

Grading System Policy



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European Academy of Advanced Studies (EAAS)

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The Grading System

The European Academy of Advanced Studies (EAAS) awards letter grades in recognition of academic performance in each study-unit. Learners are graded according to their individual performance in the study-unit and not on a curve. The grading criteria listed below are illustrative and subject to the specifications in each study-unit. These are described in each study-unit syllabus. Criteria for awarding grades as described in the study-unit syllabi may include, but are not limited to:

- Quality of assignments and peer assessments
- Participation in the discussion forums and the quality of the postings
- Performance on quizzes
- Excellence of projects, papers, analysis and documentation of case studies
- Quality of portfolio assignments
- Class presentations and group work

EAAS uses letter grades to recognise academic performance in each study-unit, with grading based on individual performance rather than a curve. The grading criteria may vary by study-unit and are detailed in each study-unit syllabus. The following are illustrative criteria that may be used to award grades:

- **Quality of assignments and peer assessments:** the thoroughness, accuracy, and depth of understanding demonstrated in completed assignments and the constructive feedback provided in peer assessments.
- **Participation in the discussion forums and the quality of the postings:** active engagement in discussion forums, contributing insightful, relevant, and well-articulated posts.
- **Performance on quizzes:** scores achieved on quizzes, reflecting comprehension and retention of study-unit material.
- **Excellence of projects, papers, analysis, and documentation of case studies:** the quality, originality, and analytical rigour of projects, research papers, case-study analyses, and their accompanying documentation.
- **Quality of portfolio and self-reflection assignments:** the overall quality, coherence, and comprehensiveness of portfolio and self-reflection assignments, compiling work that demonstrates learning progress and achievement.
- **Class presentations and group work:** the effectiveness, clarity, and professionalism of individual and group presentations, as well as the ability to collaborate effectively in group-work settings.

These criteria ensure a comprehensive evaluation of a learner's performance, encompassing various aspects of learning and contribution throughout the study-unit.

At the end of each study-unit, a letter grade will be given by the responsible Instructor based on the learner's performance. The minimum passing grade is E. Grades below E will be recorded on the learner's transcript with the letter grade but will have a zero-grade point, as they are not considered satisfactory performance.

The Grading Scale

EAAS has established the following grading scale, which is applied uniformly across all study units and programmes and is aligned with the Malta Qualifications Framework (MQF) and the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS):

Grade	Grade Scale	Grade Points	Definition	Remarks	Percentage of students normally achieving the Grade
A	90-100	4	Excellent	Outstanding performance with only minor errors	Best 10%
B	80-89	3.56	Very Good	Above the average standards, but with some errors	Best 25%
C	70-79	3.11	Good	Generally sound work but with several notable errors	Best 30%
D	60-69	2.67	Satisfactory	Fair, but with significant shortcomings	Best 25%
E	50-59	2	Sufficient	Performance meets the minimum criteria	Best 10%
FX	40-49	0	Fail	Some more work required before the credit can be awarded	–
F	0-39	0	Fail	Considerable further work is required; involves re-attendance of classes	–

Grades A to E are pass grades and correspond to the ECTS pass grades; FX and F are failing grades. The percentages in the final column reflect the indicative ECTS statistical distribution and support international comparability; they do not override criterion-referenced marking, and grades are never awarded on a curve.

Grade Point Average (GPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)

- All study-unit credits for which a letter grade is issued are factored into a learner's term and cumulative GPA.

- A learner's grade point average (GPA) is determined by dividing the number of grade points earned by the number of units attempted. The total grade points earned for a study-unit equals the number of grade points assigned times the number of study-unit credits. For example, if a learner takes three 10-credit study-units and receives grades of A, C, and F, then the GPA for the term equals the total grade points $(4.00 \times 10) + (3.11 \times 10) + (0 \times 10) = 71.10$ divided by the total units (30). The resulting GPA is 2.37.
- Learners are required to be in good academic standing and must earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50 in all coursework attempted at EAAS and earn a grade point average of at least 2.00 in all study units taken to graduate from EAAS.

Award Classification

For qualifications awarded with honours, such as the Bachelor of Arts in Tourism and Hospitality Management (MQF Level 6, 180 ECTS), the final classification is determined by the Award Classification Board from the credit-weighted average of the learner's study-unit marks, in accordance with the following bands:

Classification	Average (%)	Grade	CGPA
First Class Honours	80-100	A - B	3.56 - 4.00
Second Class Honours (Upper Division, 2:1)	70-79	C	3.11 - 3.55
Second Class Honours (Lower Division, 2:2)	60-69	D	2.67 - 3.10
Third Class Honours	50-59	E	2.00 - 2.66
Fail (no honours award)	Below 50	FX - F	Below 2.00

This Policy is applied in accordance with the requirements of the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA), the Malta Qualifications Framework, and the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). It is reviewed periodically and updated as required.