Level III) or by an Instructor (Level II) of related ACM. The practice is devoted to acquiring the following skills: 1) Being able to assist higher-level instructors in the technical work.	
ACM subjects (32 hours)	See the subjects of related **ACM** (base level)	
General subjects (24 hours)	See the general subjects (base level)	

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LEVEL II – INSTRUCTOR

Level II is the first qualification as an independent ACM teacher.

This level implies the assessment of the skills necessary to work with practitioners and groups engaged in local, regional, or in any case of initial specialization.

Access to Level II is allowed after obtaining the title of Assistant-Instructor.

Instructor		
Certification = AAI Diploma		
N° of Credits for Qualification = 20 (6 for Skills, 14 for Knowledges)		
Minimum access conditions for the evaluation		1) Assistant-Instructor Diploma; 2) Participation in a specific training course (theoretical and practical) for the examination; 3) Practice register in a practice center, recognized by AAI.
Assessment		The examination must be carried out no later than three years after the beginning of the course. After that deadline, the candidate will have to repeat the course. **Examination on general subjects**: multiple choice written test. **Examination on ACM subjects**: question (oral or written). **Practical examination**: demonstration of individual lessons at a basic level, according to the course program and the questions from the examination committee.
Professional profile		Level II is the first qualification of an independent teacher. The Instructor works independently, with practitioners of all ages, in the agonistic and non-competitive sector. He works on low / medium complexity situations, in associations, in small activities organized with little personal, as a member of staff in large associations, or in activities organized by larger groups. He can coordinate the work of a Assistant-Instructor.
Skills	***General***	He has the basic skills to organize the training and / or the preparation and assistance to events. He coordinates the assistants and reports to superiors. One demonstrates a minimum of personal interpretation of tasks, according to simple strategies.
	Training	He must be able to conceive of technical training programs, both in combat or artistic demonstrations, in accordance with the basic methods. He must be able to handle practitioners or groups in safe conditions. He must possess basic skills to evaluate the training and preparation of the technique.
	Management of events	He organizes the participation in public activities, taking into account the characteristics of the practitioners and the specificities of events. He performs the evaluation of results and data management.
	Teaching and management	He directs and supervises the training programs, as well as the management and technical education of practitioners. He prepares the work of Assistant-Instructors.
	Professional training and research	He can contribute to the training and evaluation of the Assistant-Instructors. He must be able to evaluate basic research conducted in specific areas of ACM.

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Instructor		
Knowledges	***General***	He has the knowledge necessary to handle regular training sessions and to manage and evaluate individuals and teams, both in the phase of training and during events.
	Training and events	He possesses the knowledge: 1) of ACM techniques; 2) the principles of a training program; 3) the specific characteristics of the performance model in its specialty; 4) application of the techniques in the context (of combat or artistic) in relation to the characteristics of practitioners; 5) building and managing the evaluation criteria valuation for training and events.
	Teaching and management	He has knowledge of: 1) the history of ACM and its principal treatises; 2) the use of appropriate teaching styles; 3) mistake corrections; 4) the scientific basis of learning and motility; 5) the evaluation of technical and tactical conducts; 6) organization and safety management of both athletes and working environment.
	Professional training and research	He can evaluate the apprenticeship of Assistant-Instructors. He knows the educational and communication techniques. He knows the principles of the basis of the research and experimentation methodology.
Credits	At the end of the training course, candidates will have accumulated a minimum of **20 credits**: *Skills* **6 credits** for apprenticeship in a practice center = 144 hours. *Knowledges* **8 credits** for ACM subjects = 64 hours in class plus 128 hours of personal study; **6 credits** for general subjects = 48 hours in class plus 96 hours of personal study. The training course for the Instructor (course and apprenticeship) must take place over a certified period of at least 24 months.	
Practice (144 hours)	The hours of practice (apprenticeship) must be properly recorded and a copy of the register must be submitted during the examination. The practice must be carried out in a practice center recognized by AAI and certified by a Master (Level III) of related ACM. The practice is devoted to acquiring the following skills: 1) Being able to give basic ACM lessons, individual or collective; 2) Knowing how to train an athlete/artist/operator at a basic or middle level.	
ACM subjects (64 hours)	See the subjects of related **ACM** (advanced level)	
General subjects (48 hours)	See the general subjects (advanced level)	

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LEVEL III – MASTER

Level III is the qualification that is based on the ability to train and prepare individual practitioners or teams at a high level of performance, and to coordinate Assistant-Instructors, Instructors, and other involved professionals.

