



# Quality & Quantity: Converting Grades & Credits to the US Equivalent

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# Qualitative and Quantitative Conversions

Determining Appropriate Grade  
and Credit Equivalencies



# Basic Concepts

There are three major forms of grading:

1. Criterion-Referenced Grading
2. Norm-Referenced Grading
3. Grading on a Curve



# Types of Grading Scales

- Verbal Grades
- Letter Grades
- Numerical Grades



# Conversion of Grades

- What is the lowest passing grade?
- What is the highest grade?
- What is the average grade?
- Is there a “D” grade?



# Examples of Grading Scales

- Words
- Letters
- Percentages (grades out of a maximum 100)
- Numerical grades using a maximum other than 100



# Grading scales

Numeric grade	Verbal grade	English Translation
5	отлично	excellent
4	хорошо	good
3	удовлетворительно	satisfactory
	зачёт	pass, credit

Typically, official final grade reports/transcripts report only the passing grades, however, it is possible that the failed courses may be reported on transcripts for students who have not completed their program:

**2 неудовлетворительно = unsatisfactory**



# GCE 'A' Level Grading

- Passing grades:
  - A
  - B
  - C
  - D
  - E
- Attempted 'A' level passed only at the 'O' Level standard:
  - O





# University of Dar es Salaam (est. 1970)

Faculties: arts and social sciences, commerce and management, science, law, medicine, and engineering.

5	4.4 - 5	First Class
4	3.5 – 4.3	Upper Second
3	2.7 – 3.4	Lower Second
2	2.0 – 2.6	Pass
1		
0		

Grading scale for arts and social sciences

70-100	First Class
60-69	Upper Second
50-59	Lower Second
40-49	Pass
35-39	
0-34	

Grading scale for commerce  
and management

# Upper-Secondary School Leaving Certificate - Mathematics Line

in accordance with the Act on Upper Secondary Schools, etc.

Name:  
Jensen, Line

ID No:  
140181-1938

Exam year:  
2002

## Obligatory subjects

	Level	Marks for the year's work	Exam marks	School no.	Term	Rating of subject level
Visual Arts (1/2 weighting)	C	8	8	743019	jun 02	-
Biology	C	-	-	743019	jun 00	-
Danish, written	A	10	9	743019	jun 01	-
Danish, oral	A	9	9	743019	jun 01	-
English	B	7	7	743019	jun 01	-
Physics	B	-	-	743019	jun 00	-
Geography	C	9	10	743019	jun 01	-
History with civics	A	9	9	743019	jun 01	-
Physical education with sport (1/2 weighting)	C	9	9	743019	jun 02	-
Chemistry	C	10	10	743019	jun 00	-
Mathematics, written	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mathematics, oral	-	-	-	-	-	-
Music (1/2 weighting)	C	8	8	743019	jun 00	-
Classical studies	C	9	9	743019	jun 02	-
Religious studies	C	8	8	743019	jun 02	-
Continuation language Beginner language	B	9	9	743019	jun 00	-
Major written assignment Physics	-	-	10	743019	jun 02	-

## Optional subjects at intermediate level

	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-

## Optional subjects at high level

Biology, written	A	10	9	743019	jun 02	-
Biology, oral	A	9	10	743019	jun 02	-
Physics, written	A	10	8	743019	jun 02	-
Physics, oral	A	10	10	743019	jun 02	-
Mathematics, written	A	9	9	743019	jun 01	-
Mathematics, oral	A	9	9	743019	jun 01	-

Marks in written mathematics		
Obligatory level (1/3 weighting)	High level (2/3 weighting)	Exam mark
-	-	-

Average 9,1 9,1

Exam result 9,1



Silkeborg Amtsgymnasium  
74 30 19

Special remarks:

Special sport student

In awarding marks, the following system is used,

cf. Executive Order on the marking system:

- 13: is given for the exceptionally independent and excellent performance
- 11: is given for the independent and excellent performance
- 10: is given for the excellent but not particularly independent performance
- 9: is given for the good performance, a little above average
- 8: is given for the average performance
- 7: is given for the mediocre performance, slightly below average
- 6: is given for the just acceptable performance
- 5: is given for the hesitant and not satisfactory performance
- 03: is given for the very hesitant, very insufficient and unsatisfactory performance
- 00: is given for the completely unacceptable performance



# Grading Scales - Mexico

with 6 as minimum passing grade, and  
7 as minimum passing grade

Spanish	English	Numeric	Percentile
Excelente (E)	Excellent	10	100
Muy Bien (MB)	Very Good	9	90-99
Bien (B)	Good	8	80-89
Regular (R)	Average	7	70-79
Suficiente (S)	Sufficient	6	60-69
No Suficiente (N)	Insufficient	5	50-59
Muy Bien (MB)	Very Good	9-10	90-100
Bien (B)	Good	8	80-89
Suficiente (S)	Sufficient	7	70-79
No Suficiente (N)	Insufficient	6	60-69



# Brazil

## Documentation and Grading Scales:

School reports as well as university transcripts are generally known as ***Histórico Escolar*** (Scholastic History) or ***Histórico Escolar Oficial*** (Official Scholastic History).

All grading scales are based on a maximum of 100% (or 10.0 points). For example, a grade of 95 in a 100-point system would equivalent to a grade of 9.5 in a 10-point system.

