

	ROBC	ABOLC	Comments
<b>General time allotted</b>	Allocates 50 days to tactics training.	Allocates 33 days to Phase III platoon training.	Overall, ROBC is about 21 days longer, or four weeks longer, than ABOLC. While the differences are not substantial, they are notable.
<b>Training methodology</b>	Employs a crawl-walk-run approach to AFV tactics training; students spend three weeks in individual vehicle tactics and another three weeks in section tactics before they even start platoon training in Week 7.	Begins tactics training during Phase III at platoon level without having established foundational competencies at individual vehicle and section level necessary to be proficient in maneuvering a platoon.	ROBC relentlessly focuses on terrain analysis and maneuver while adding layers of complexity as students demonstrate proficiency in tasks.
<b>Field time for tactics training</b>	Lieutenants spend about 37 days in the field for tactics training (Monday afternoon to Friday morning for 10 weeks).	Lieutenants spend about 19 days in the field during Phase III – about half as much as ROBC.	With a vastly better training area and more time in the hatch, the quality of ROBC field time is much better than ABOLC.
<b>Hatch time</b>	SOArmd’s Support Squadron provides ROBC with drivers, loaders and gunners, so lieutenants (students) spend 50 to 100 percent of their field time as an AFV commander, depending on course size.	Lieutenants rotate through all crew positions and only spend 25 to 33 percent of their field time as the vehicle commander, depending on platform.	
<b>Training areas</b>	Conducts tactics training in the Puckapunyal Training Area, an area of open rolling hills, interspersed forests and assorted water features (Figure 7).	Tactics training is conducted at Good Hope Training Area, Fort Benning, with small, dispersed two kilometers by one kilometer by one kilometer maneuver areas that are inadequate for AFV maneuver (Figure 6).	
<b>Land navigation</b>	Dedicates a week to terrain association and mounted land navigation during night as well as day. Lieutenants must pass a day-navigation assessment (find four of six points in 60 minutes) and a night-navigation assessment (find three of four points in 60 minutes) in a 60-square-kilometer area with only a map and night-vision goggles.	Students spend two days doing dismounted land navigation in Phase I.	Navigation is not objectively assessed in ABOLC and is only subjectively assessed during the Phase I gate event. It is difficult to lead a platoon, or any formation, when the leader is uncertain where to go or how to get there tactically.
<b>Live-fire maneuver</b>	Lieutenants must pass three live-fire maneuver assessments (battle runs) as an AFV commander, section	Students conduct stationary live-fire engagements from a tank and Bradley during Phase II on built-up ranges.	

	<p>leader and platoon leader to pass the course. These assessments are usually 1½ to two hours long, extremely stressful and conducted over five- to 10-kilometer lanes on the same terrain where they conduct dry training (not fabricated ranges).</p>	<p>There is no live-fire maneuver during Phase III collective training.</p>	
<p><b>Platform focus</b></p>	<p>Focuses on one AFV platform – the ASLAV for cavalry ROBC or the M1A1 for tank ROBC.</p>	<p>Divides its training between M1A2 and M3A3.</p>	
<p><b>Instructor experience and student ratio</b></p>	<p>Instructors are senior captains and post-platoon sergeant NCOs (U.S. sergeant first class equivalent) who are specially selected by their career adviser. ROBC maintains an instructor-to-student ratio of no more than 1:2.</p>		<p>Most important, the Australian army remained focused on CAM training during the last 14 years, so its officers and NCOs have maintained their CAM competencies. Through no fault of their own, most ABOLC instructors have very limited (if any) experience in tactical maneuver and no official training in tactics for NCOs (the military-occupation specialty 19-series Noncommissioned Officer Education System has no field-tactics training). The Army's focus on COIN and WAS for the last 10-12 years has denied our NCOs the CAM experience that used to come from dozens of NTC rotations.</p>