Access to Level III is allowed after obtaining the title of Instructor.

Master		
Certification = AAI Diploma		
N° of Credits for Qualification = 20 (6 for Skills, 14 for Knowledges)		
Minimum access conditions for the evaluation		1) Instructor Diploma; 2) Participation in a specific training course (theoretical and practical) for the examination; 3) Practice register in a practice center, recognized by AAI; 4) Presentation of a magisterial thesis.
Assessment		The examination must be carried out no later than two years after the beginning of the course. After that deadline, the candidate will have to repeat the course. **Examination on general subjects**: multiple choice written test. **Examination on ACM subjects**: question (oral or written); discussion of a magisterial thesis. **Practical examination**: demonstration of individual lessons at an advanced level, according to the magisterial thesis and the questions from the examination committee.
Professional profile		Level III is the qualification that allows one to work with practitioners of the highest technical level who participate in national and international events, or are part of the national excellence groups. The Master works at significant levels of complexity, by designing his training and teaching methods. He coordinates the work of Instructors and Assistant-Instructors.
Skills	***General***	He uses his assessment and problem solving skills with an innovative and functional personal method. He has the ability to put into practice theoretical knowledge.
	Training	He builds original training programs, depending on the characteristics and specifics of both the practitioners and discipline. He must be capable of fully organizing training and training sessions. He evaluates the quality of the practitioners' work.
	Management of events	He schedules activities, taking into account the characteristics of practitioners and the specificities of events. He conducts the evaluation of the results, highlighting the areas of improvement.
	Teaching and management	He schedules and evaluates the training of practitioners at the highest level. He manages the activities of the Instructors and Assistant-Instructors, or of other professionals involved.

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Master		
	Professional training and research	He schedules practical and theoretical training programs for Instructors and Assistant-Instructors. He organizes the evaluation of trainings. He knows how to organize and manage methods of investigation and research, applying the results of the experimental work.
Knowledges	***General***	He possesses the specific knowledge to create, manage and evaluate training and technical preparations involving individuals and groups, in complex situations.
	Training and events	He has the knowledge of: 1) the principles and scientific aspects of the creation and planning of training; 2) the conception, management, and evaluation of the technical and tactical preparation and / or the artistic formation; 3) evaluation methods according to the complexity of events.
	Teaching and management	He has the knowledge of: 1) the history of ACM and the related treatises; 2) the elements for managing a performance; 3) the elements for research and development of talents; 4) management of a staff of Instructors, Assistant-Instructors, and other professional figures.
	Professional training and research	He can manage and evaluate the practice of Instructors and Assistant-Instructors. He knows the educational and communication techniques. He knows the advanced principles of research and experimentation methodologies.
Credits	At the end of the training course, candidates will have accumulated a minimum of **20 credits**: *Skills* **3 credits** for apprenticeship in a practice center = 72 hours + **3 credits** for a magisterial thesis. *Knowledges* **8 credits** for ACM subjects = 64 hours in class plus 128 hours of personal study; **6 credits** for general subjects = 48 hours in class plus 96 hours of personal study. The training course for the Master (course and apprenticeship) must take place over a certified period of at least 24 months.	
Practice (144/72 hours)	The hours of practice (apprenticeship) must be properly recorded and a copy of the register must be submitted during the examination. The practice must be carried out in a practice center recognized by AAI and certified by a Master (Level III) of related ACM. The practice is devoted to acquiring the following skills: 1) know how to impart advanced ACM lessons, both at an individual and collective level; 2) know how to train a high-level athlete/artist/operator; 3) know how to organize activities as professional services (training, events); 4) know how to manage a practice center.	
ACM subjects (64 hours)	See the subjects of **ACM** (specialized level)	
General subjects (48 hours)	See the general subjects (specialized level)	

