



# The Academy of European Swordsmanship

## Ringen Savant Study Sheet

Version 2.0

### Savant Responsibilities

Once Savant ranking is achieved, the responsibilities of the student expand beyond that of the Initiate. Savants are also required to take an oath to the art of swordsmanship (at the end of the study sheet). A Savant is responsible for assisting non-ranked students in their studies **during classes** only (under certified instructor supervision). As a Savant, you retain all of the responsibilities of your Initiate ranking. Further privileges and responsibilities include:

- participate in the challenges of students for the playing for the prize of an Initiate, Savant or Provost rank
- can participate in the governing body of the Academy in an advisory capacity or as part of the executive under invitation
- can participate and contribute to research & development projects, under the direction of a senior scholar, savant or higher ranked member
- provide assistance in training classes when called upon by the senior or junior instructor.
- may study and test for junior instructor certification

In addition to any of the items from the Initiate exam, for the Savant Exam you may be asked to demonstrate any or all of the following:

1. Explain what the primary targets in Western Martial Arts are and why.
2. Name at least three of the historical masters and explain why they are significant today.
  - Example: Hans Talhoffer, treatise most available was written in 1467. Within this treatise, Meister Talhoffer demonstrates several throws and locks that are standard to WMA. These are shown in illustrations that allow the modern student to more easily understand the full application and effect of the techniques. <you may expand from here>
3. Demonstrate what is meant by loose, middle, and deep “tie-up”
4. Ott’s two wrestlings (right and left) and at least 2 counters to each.
5. Choke-hold breaks – demonstrate at least two each one and two-handed choke-hold breaks.
6. Demonstrate correct break-fall rolls, forwards and backwards
7. Explain the principle of “the left hand forward” as it applies to modern self defence. Use at least one example.
8. Iron Door stance
  - a. Demonstrate proper closing and grappling in the use of this stance
  - b. Show defence from at least two attacks using this guard.
9. Passing, stepping, and traversing from any of the stances
10. Defences
  - a. Proper straight and cross blocks.
  - b. High (elbow) block
  - c. Low (elbow) block
11. Proper attacks
  - a. Strikes
    - i. Round punches, both types
    - ii. Back fist
    - iii. Upward elbow strike
    - iv. Forward, round elbow strike

- b. Kicks:
  - i. To knees, groin and belly
  - ii. Explain advantages and disadvantages of straight and side kicks
- 12. Throws & Trips
  - a. Two head throws
  - b. Two arm throws
  - c. One leg throw
- 13. Locks & breaks
  - a. Upper Key
  - b. Lower Key
  - c. Two arm bar throws
  - d. One other lock (student's choice)
- 14. Defence against a knife:
  - a. Against a high attack, both sides
  - b. Against a low attack, both sides
- 15. Ringen:
  - a. Demonstrate and explain how to defend when you are taken down and your opponent remains standing
  - b. Demonstrate breaks of the opponent's grip
  - c. Show correct head butting
  - d. Demonstrate how to deal with a "bear hug" from both the front and behind
  - e. Demonstrate at least two methods of effective attack when both you and your opponent are taken down to the ground.

### **Savant Oath**

1. You shall uphold, maintain and keep to your power all such articles as shall be declared unto you by your Meister or Provost.
2. You shall be true Savant from this day unto the last day of your life, to love the true and hate falsehood, never to rebel and go against any Provost or Meister of this science, always to be ruled by your Meister and the founding masters of this science.
3. You shall not teach any suspect person (any person believed to have a criminal record or criminal tendencies), common brawlers or drunkards, but to avoid your hands upon them, and to keep no company with them, so nigh as you can.
4. You shall not teach any person whatsoever, that he or she be without you do swear him or her unto your Meister or Provost and other Meisters thy Meister or Provost shall assign you.
5. You shall not compare any other Meister or Provost to disparage his doings, and especially you shall not compare your Meister or Provost, under whom you now proceed and of whom you have had your Cunning, neither with Challenge nor with opprobrious words as touching our science in any way.
6. At any prize or game which you shall be at to stick or stand by, you shall say the truth of which you shall see when asked or called to speak, and naught else if there be any Meister or Provost being your elder. And when you are so asked, you shall give true judgement in so far as you have seen and are able, setting all affection aside and rightly judging so as you would have thyself be judged, without fraud or guile, helping them to that which they have won so nigh as you can or may be your good will.
7. You shall always be merciful and whereas it may happen you have the upper hand of your enemy, that is to say he be under your feet or without any weapon or other advantage, you shall not kill him, so long as he be no traitor to your country and oaths, saving yourself without danger or death or bodily hurt according to your first oath, which you received entering this science.
8. You shall not take any usher without the license of your Meister or Provost. But for need you have a deputy, which is to say that in your Master's or Provost's absence you may take as will be students saying unto them that they shall be content to take what instruction you can give them, and shall later swear unto thy Meister or Provost. And so take him or her and give him or her the first lesson.

9. You shall not teach or entice to train any other Meister's student, without the goodwill of the first Meister, except that the said student has well and truly contented his duty to his first Meister. Furthermore, you shall keep our rules and constitutions in all prizes and shall hereafter as you proceed in this science.
10. You shall swear to keep this Savant's oath in all points now given and declared unto you by me, your Meister or Provost, in the presence of our brethren of this science, by all you hold true and dear.