

Conversion of external credits and grades

Since credit and grading systems differ among countries and between universities, the results you obtain with external courses (including minors etc.) will need to be converted in order to fit in the credit and grading system used by Wageningen University.

Credit conversion

The European Union agreed upon a study load ranging from 1500-1800 hours per year as being the standard. Like most universities in the European Union, Wageningen University uses EC credits according to ECTS. Credits from elsewhere are converted to ECTS credits via the information provided by your host institution and if necessary obtained/verified via other authorities, such as [NUFFIC](#), which is the Dutch organization for internationalization of education.

Grade conversion

The European Union agreed upon a common system for grade conversion: the ECTS grading table. Grading tables show how many students received a given grade in a given field of study at an education institution and enable a fair conversion of grades. The Examining Board compares the grading table from your host university with the grading table specific for your study programme at Wageningen University to determine your Wageningen University grade. This means that the outcome of the conversions may differ between study programmes.

Fictive example

In country X at university Y, you receive an A (or a 10). If the grading table of university X shows that 30% of the students pass courses with this score or a higher score, you should get the grade that corresponds with the top 30%-point of the Wageningen University grade table, meaning your grade will be converted to an 8. For a visual explanation watch the 3-minute video '[ECTS grading Tables](#)' provided by the European Commission.

Conservative grade conversion

The Examining Boards of Wageningen University convert grades conservatively in order to maintain the high quality standard of the diplomas decreed by Wageningen University. This means that when a grade translates into a range of for example 8-10, the grade will be converted into 8, 8.5 or perhaps 9. If there is additional information, such as a remark 'with distinction', or if you can prove that an examination was taken without any errors, the Examining Board may decide to convert to the higher end of the range. To prove that you passed a course with no errors, you can request a written statement from the examiner of the course and hand it to your Examination Board at Wageningen University.

What if there is no grading table?

With no grading table available for a certain grade, the Examining Boards rely on 'heuristic' translation from the external grading system for conversion into a Wageningen University grade. In this case, the examining board may consult different information sources, such as previous exchange, colleague universities and the website of NUFFIC.

Conclusion: you can facilitate accurate conversion of your external grades by providing (additional) information about your external (written) test results and especially the grading table and/or grading system of your host university.

Last updated: 30/09/2019