



Sciences Po Strasbourg		
École	de l'Université de Strasbourg	

GRADING AND TRANSCRIPTS

Sciences Po Strasbourg Degree programme (Outgoing)
Regular programme for visiting/exchange students (Incoming)

(NB: this document does NOT apply to the Certificate of European Studies)

General considerations

- **The Sciences Po Strasbourg Degree programme is not organised in semesters but on an annual basis;** we therefore cannot deliver a semester-based transcript to our outgoing degree-seeking students. However, we provide incoming visiting / exchange students with a semester-based transcript when they come for one semester only.
- Within the **Sciences Po Strasbourg Degree programme, ECTS credits are awarded globally (60 ECTS per year)** on the basis of degree-seeking students' yearly general average grade. **For visiting / exchange students registered in the regular programme, we award ECTS credits for each separate module.**
- Some modules are assessed through only one final (generally written but occasionally oral) exam or through a final project paper, while others are assessed through continuous assessment based on at least two assignments.
- **Grading is done on a scale from 0 (minimum) to 20 (maximum).**
 - If a paper, an oral presentation or an exam is graded, for instance, 12/20, it means 12 out of a possible maximum of 20.
 - Grades of 17/20, 18/20, 19/20 or 20/20 are exceptional; **16/20 is most commonly the top of the scale.**
 - The grade 0/20 is almost only given in cases when a student hands in a blank paper for an exam or does not participate in any of the assignments set as part of the continuous assessment for a particular module.
 - **10/20 is the overall pass grade.** Degree-seeking students do not need to obtain a minimum of 10/20 for each module as compensation occurs (a grade of 06/20 can thus be compensated by a grade of 14/20 or above elsewhere); they need to obtain a minimum average grade of 10/20 both overall AND for the "core courses". For visiting / exchange students registered in the regular programme, no ECTS credits can be granted for a particular module if the grade obtained is below 10/20.
 - For a particular module, the great bulk of grades is usually between 8/20 and 12/20.
 - NB: it is **very common for good students to have one or several grades below 10/20** on their transcripts since averaging of all grades in our system means that a student can compensate one or several fail grades by good grades elsewhere in other subjects and achieve overall success. Indeed, professors do not hesitate to give students grades below 10/20 considering that they have various opportunities to catch up elsewhere.
- **Expectations tend to be high,** degree-seeking students being selected at the entrance through a competitive exam (10-12% acceptance rate).

Grade conversion

Compensation takes place between grades for Sciences Po Strasbourg's degree-seeking students, but not for visiting / exchange students registered in the regular programme, for whom ECTS credits are awarded for each module separately; therefore, the conversion of grades needs to be done differently for these two groups, as suggested below:

Global conversion (recommended for our outgoing degree-seeking students)

Average yearly grade	Comment	Letter grade	GPA Score
0-9.99	Fail	F	0
10	Sufficient	C	2.0
10.1-10.49	Satisfactory	C+	2.33
10.5-10.99	Fairly good	B-	2.7
11-11.99	Good	B	3.0
12-13.99	Very good	B+	3.33
14-20	Excellent	A	4.0

Module-by-module conversion (recommended for incoming students of the regular programme)

Grade (individual module)	Comment	ECTS credits granted ?	Corresponding letter grade (ECTS or US system)	GPA Score
0-7.99	Fail	No	F	0
8-9.99	Poor	No	D	1.0
10	Sufficient	Yes	C	2.0
10.1-10.49	Satisfactory	Yes	C+	2.33
10.5-10.99	Fairly good	Yes	B-	2.7
11-11.99	Good	Yes	B	3.0
12-13.99	Very good	Yes	B+	3.33
14-20	Excellent	Yes	A	4.0

We understand and accept that our partner universities may wish to use alternative conversions when assessing their students' performance during an exchange with us.

Honours

For **degree-seeking students**, we grant **honours** ("*mention*") along the following scale (general French use):

Average yearly grade	Result or honours	Description	Proportion of students typically concerned
0-9.99	"Ajourné"	Fail (no honours)	5 to 10%
10-11.99	"Passable" (no honours)	Sufficient to fairly good (no honours)	20 to 40%
12-13.99	Mention "Assez Bien"	Very good – Cum Laude	40 to 50%
14-15.99	Mention "Bien"	Excellent – Magna cum Laude	10 to 20%
16-20	Mention "Très Bien"	Outstanding – Summa cum Laude	1% or less

For **visiting / exchange students**, we grant **honours** to students who:

- obtained at least 30 ECTS over a semester or 60 ECTS over an academic year
- AND obtained a minimum overall average grade of 13/20 => "*Compliments du jury*" (ie "with the jury's congratulations")
- OR obtained a minimum overall average grade of 15/20 => "*Félicitations du jury*" (ie "with the jury's congratulations for an outstanding performance")

NB: Only a handful of visiting / exchange students are granted honours each semester, so this should be truly recognised as an outstanding accomplishment.

