

# Military Schools Data Project

## Codebook

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### Project Description

This project documents the existence of national military schools in all countries, 1800–present. The underlying objective is to understand patterns of growth in military educational institutions around the world, as this helps give a picture for how norms of military professionalism have developed over time. In the future, it is envisioned that data collection will encompass curriculum, student body size, and program statistics, but for this phase of the project the focus is on officer (not NCO) education at four levels: pre-commissioning academies, company course (captain or junior staff course), (senior) staff course (major/lieutenant colonel rank), and senior (war college, lieutenant colonel/colonel/brigadier rank).

### Variables

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
schlname	string	Name of the military school (program in parentheses)
ccode	numerical	Correlates of War three-digit country code
cabbr	string	Correlates of War three-letter country abbreviation
schlopen	numerical	Year school held its first class (format: yyyy)
schleltd	numerical	Year school held its final class (format: yyyy)
notes	string	Any notes pertinent to coding, interpretation
control	dummy	Indicator of national control over school (i.e., not private)

commis	dummy	Indicator for pre-commissioning academy
company	dummy	Indicator for company-level school (junior staff, O-3)
staff	dummy	Indicator for staff-level school (command and staff, O-4/O-5)
senior	dummy	Indicator for senior-level school (war college, O-5/O-6/O-7)
othnam1	string	Most recent previous name of the school (program)
othnam2	string	Next oldest name of the school (program)
othnam3	string	Next oldest name of school (others separated by semicolon)
source1	string	Chicago 16th ed. bibliographic entry (author-date style)
source2	string	Chicago 16th ed. bibliographic entry (author-date style)
source3	string	Chicago 16th ed. bibliographic entry (author-date style)
source4	string	Chicago 16th ed. bibliographic entry (author-date style)
source5	string	Chicago 16th ed. bibliographic entry (author-date style)
source6	string	Chicago 16th ed. bibliographic entry (author-date style)
closdysr	string	Range (s) of years school closed (format: yyyy-yyyy, yyyy-...)
close1	numerical	Year after first school closure (format: yyyy)
reopen1	numerical	Year of first reopening (format: yyyy)
close2	numerical	Year after second school closure (format: yyyy)
reopen2	numerical	Year of second reopening (format: yyyy)
close3	numerical	Year after third school closure (format: yyyy)
reopen3	numerical	Year of third reopening (format: yyyy)
close4	numerical	Year after fourth school closure (format: yyyy)
reopen4	numerical	Year of fourth reopening (format: yyyy)
close5	numerical	Year after fifth school closure (format: yyyy)
reopen5	numerical	Year of fifth reopening (format: yyyy)
othnams	string	Obsolete; replaced by <i>othnam3</i>

## Coding Rules

*schlname* (“School Name”). This string variable identifies the course and school in which a program of study is given. The course name is given in parentheses only if the school teaches at more than one of the four levels of officer education, e.g., Ecuador’s Academia de Guerra Aerea, which has a Curso de Estado Mayor, a Curso Avanzado, and a Curso de Formacion (staff, captain, and pre-commissioning, respectively). The name of the school is given, where possible, in the original language, or in Latin letters if the original alphabet is different. The translation of the School Name should be given in one of the “othnam” variables.

*ccode* (“Country Code”). This numeric variable refers to the three-digit Correlates of War project country code, available at [www.correlatesofwar.org](http://www.correlatesofwar.org).

*cabbr* (“Country Abbreviation”). This string variable refers to the three-letter Correlates of War project country abbreviation, available at [www.correlatesofwar.org](http://www.correlatesofwar.org).

*schlopen* (“School Opened”). This numeric variable gives the first year (format: yyyy) that the school opened for classes (for a given course of study). When it is not possible to identify the year classes were first held, then the year the school was inaugurated can be used. If that is not available, the year a school was decreed in government legislation may be used.

*schlclsd* (“School Closed”). This numeric variable gives the last year (format: yyyy) that the school taught classes (for a given course of study). If a school opened and closed multiple times, the last closure date should be used. For data collection begun in 2015, a School Closed year of 2015 will denote that the school is still open. If a school closed in 2015, it should be noted in the Notes variable.

*notes* (“Notes”). This string variable gives any additional information related to the coding of variables. Examples could include conflicts between sources in School Opened and School Closed, or reasons for adjudicating coding decisions in a certain way.

*control* (“Control”). This dummy variable indicates whether a school is under national government control (1) or not (0). Schools under sub-jurisdiction control (e.g., Virginia Military Institute, which provides pre-commissioning education but which is under the control of the State of Virginia in the United States) should be coded 0. Schools that are governed by national laws and mostly financed by national funds, but which allow privately-funded students (e.g., Chile’s Academia Nacional de Estudios Politicos y Estrategicos (ANEPE); Peru’s Centro de Altos Estudios Nacionales) should be coded 1.