### Elementary and Secondary Schools:

<i>superior superior</i>	9.0-10.0	higher superior
<i>média superior</i>	7.0-8.9	medium superior
<i>média média</i>	5.0-6.9	medium average
<i>média inferior</i>	3.0-4.9	medium inferior
<i>inferior inferior</i>	0.0-2.9	below inferior
<i>sem rendimento</i>		no results, fail

Minimum passing range is 5.0.

# Secondary Grading Scales



- School grading

- 1 *sehr gut* very good
- 2 *gut* good
- 3 *befriedigend* satisfactory
- 4 *ausreichend* just adequate/pass
- 5 *mangelhaft* fail
- 6 *ungenügend* fail/insufficient

The two lowest failing grades discriminate between those whose basic knowledge is adequate to overcome deficiencies with more effort (the *mangelhaft* category); and those whose basic knowledge is so inadequate that could not be overcome (the *ungenügend* category).

- ***Abitur***

- A pass in the *Abitur* examination requires a minimum of 300 points out of a possible 900, which are accumulated according to a complicated system involving weighting for intensive courses (see Examinations in SCHOOL EDUCATION for more details of structure of *Abitur* certificate). The final averaged grade on the *Abitur* certificate is expressed on the 1-6 scale, with 4 the lowest passing grade, and an averaged mark of between 1 and 2 considered a significant accomplishment.
- The individual subject grades are reported on a 15-point scale which is always included on the official certificate.
  - 15-13 *sehr gut*
  - 12-10 *gut*
  - 9-7 *befriedigend*
  - 6-4 *ausreichend*
  - 3-1 *mangelhaft*
  - 00 *ungenügend*



# Indian Secondary Scales

Most State Secondary Examinations follow the generic India grading scale:

## 35 Lowest Pass

- **60-100 A**
- **50-59 B**
- **40-49 C**
- **35-39 D**
- **0-34 F**

*Convert marks obtained to percentages before applying the equivalent grading scale.*

## Central Board of Secondary Education

A-1 Top 1/8th of the passed candidates

A-2 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

B-1 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

B-2 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

C-1 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

C-2 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

D-1 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

D-2 Next 1/8th of the passed candidates

E Failed candidates



# Other grading issues...

- Calculating a GPA
- Failed grades



# Credit Conversion

- Review of one-year-equals-one-year rule
- Definition of a semester hour of credit





# Converting Quantitative Information

- Credits
- Units
- Points
- Hours
- Maximum marks



# Credits, units & points

20 credits per semester



# Credits, units & points

20 credits per semester

$20 \times .75 = 15$  semester hours of credit



# Credits, units & points

60 points per year



# Credits, units & points

60 points per year

$60 \times .5 = 30$  semester hours of credit



# Hours

450 hours per year



# Hours

450 hours per year

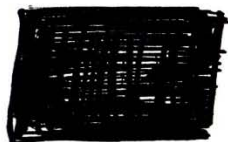
$450 / 15 = 30$  semester hours of credit



# Transcript of Academic Record / Diploma Supplement



**THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL**



Name of Student: Miss [REDACTED]  
Date of Birth: 31/10/4 [REDACTED]  
HESA Student Identifier: [REDACTED]  
Programme of Study: BA American Studies  
Programme of Study Code: 020001

Registration Number: [REDACTED]

Certificate Stage 25/09/2000 - 10/06/2001

Module Code	Credit Value	Level	Title	Mark	Credits Awarded	ECTS Credits
02109	20	1	American History II - Themes and Issues since 1880	49	20	10
02110	20	1	20th Century American Literature Survey	62	20	10
02111	20	1	Topics in American Culture and History I	59	20	10
02112	20	1	American History I - Themes and Issues to 1880	59	20	10
02113	20	1	American Literature Survey to World War I	58	20	10
02115	20	1	Topics in American Culture and History II	61	20	10
<b>Total Credits Awarded:</b>					<b>120</b>	<b>60</b>

Diploma Stage 24/09/2001 - 10/06/2002

Module Code	Credit Value	Level	Title	Mark	Credits Awarded	ECTS Credits
02211	20	2	The Literature of the American Dream	57	20	10
02213	20	2	American Film Adaptation	61	20	10
02216	20	2	Women in American Literature	68	20	10
02227	20	2	Twentieth Century American Women's Writing	70	20	10
02252	20	2	Hollywood in the 1950s	60	20	10
02257	20	2	America in the 1960s and 1970s	58	20	10
<b>Total Credits Awarded:</b>					<b>120</b>	<b>60</b>

Post Diploma Stage 23/09/2002 - 10/06/2003

Module Code	Credit Value	Level	Title	Mark	Credits Awarded	ECTS Credits
02496	60	3	Year Abroad	74	60	30
02498	60	3	Year Abroad	74	60	30
<b>Total Credits Awarded:</b>					<b>120</b>	<b>60</b>





# Maximum points

800 maximum points per year



# Maximum points

800 maximum points per year

Target: 30 credits per year

X Credits per 100?

$$30 / 800 = .375$$

$$3.75 \times 8 = 30$$



# Maximum points

800 maximum points per year

Target: 30 credits per year

X Credits per 100?

$$30 / 800 = .375$$

$$3.75 \times 8 = 30 \quad \text{OR} \quad 4 \times 8 = 32$$



# Credit issues...

- More credits each semester
- More hours per week of study
- Condensed programs of study
- Others?



# Discussion Questions

1. When is one year of work worth more than one year of credit?
2. Is quality a substitute for quantity?
3. What do we do when we have no information?



# Thank you for your attention!

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