

Online Guide to

# Educational Systems



Around the World—Morocco



**NAFSA**

Association of  
International Educators

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# Instructions for Using the *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*

Susan Whipple, Editor

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These documents are updates to those in the 1999 publication *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World* (which was an update to *The Handbook on the Placement of Foreign Graduate Students*, published in 1990 and colloquially known as the "Graduate Handbook.")

**It is important to note that these documents do not replace either of the earlier publications, which should be used for credentials issued prior to 1999, the period those publications cover.**

Readers familiar with the original version of *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World* will note that these updates use the same format:

1. Each of these publications provides lists of credentials and other data that can be used both for undergraduate and graduate admissions.
2. "Advice for admissions officers" is intentionally not provided. We have attempted to avoid all types of subjective interpretation, relying instead on objective data. Users of these updates should use the information provided in conjunction with other resources to determine their own placement recommendations and possibility of transfer credit. Questions about credentials can be posted on the Admission and Credential Evaluation discussion forum on the Recruitment, Admissions, and Preparation Knowledge Community Web site:  
[http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge\\_community\\_network.sec/recruitment\\_admissions/admissions\\_and\\_credential/forums](http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge_community_network.sec/recruitment_admissions/admissions_and_credential/forums).

Please note that these updates should be supplemented by additional written materials that describe complete foreign educational systems, including data on specific institutions, and by professional training in the theory and practice of credential evaluation. Many of these resources are available from NAFSA, either as printed publications or on-line. The need for institution support for budgetary resources and training for undergraduate and graduate admissions personnel remains important, regardless of the increased availability of resources on the Web.

These publications were compiled by many authors using a standardized template and style. Although minor variations among entries do occur, the basic guidelines are explained as follows:

## Educational Ladder

1 ~ 6 | 7 ½ | 8 ½ | 9 ½ | 10 ½ | 11 ½ | 12 ½ | 13 ½ | 14 ½ | 15 ½ | 16 ½ |  
A B B

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The year or half-year at which a credential is awarded is the point at which the corresponding credential letter is placed. In the example above, credential A is awarded after the 9th year of education. Note that the corresponding letter is placed directly below the number 9.

All *normal* possibilities of the total number of years of education that a credential might require are indicated on the ladder. This occurs for credential B, in which the credential can be awarded after either 12 or 13 total years of education. An explanation is provided in the description of the credential whenever a letter appears on the ladder more than once. There are a few cases when this multiple-listing style was not used; in these cases, there are explanatory comments.

An arrow (→) is used after a credential letter in cases where no maximum length of study for a particular program is specified, or where the study time is open-ended. For example, a doctor of philosophy degree program may require a minimum of three years of enrollment. The corresponding credential letter with an arrow will appear under the minimum number of total years of education required to earn the Ph.D.

## Explanations About Documents

Credentials are divided into two categories: secondary and postsecondary. The decision to include the credential under one or the other category is not a subjective one—a credential is determined to be either secondary or postsecondary according to its designation by the country of origin, regardless of how individual institutions might perceive the level (and recommend transfer credit).

Numerical endnotes, placed directly after the complete list of credentials, are used when a lengthy explanation about a credential is necessary.

## Foreign Terms and Words

Foreign terms are used whenever possible, and are translated literally, in most cases. Literal translations are used to avoid subjectivity. We have attempted to be consistent with translations across languages, though readers may notice some differences between countries because of preferences indicated by the submitters. Credential evaluators and admissions personnel should always rely on official foreign language documents, using translations only as guides.

## Grading Information

Only the most common grading scales used in each country are listed. Evaluators understand that variations in grading are common and that one should always consult the grading information that may be provided on official transcripts. Rather than making grade equivalency statements, the submitter(s) of the update provided information regarding grading practices within the countries.