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IMAQS levels within European Qualification Framework (EQF)

Level IMAQS	Level EQF	Knowledges	Skills	Competences
I	IV	Factual and theoretical knowledge in broad contexts within a field of work or study.	A range of cognitive and practical skills required to generate solutions to specific problems in a field of work or study.	Exercise self-management within the guidelines of work or study contexts that are usually predictable, but are subject to change; supervise the routine work of others, taking some responsibility for the evaluation and improvement of work or study activities.
II	V	Comprehensive, specialised, factual and theoretical knowledge within a field of work or study and an awareness of the boundaries of that knowledge.	A comprehensive range of cognitive and practical skills required to develop creative solutions to abstract problems.	Exercise management and supervision in contexts of work or study activities where there is unpredictable change; review and develop performance of self and others.
III	VI	Advanced knowledge of a field of work or study, involving a critical understanding of theories and principles.	Advanced skills, demonstrating mastery and innovation, required to solve complex and unpredictable problems in a specialised field of work or study.	Manage complex technical or professional activities or projects, taking responsibility for decision-making in unpredictable work or study contexts; take responsibility for managing professional development of individuals and groups.

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CREDIT SYSTEM

The credits

The credit system is the same of IMAQS.

These units must be defined in terms of competence (skills and/or knowledge).

Credit points are attributed to units, in relation to the expected workload, and as a result of the relative importance of these units in the final qualification.

Acquired skills will be evaluated in any case, whatever the chosen path of training.

Qualification, training, and updating activities

For IMAQS-ACM, the activities that can provide credits for training, certification, and upgrading of teachers are:

1) participation in courses on ACM or general subjects;
2) participation in seminars and conferences on ACM or general subjects;
3) participation in trainings / combat staging in a practice center;
4) lectures or interventions on ACM or general subjects but expressly connected with armed combat during courses, seminars, and conferences;
5) publications of didactic material, theses, articles, books (written texts and audiovisual documentaries) on ACM or general subjects, but expressly related to armed combat;
6) participations as an observer at ACM competitions/events;
7) results from one's own students (competition, artistic or professional awards);
8) mention in the titles of a theatrical or cinematographic work, as a fight choreographer;
9) technical directive activities of teams of excellence in a national federation;
10) membership of committees or working groups on ACM or general matters, but expressly connected with armed combat;
11) teaching mandates for ACM subjects in armies, academies of arms, federations, universities, art academies, secondary schools, local organizations or assimilated organisms;
12) membership in commissions for qualification examinations for related ACM teaching.

For events that last one day, credits are recognized only for the documented participation in the totality of the event.

For the participation in events of longer duration, credits are recognized for the minimal documented participation at eighty percent (80%) of the event.

Determination of credits for qualification activities.

The minimum training for qualification of ACM teachers according to IMAQS-ACM is constituted from the participation in specific exam preparation courses (ACM and general subjects), trainings at a practice center and, for level III, diploma thesis presentation. The exam preparation courses and trainings in practice center must be coordinated and managed by teachers of II (Instructors) and III level (Masters), competent for the subjects covered by the corresponding examinations.

Determination of the Founders (Masters and Instructors) of new ACM

The AAI Direction Committee recognizes the career and achievements of the new ACM experts, according to their professional curriculum, up to a maximum of 50 credits (10+20+20), equivalent to the Master's qualification level III , issuing the corresponding diploma, after:

a. the presentation of their publications and a practical demonstration (lectio magistralis) related to their ACM (level III - Master),

b. a practical demonstration of their competence (Level II - Instructor).

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Lectio magistralis and practical demonstrations will take place in French or English in front to a commission, composed of at least AAI Presidency Board (President, Secretary, Treasurer) and up to all AAI Direction Committee members.

