

Example: The Dutch Grading System

The Dutch grading system runs from 1 (very poor) to 10 (outstanding). The lowest pass grade is 6, while grades 9 and 10 are rarely given. Grades between 5 and six are usually rounded up from 5.5, which means that 5.4 is a fail and 5.5 a pass. However whether a grade signifies a pass or not is the prerogative of the board of examiners of the department. The usage of decimals or marks with '+' or '-' (e.g. 7+ or 8-) is up to the department/faculty to decide. The lowest pass mark is 5.5 (minimum pass); marks 9 and 10 are rarely given.

Explanation of marks

10	outstanding
9	excellent
8	very good
7	good pass
6	sufficient
5,5	minimum pass
5	and lower, insufficient
P	Pass (or V = voldoende)
F	Fail (or O = onvoldoende)
WD	Withdrawn
I	Incomplete (may still be completed according to Departmental guidelines)

Dutch university programs do not contain the general education component which is characteristic of most American UG programs. Students in the Netherlands specialize in their major subject from the start.