# MOROCCO

## YEARS OF EDUCATION →

1→6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
A			B			C		E	L	P	S	V	X	Z	a	a	a	
						D		F	M	Q	T	W	Y		a	a	a	a
								G	N	R	U							
								H	O		V							
								I										
								J										
								K										

## CREDENTIALS OR DOCUMENTATION

### Secondary

- A** *Certificat de Fin d'Etudes de l'Enseignement Fondamental* (Certificate of End of Basic Studies).
- B** *Brevet d'Enseignement Collégial/BEC* (Lower Secondary School Certificate).
- C** *Diplôme de Technicien* (Technician Diploma); one-year program after completion of 11 years of primary and secondary school.
- D** *Baccalauréat Technique* (Technical Baccalaureate); *Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement Technologique et Professionnel* (Technical and Professional Baccalaureate); *Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement Originel* (Islamic Theology Baccalaureate); *Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement Général* (General Education Baccalaureate); *Baccalauréat Scientifique* (Scientific Baccalaureate).

### Postsecondary

- E** *Brevet de Technicien Supérieur/BTS* (Higher Technician Certificate) or *Brevet de Technicien Supérieur Agricole* (Higher Agricultural Technician Certificate): two-year post-secondary technical program based on credential **D**.
- F** *Diplôme de Technicien Spécialisé* (Diploma of Specialized Technician); two-year post-secondary technical program based on credential **D**.
- G** *Certificat Universitaire d'Etudes de Droit/CUED* (University Certificate of Law Studies); *Certificat Universitaire d'Etudes Economiques/CUEE* (University Certificate of Economics Studies); *Certificat Universitaire d'Etudes Economiques/CUEE* (University Certificate of Economics Studies); *Certificat Universitaire d'Etudes Scientifiques/CUES* (University Certificate of Scientific Studies); two-year, first cycle university program based on credential **D**. (Last awarded in approximately 2005-06 academic year.)
- H** *Classe Préparatoire aux Grandes Écoles/CPGE* (Preparatory Program for Higher Schools of Professional Education): two-year program to prepare students for admission to elite higher schools based on credential **D**; no diploma is awarded.
- I** *Diplôme d'Études Universitaires Générales/DEUG* (Diploma of General University Studies); *Diplôme d'Etudes Universitaires de Technologie/DEUT* (Diploma of University Technological Studies); two-year, first cycle university program based on credential **D**; first awarded in 2006.

- J** *Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie/DUT* (University Diploma of Technology): two-year first cycle technical university diploma based on credential **D**.
- K** *Diplôme de Technicien Supérieur* (Higher Technician Diploma); two-year first cycle technical university diploma based on credential **D**.
- L** *Diplôme d'État d'Infirmier* (State Nurse Diploma): three-year post-secondary program based on credential **D**.
- M** *Licence d'Etudes Fondamentales* (Basic Studies Licentiate): one-year first cycle university program based on credentials **H, I**. (First awarded in 2005-06 academic year.)
- N** *Licence Professionnelle* (Professional Licentiate): one-year first cycle university program based on credentials **H, I**. (First awarded in 2005-06 academic year.)
- O** *Diplôme d'Ingénieur* (Diploma of Engineer): one-year first cycle university program based on credentials **D, I**.
- P** *Licence* (Licentiate): two-year, first cycle university program based on credential **G**; last awarded in the 2005-06 academic year.
- Q** *Maîtrise Es-Sciences et Techniques* (Master of Sciences and Techniques): two-year, first cycle university program based on credential **G**; last awarded in the 2005-06 academic year
- R** *Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science* awarded by Al-Akhawayn University: four-year undergraduate program based on credential **D**.
- S** *Master* (Master), *Master Spécialisé* (Specialized Master): one-year second cycle university program based on credentials **M, N**; first awarded in 2009.
- T** *Diplôme d'Ingénieur* (Diploma of Engineer): three-year second cycle university program based on credentials **G, H, I**.
- U** *Diplôme de Grande École* (Diploma of Higher School of Professional Education): three-year university program based on credentials **H, I**; five-year program based on credential **D**.
- V** *Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures Approfondies/DESA* (Diploma of Advanced Higher Studies): one to two-year, third cycle program based on credential **P**; will be phased out as the L-M-D diploma scheme is fully implemented\*.
- W** *Diplôme d'Études Supérieures Spécialisées /DESS* (Diploma of Higher Specialized Studies): two-year, third cycle program based on credential **P**; will be phased out as the L-M-D diploma scheme is fully implemented\*.
- X** *Docteur en Médecine* (Doctor of Medicine); seven-year program based on credential **D**.
- Y** *Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures/DES* (Diploma of Higher Studies); two-year, third cycle program based on credential **T** ; will be phased out as the L-M-D diploma scheme is fully implemented\*.
- Z** *Doctor* (Doctorate); three plus- (3+) year graduate program of L-M-D scheme based on credentials **S** (not clear if this credential has been awarded as of yet, December 2009).
- a** *Doctorat* (Doctorate); three to five-year year graduate program based on credentials **V, Y**; will be phased out as the L-M-D diploma scheme is fully implemented\*.