For each new ACM it will be necessary to present an application form and to identify at least one Founder who, in case of acceptance of the form, will be certified and graduated Master (III level of the relative ACM), and a minimum of four Instructors per Founder, who will be certified and graduated Instructors (Level II of the relative ACM), according to the procedure described in the previous paragraph.

The Founders procedure can only be applied once for each ACM.

SUBJECTS OF STUDY

The training, certification, and updating subjects of the ACM teacher

The subjects of study which may provide credits for training, certification, and updating purposes are:

SPORTS ACM SUBJECTS (only for non-european ACM and/or related to throwing weapons or firearms)	
Theoretical	**Practical**
1) Terminology; 2) Paralympic terminology; 3) Methodology of collective and individual combat lesson; 4) Methodology of collective and individual combat lesson (Paralympic); 5) Regulations and refereeing; 6) Regulations and refereeing in the Paralympic modality; 7) Tactical and strategic analysis applied to sport combat.	1) Execution of techniques; 2) Execution of techniques in the Paralympic modality; 3) Individual and collective combat lesson techniques; 4) Individual and collective combat lesson techniques (Paralympic); 5) Refereeing and direction of a Tournament; 6) Refereeing and direction of a Tournament (Paralympic).

STAGE ACM SUBJECTS	
Theoretical	**Practical**
1) Terminology; 2) Methodology of collective and individual stage combat lesson; 3) Fight choreography methodology; 4) Staging of fights for theater and cinema.	1) Execution of techniques; 2) Individual and collective stage combat lesson techniques; 3) Practice of fight choreographies.

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OPERATIVE ACM SUBJECTS	
Theoretical	**Practical**
1) Terminology; 2) Methodology of collective and individual combat lesson; 3) Methodology of combat simulation (civil and military contexts); 4) Tactical and strategic analysis applied to operative combat.	1) Execution of techniques; 2) Individual and collective combat lesson techniques; 3) Practice of combat simulation (civil and military contexts).

GENERAL SUBJECTS
1) Teaching methodologies; 2) Training methodology; 3) Law, management, and administration; 4) Medicine; 5) Psychology; 6) Sociology; 7) History; 8) Materials technology; 9) Computing; 10) Elements of theatrical and cinematographic production (stage ACM); 11) Diction and recitation (stage ACM).

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LEVEL I
ASSISTANT-INSTRUCTOR

LEVEL I – ASSISTANT-INSTRUCTOR MINIMAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT				
Credits	Course (ACM subj.)	Course (General subj.)	Practice	Diploma Thesis
10	**4 credits** (32 hours in class plus 64 hours of personal study)	**3 credits** (24 hours in class plus 48 hours of personal study)	**3 credits** (72 hours of practice in a practice center recognized by AAI	

LEVEL I – ASSISTANT-INSTRUCTOR OBLIGATORY COURSE SUBJECTS		
Specialization	Course (ACM subj.)	Course (General subj.)
Sports ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Execution of techniques; 3) Technical regulations.	1) Teaching methodology 2) Training methodology
Stage ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Execution of techniques; 3) Practice of fight choreography.	
Operative ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Execution of techniques; 3) Practice of combat simulation (civil and/or military contexts).	

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LEVEL II
INSTRUCTOR

LEVEL II – INSTRUCTOR MINIMAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT				
Credits	Course (ACM subj.)	Course (General subj.)	Training	Diploma Thesis
20	**8 credits** (64 hours in class plus 128 hours of personal study)	**6 credits** (48 hours in class plus 96 hours of personal study)	**6 credits** (144 hours of practice in a practice center recognized by AAI)	

LEVEL II – INSTRUCTOR OBLIGATORY COURSE SUBJECTS		
Specialization	Course (ACM subj.)	Course (General subj.)
Sports ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Methodology and technique of combat lesson; 3) Refereeing.	1) Teaching methodology 2) Training methodology 3) Law, management and administration
Stage ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Methodology and technique of stage combat lesson; 3) Methodology and practice of combat choreography.	
Operative ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Methodology and technique of combat lesson; 3) Methodology and practice of combat simulation (civil and/or military contexts).	