Sciences Po Strasbourg

LE CARDO

Sciences Po Strasbourg

7 rue de l'Ecarlate

CS 20024

67082 Strasbourg Cedex

www.sciencespo-strasbourg.fr

Interpreting our transcripts

For Sciences Po Strasbourg's outgoing degree-seeking students:

Our transcripts are presented in the form of a 5-column table entitled "**Notes et résultats**", ie "**Grades and results**":

- Above the table appear: the name of the student, his/her student number, date and place of birth and the indication of the degree and year in which the student was registered ("*inscrit en*"), e.g. "Sciences Po Strasbourg Diploma, 1st year"
- The first column features the **title of the module** (transcripts for our degree-seeking students can be edited in French or in English; in the French version, the language of the title of the module indicates the language of tuition for each module; in the English version, all titles are given in English)
- The second column "**Note/Barème**" features the **grade obtained by the student** for this particular module; grading is on a scale of 0/20 to 20/20 (see above); "**Défaillance**" means that **the student could not be assessed** (because of an absence on the day of the exam, a failure to hand in a final paper, too many absences for a module assessed in continuous assessment, etc.)
- The third column is entitled "**Résultat**", ie "**Result**", which is **blank** for all our degree-seeking students (as the result is global only)
- The fourth column "**Session**" indicates whether the grade in question was obtained during the first session (S1) in May or during the second session (S2), which is a catch-up exam session open to students who were absent or who failed during the first session.
- The fifth column "**Crédits**" is **blank** for all our degree-seeking students (as credits are only awarded globally, not module by module)

Below this table, another table appears, entitled "**Résultat global**", ie "**Global result**", with a single line and five new columns again:

- In the first column the phrase "**Résultat d'admission**", ie "**Admission result**" appears and serves as a title for the other 4 columns
- The second column features the **overall yearly weighted average grade** (e.g. 12.907/20)
- The third column can read as follows:
 - "**Admis**" means that the student "**passed**" this particular year of the Sciences Po Strasbourg Degree programme
 - "**Ajourné**" means that the student "**Failed**" this particular year of the Sciences Po Strasbourg Degree programme; if this is a first-session grade report, the student is entitled to catch-up exams; if this is a second-session grade report, the student may be allowed to repeat.
 - "**Défaillant**" means that the student was **not assessed** for one or several of the modules. If this is a first-session grade report, the student is entitled to catch-up exams; if this is a second-session grade report, the student may be allowed to repeat.
- The fourth column contains either the phrase "**Passable**", ie "**sufficient**", or the **honours** ("**Assez Bien**", "**Bien**" or "**Très Bien**" that were granted to the student on the basis of the overall yearly average grade)
- The fifth column features **the number of ECTS granted**. For Sciences Po Strasbourg's degree-seeking students, this can be either **60** in case the year was passed or **blank** (in case a student failed his year or was not assessed for one or several modules)

At the bottom of the transcript appears the **signature** of the Director of Sciences Po Strasbourg with the **date** on which the transcript was finalised and our **official stamp**.

For incoming visiting / exchange students registered in the regular programme:

Our transcripts are presented in the form of a 5-column table entitled "**Notes et résultats**", ie "**Grades and results**":

- Above the table appear: the name of the student, his/her student number, date and place of birth and the indication that the student was registered as ("*inscrit en*") an "Incoming student" at Sciences Po Strasbourg
- The first column features the **title of the module** (a title in French means the module was taught in French, a title in English means the module was taught in English); the **number of teaching hours** appears in brackets
- The second column "**Note/Barème**" features the **grade obtained by the student** for this particular module; grading is on a scale of 0/20 to 20/20 (see above); "**Défaillance**" means that **the student could not be assessed** (because of an absence on the day of the exam, a failure to hand in a final paper, too many absences for a module assessed in continuous assessment, etc.)
- The third column is entitled "**Résultat**", ie "**Result**", which can be as follows
 - "**Admis**" means "**Passed**"
 - "**Ajourné**" means "**Failed**"
 - "**Défaillant**" means that **the student was not assessed**
- The fourth column "**Session**" is **irrelevant** for visiting students (it will always read S1 and the academic year when the student took our programme)
- The fifth column "**Crédits**" features the **number of ECTS credits awarded for each module that was passed**. For modules that were either failed or for which the student could not be assessed, nothing appears in this column.
- Below this table, another table appears, entitled "**Résultat global**", ie "**Global result**", with a single line "**Résultat d'admission**", ie "**Admission result**"; this line is **blank** for all visiting students registered in the regular programme.
- At the bottom of the transcript appears the **signature** of the Director of Sciences Po Strasbourg with the **date** on which the report was finalised and **our official stamp**.
- If **honours** ("Compliments" or "Félicitations") were granted by the jury, they **appear in manuscript form** next to the signature of the Director.