\* In the 2003-04 academic year, university programs were restructured as a result of educational reforms instituted by the government. The new structure closely mirrors the *licence-master-doctor (L-M-D)* scheme that was adopted by France in the late 1990s as part of the Bologna Accord. Credentials **I, M, N, S** and **Z** were introduced in response to the educational reforms in Morocco, and credentials **G, P, V, W, Y** and **a** will be phased out as the L-M-D structure is fully-implemented.

## GRADING SCALE

### Secondary and Postsecondary

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Translation</u>
16-20	<i>Très Bien</i>	Very Good
14-15	<i>Bien</i>	Good
12-13	<i>Assez Bien</i>	Good Enough
10-11	<i>Passable</i>	Passing
0-9	<i>Ajourné</i>	Fail

Students must have an overall average (*moyenne générale*) of 10 or above to pass a complete academic year. As in all countries based on the French education system, the concept of the grade of “D” does not exist in Morocco. However, grades of 8 or 9, which are normally failing grades, may be accepted as a condoned pass similar to the grade of “D” in the U.S provided the overall average is 10 or above. This is at the discretion of the institution’s administrators (at the post-secondary level), or a *baccalauréat* jury at the secondary level. At the post-secondary level, students may be required to re-take the course or exam in a future term.

## POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION RECOGNITION BODY

*Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale, de l'Enseignement Supérieur, de la Formation des Cadres et de la Recherche Scientifique* (Ministry of National Education, Higher Education, Training and Scientific Research): <http://www.enssup.gov.ma/>

## RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Published

*Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale, de l'Enseignement Supérieur, de la Formation des Cadres et de la Recherche Scientifique* (Ministry of National Education, Higher Education, Training and Scientific Research). *Architecture Pédagogique Globale et Dénominations des Diplômes Nationaux* (<http://81.192.52.38/des/Reforme>)

Trayte Freeman, Kathleen. *The Educational System of Morocco*. The Pioneer Fund, 2009.

### Internet

Clark, Nick. Education in Morocco. World Education News and Review, April 2006.  
[http://www.wes.org/ewenr/06apr/practical\\_morocco.htm](http://www.wes.org/ewenr/06apr/practical_morocco.htm)

*Grandes Ecoles*  
<http://www.maroc-inge.com/>

Guide to Higher Education in Morocco  
[http://www.dfc.gov.ma/dfc/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=415](http://www.dfc.gov.ma/dfc/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=415)

*Ministère de la Santé* (Ministry of Health)  
<http://www.sante.gov.ma>

List of Non-University, Post-Secondary Institutions [http://www.dfc.gov.ma/dfc/images/pdf/EE-GES\\_EtabFC.pdf](http://www.dfc.gov.ma/dfc/images/pdf/EE-GES_EtabFC.pdf)

List of Universities and Diplomas Awarded  
[http://www.dfc.gov.ma/dfc/images/pdf/EE-GES\\_EtabEnsSupUniv.pdf](http://www.dfc.gov.ma/dfc/images/pdf/EE-GES_EtabEnsSupUniv.pdf)

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