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LEVEL III
MASTER

LEVEL III – MASTER MINIMAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT				
Credits	Course (ACM subj.)	Course (General subj.)	Training	Diploma Thesis
20	**8 credits** (64 hours in class plus 128 hours of personal study)	**6 credits** (48 hours in class plus 96 hours of personal study)	**3 credits** (72 hours of practice in a practice center recognized by AAI)	**3 credits** (thesis of ACM or general subjects, but expressly connected to armed combat)

LEVEL III – MASTER OBLIGATORY COURSE SUBJECTS		
Specialization	Course (ACM subj.)	Course (General subj.)
Sports ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Methodology and technique of combat lesson, also for Paralympics; 3) Refereeing and tournament direction; 4) Tactical and strategic analysis applied to sport combat.	1) Teaching methodology 2) Training methodology 3) Law, management and administration
Stage ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Methodology and technique of stage combat lesson; 3) Methodology and practice of combat choreography; 4) Staging of fights for theater and cinema.	
Operative ACM	1) Terminology; 2) Methodology and technique of combat lesson; 3) Methodology and practice of combat simulation (civil and/or military contexts); 4) Tactical and strategic analysis applied to operative combat.	

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Determining credits for training and updating activities.

Training activities after qualification and upgrading, in order to maintain the teaching license, are reserved, for the purpose of recognition credits, to ACM teachers of the II Level (Instructors) and higher.

The maintenance of the teaching license requires the annual recognition of the professional training and updating activities, corresponding to a minimum of 4 credits.

PERMANENT TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL UPDATING	
Qualifications	Minimum number of credits per year
Instructor - level II Master - level III	**4**

All professional training and upgrading activities must be recognized by AAI directly or by national or international institutions, acknowledged by AAI.

For each category of training and updating activity, recognition is possible up to a maximum of 12 credits per year.

1) Participation in courses on ACM or general subjects. Participation in seminars and conferences of ACM or armed combat-related subjects. Attendance at stage combats or training in a practice center.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Every 8 hours	Every 8 hours	Every 8 hours
1 credit	2 credits	3 credits

2) Teaching or interventions on ACM or armed combat-related subjects during courses, seminars, and conferences.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Every 8 hours	Every 8 hours	Every 8 hours
1 credit + 1 credit for total	2 credits + 1 credit for total	3 credits + 1 credit for total

3) Publication of theses or articles (written texts and audiovisual documentaries) on ACM or armed combat-related subjects.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Every publication	Every publication	Every publication
1 credit	2 credits	3 credits

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4) Publication of books, monographs, or educational materials (written texts and audiovisual documentaries) on ACM or armed combat-related subjects.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Every publication	Every publication	Every publication
2 credits	4 credits	6 credits

5) Participation as a competition / event observer.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Every national competition/ event	Every continental competition/ event	Every world competition/event
1 credit	2 credits	3 credits

6) Results of of their students (competitions - artistic/professional awards).		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Local competition	National competition	International competition
4 credits (1° and 2° place)	6 credits (1° and 2° place)	8 credits (1° and 2° place)
3 credits (3° place)	5 credits (3° place)	7 credits (3° place)
Local awards	National awards	International awards
4 credits	6 credits	8 credits

7) Mention in the titles of a theatrical or cinematographic work, as a swordmaster/fight choreographer.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Every amateur production	Every professional national production	Every professional international production
1 credit	2 credits	3 credits

8) Technical direction of teams of excellence in a national federation.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Technical staff member	Technical director in veteran or junior excellence teams	Technical director in senior excellence teams
2 credits	3 credits	4 credits

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9) Membership in committees or working groups of on ACM or armed combat-related subjects.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Local committees or working groups	National committees or working groups	International committees or working groups
2 credits	3 credits	4 credits

10) Teaching mandates for ACM subjects in armies, academies of arms, federations, universities, art academies, secondary schools, and local organizations.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Secondary schools, local Organisations	Universities, Art Academies	Armies, Academies of arms, National Federations
2 credits	3 credits	4 credits

11) Membership in commissions for the examination and qualification for ACM teachers.		
Level I (base)	**Level II (advanced)**	**Level III (specialist)**
Assistant-Instructors	Instructors	Masters
2 credits	2 credits	3 credits

PROFESSIONAL LICENCE, UPDATE AND CONTINUOUS TRAINING

The IMAQS-ACM requires that ACM teachers, after obtaining their qualification, must also have a national license to practice their teaching activities, both in a professional and amateur/ volunteer field; the license is issued in accordance with the regulations established by AAI and the competent national authorities, if existent.