*commis* (“Pre-commissioning School”). This dummy variable indicates whether a school provides education to cadets prior to their commissioning as military officers in their country’s armed forces (1) or not (0). The length of the course can vary from less than a year (e.g., UK’s Sandhurst) to a full four-year degree program (e.g., US’s West Point). Such schools are often termed “academies”, and the often focus on a broad-based education, with specializations in fields deemed useful to the military, such as engineering, mathematics, and sciences.

*company* (“Company-level School”). This dummy variable indicates whether a school provides education to junior-level military officers (1) or not (0). This level of education usually occurs at the rank of captain, i.e., those with 3 to 5 years’ service, and is sometimes called a “captain’s career course” or a “junior staff course”. The purpose of this level of education is usually to train officers in the specialized tasks of military organization at the tactical or company level. Many officers compete for the command of companies (100- to 200-person units) at the rank of captain, and many graduates of company-level schools serve on battalion (about 800 troops) staffs, or as junior planners on brigade (about 5,000 troops) staffs.

*staff* (“Staff-level School”). This dummy variable indicates whether a school provides education to mid-career military officers (1) or not (0). This level of education usually occurs at the rank of major or (junior) lieutenant colonel, i.e., those with 8 to 15 years’ service, and is sometimes called a “command and staff course” or simply “staff course”. The US armed forces term this “intermediate level education”. Education at this level usually denotes a change in perspective from tactical to operational military problems, i.e., the challenge of organizing and planning military operations in space and time so that they accomplish strategic objectives. As a result, staff-level schools generally focus on planning on division (about 15,000 troops) or corps (a group of 2 or 3 divisions) staffs, although many graduates serve as senior planners on brigade staffs.

*senior* (“Senior-level School”). This dummy variable indicates whether a school provides education to senior military officers (1) or not (0). This level of education usually occurs at the rank of colonel, i.e., those with 16 to 20 years’ service, and is often called a “war college course” or a “national defense course”. Some senior-level schools matriculate a few lieutenant colonels (e.g., the US Army War College), while some do not, although they may matriculate a few brigadier generals (e.g., the UAE’s National Defense College). Senior-level schools often matriculate a larger number of civilians than schools at other levels of professional military education, since education at this level denotes another change of perspective, from operational to strategic problems, which typically require long-term planning and a combination of military and non-military inputs. Some senior-level schools even matriculate a majority of civilian students, but as long as some military officers matriculate, and as long as the course of study focuses on strategy, security, and national defense, it is considered a senior-level school.

*othnam1*, *othnam2*, *othnam3* (“Other Name [#]”). These three string variables provide any other names by which the school or course has been known, including the translation of non-English names given in the School Name variable. The Other Name 1 and Other Name 2 variables provide only one name, while the Other Name 3 provides any additional names, separated by semi-colons.

*source1*, *source2*, *source3*, *source4*, *source5*, *source6* (“Source [#]”). These string variables give specific source information, in *Chicago Manual of Style*, 16th edition, author-date format, with page numbers provided where available.

*closedyrs* (“Closed Years”). This string variable provides any years in the period between the School Opened year and the School Closed year (or the present) during which the school was not in operation (format: yyyy-yyyy, yyyy-yyyy, ...). The first year in a range is the year during which the school ceased operation, and the second year in a range is the year prior to the one during which the school resumed operation. If a school moves locations, or dramatically reduces the length of its course of study (as has often happened during large-scale wars), then it is not considered closed. Closure refers to the cessation of instruction.

*close1* (“Closed Year 1”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the first closure year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*reopen1* (“Reopen Year 1”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the first reopening year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*close2* (“Closed Year 2”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the second closure year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*reopen2* (“Reopen Year 2”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the second reopening year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*close3* (“Closed Year 3”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the third closure year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*reopen3* (“Reopen Year 3”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the third reopening year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*close4* (“Closed Year 4”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the fourth closure year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*reopen4* (“Reopen Year 4”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the fourth reopening year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*close5* (“Closed Year 5”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the fifth closure year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*reopen5* (“Reopen Year 5”). This numeric variable (format: yyyy) provides the fifth reopening year given in the Closed Years variable (see above).

*othnams* (“Other Names”). Future versions of the data set will discontinue this variable, as Other Name 3 supercedes it.

### **Corrections**

To correct data inaccuracies, please submit a military school record here (link TBD) or e-mail [nathan.toronto.ndc@gmail.com](mailto:nathan.toronto.ndc@gmail.com).