Certified qualification is the main criteria for recognizing one's ability as an ACM teacher to demonstrate the required skills.

The first step to obtain a teaching license is the qualification certificate, but to maintain the license requires professional upgrading and training.

At a national level, the procedures, the times, and the means to make the necessary upgrades are determined in accordance with the regulations set by AAI and eventually by the competent national authorities, if existent.

Failure to participate in updating and continuing training activities won't undermine the retention of the qualifications obtained, but only the teaching license.

At a national scale, procedures for the acquisition, revocation, or suspension of licenses are also defined, setting also the times and means for their reintegration.

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EQUIVALENCE CRITERIA

The IMAQS-ACM allows the recognition of skills, thanks to the credit system, with the aim of of making training paths uniform and guaranteeing their quality.

Recognition of qualifications and credits between the training courses is based on the following criteria:

1. Compatible ACM are those related to the same types of weapons, namely: (a) melee weapons, (b) throwing weapons, (c) firearms.
2. The teacher who has an ACM Level I qualification (Assistant Instructor) and wants to obtain the same qualification of a compatible ACM, has the right to full credit recognition and can access the relevant qualification examination.
3. The teacher who has an ACM Level II qualification (Instructor) and wants to obtain the same qualification of a compatible ACM, has the right to full recognition about the credits of the general subjects, and partial recognition about the credits of the ACM subjects, and can directly access the Level II training and exam.
4. The teacher who has an ACM Level III (Master) qualification and wants to obtain the same qualification of a compatible ACM, has the right to full credit recognition and can access the Level II exam directly.
5. The teacher who has the Level III (Master) qualification of an ACM of European origin related to the use of melee weapons (single, double, short, polearm), has the right to full recognition of credits for general subjects and partial fencing credits, and can access training directly for the acquisition of missing skills, and the IMAQS Level II (Instructor) exam for historical and/or artistic fencing.
6. The teacher with the historical and/or artistic fencing IMAQS level II (Instructor) qualification is eligible for the Level I qualification and can access Level II training and examination directly for the ACM compatible with its own qualification (ACM of European origin, related to the use of melee weapons (single, double, short, polearm)).
7. The teacher who has the IMAQS Level III (Master of arms) degree in historical and/or artistic fencing is eligible for the Level II qualification and can directly access Level III training and examination for the ACM compatible with its own qualification (ACM of European origin, related to the use of melee weapons (single, double, short, polearm)).
8. The cultural origin of the ACM must always be taken into account in the application of the equivalence criteria, providing for specific training and qualifications.
9. The AAI Direction Committee may establish additional equivalency criteria, consistent with the IMAQS and IMAQS-ACM principles, based on the cultural and professional characteristics of the candidates.

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THE ROLE OF THE PROFESSOR AND THE EXAMINER

IMAQS-ACM provides for the creation of an official technical list of the Professors and Examiners, according to the different subjects and competences.

The Professor is a specialized figure who organizes and manages the professional training processes, both in an initial and permanent manner; the Examiner is a specialized figure that organizes and manages the examination to issue qualification certificates; the role of Professor is not incompatible with that of Examiner in the same training and certification path.

Qualification and Classification for Professors and Examiners.

Professors and Examiners of the qualification courses and exams must be properly qualified and classified in accordance with the criteria established by IMAQS-ACM.

The enrollment on the technical lists of Professors and Examiners is reserved, for the ACM subjects, to the Level III (Masters) and, for general subjects, to the experts recognized on the basis of their academic titles, their professional curricula, or their diploma qualification.

Certifying institutions can submit their enrollment to the technical lists of examiners to participate in a specific training course on evaluation procedures.

For ACM Professors and Examiners, the classifications in technical lists are determined by their professional upgrading and continuing education, on an annual basis. It is based on hierarchical criteria, which determine the summoning orders for the courses and examinations of qualification.

Technical Lists.

The technical lists of Professors and Examiners are defined according to the subjects (ACM and general) of competence.

Professors and Examiners can be enrolled in one or more lists.

TECHNICAL LISTS FOR ACM SUBJECTS
1) Melee weapons; 2) Throwing weapons; 3) Firearms; 4) Polearm weapons (e.g.: two-handed stick, spear, halberd, fixed bayonet); 5) History, technology and maintenance of weapons and equipment; 6) Technical regulations and refereeing (Sports ACM); 7) Fight choreography methodology and practice (Stage ACM); 8) Combat simulation methodology and practice (Operative ACM).

CADRES POUR LES MATIÈRES GÉNÉRALES
1) Teaching methodology; 2) Training methodology; 3) Laws, Management and Administration; 4) Medicine and Psychology; 5) History and Archaeology; 6) Materials technology; 7) Computing; 8) Theatrical and cinematographic production; 9) Recitation and acting.

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Ratings criteria.

Ratings of the technical lists of Professors and Examiners are published by the AAI and other national and international institutions recognized by IMAQS-ACM.

Ratings are determined in accordance with the following criteria:

CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA FOR ARMED COMBAT SUBJECTS
1) Number of training credits obtained in the last two years; 2) equivalence of credits, priority for the qualification level; 3) equal level of qualification, priority for teaching credits or interventions during courses, seminars, and conferences; 4) equal teaching credits or interventions during courses, seminars, and conferences, priority for publication credits of teaching materials, theses, articles, books (written texts and audiovisual documentaries); 5) equivalent publication credits, priority for credits for their own students results; 6) equivalent credits for the students results, priority for credits of technical direction in teams of excellence in a national federation; 7) equivalent credits for technical direction activities, priority for credits of membership in a committee or working group on ACM subjects; 8) equivalent credits for membership of commissions or working groups, priority for credits on teaching mandates for ACM subjects in the armies, academies of arms, federations, universities, art academies, secondary schools, local organizations, or similar bodies, or credits for membership of the examination committees for qualification of ACM teachers.

CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA FOR GENERAL SUBJECTS
1) Experts recognized on the basis of their academic titles or their professional curricula or their qualifications; 2) equivalent academic qualifications or professional curriculum, priority to ACM teachers, in qualification level order.

DEONTOLOGICAL CODE

Any professional activity that is regulated and recognized internationally and nationally requires a professional code of ethics, so the code prescribed by the IMAQS is adopted with reference to ACM teachers.

Due to the unique nature of ACM and their potential health and public policy implications, all ACM teachers will be required to provide criminal record certifications at the beginning of the training and during continuing education.

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DOSSIER OF CONFORMITY TO IMAQS-ACM

The AAI is the international institutions authorized to form, certify, and update ACM teachers, according to the IMAQS-ACM, independently and in collaboration with national, civil and military authorities, as well as natural or legal persons operating in contexts sports, artistic and operative.

The application form for the recognition of an ACM by the AAI includes the following:

1. General description of the ACM, containing the history, the cultural context, the field of practice (sports, stage, operative), the treated weapons and the data relative to the national and international diffusion (estimate of the number of schools, teachers and practitioners);
2. List of Founders (at least one Master and four Instructors) for the regularization of existing technical staff, their personal data and criminal record certifications;
3. Description of the subjects and programs chosen for teacher qualification courses, in accordance with the IMAQS-ACM;
4. Description of training and recycling criteria, in accordance with the IMAQS-ACM;
5. Examination procedures (evaluation criteria) and technical lists of professors and examiners;
6. Teaching materials (a copy of textbooks or treatises, at least in French or English);
7. List of recognized practice centers;
8. Certification of payment of fees for the recognition procedure, established by the AAI Direction Committee.

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