## AUIC SCHOOL

GRADES: the new system of validation after the Mobility

## THE REASON BEHIND THE NEW CONVERSION SYSTEM

The Academic Senate of the Politecnico di Milano, met on 23 October 2017, and the Board of Directors, met on 31 October 2017, approve the 'GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY'.

On p. 14 of the document the following statement is reported:
The grade distribution curve, provided by the mobility host University within the Transcript of Records (ToR), should normally be used for the conversion. In the latter case, the grade distribution curve, in percentage values, aggregated according to the disciplinary class of reference, will be compared with the one provided by the sending University, according to the indications of the ECTS 2015 Guide ${ }^{1}$.

[^0]
## THE ‘OLD’ SYSTEM FOR GRADE CONVERSION



## THE ‘NEW’ SYSTEM FOR GRADE CONVERSION

Based on the comparison of probability density functions of grades.


## GRADES DISTRIBUTION

## Par. 4.3User's Guide ECTS 2015

To ensure transparent and coherent information on the performance of the individual student, each host institution should provide - in addition to their national/institutional grading scale and an explanation of the scale - a statistical distribution table of the passing grades awarded in the programme or field of study attended by the student (grade distribution table) showing how the grading scale is actually used in that programme.

Grade distribution tables allow for
The following is an illustrative example of a grading table: comparison with the statistical distribution of grades in a parallel reference group of another institution.

| Grades used in <br> institution (from <br> highest to lowest <br> passing grade) | Number of passing <br> grades awarded to <br> the reference group | Percentage of each <br> grade with respect <br> to the total passing <br> grades awarded | Cumulative |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 50 | $5 \%$ | Cercentage of <br> passing grades <br> awarded |
| 9 | 100 | $10 \%$ | $5 \%$ |
| 8 | 350 | $35 \%$ | $15 \%$ |
| 7 | 300 | $30 \%$ | $50 \%$ |
| 6 | 200 | $20 \%$ | $80 \%$ |
|  | 1,000 | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
|  | Total: |  |  |

* Grading systems/approaches may be established at national level.


## HOW TO BUILD A STATISTICAL DISTRIBUTION TABLE

Example: ETH Zürich - CH
Ranking: 4(pass) $\div 6$ (excelent)

Grade distribution


| grade | n. students | distribution |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 9 | $10 \%$ |
| B | 21 | $24 \%$ |
| C | 22 | $25 \%$ |
| D | 26 | $30 \%$ |
| E | 9 | $10 \%$ |
|  | 87 | $100 \%$ |



## GRADE DISTRIBUTION CURVES AT POLIMI

Grade distribution 2019-22


All distribution curves of the PoliMI Programmes are annually monitored and reported by the International Mobility Unit, devided by Class of Degree.

## DISTRIBUTION PER CLASSES OF DEGREE IDENTICAL RANGE (18-30L)...DIFFERENT DISTRIBUTION



## HOW TO APPLY THE CONVERSION INSTRUMENT

The grade distributions are based on calculated probability density functions and are structured in closed and largely pre-filled Excel sheets accessible to all Promoters and Mobility Coordinators.

For mobility outgoing students towards institutions which do not provide a grade distribution in their ToR a standard (symmetric) probability density function will be applied in order to compare the two grade distributions.

IMPORTANT: all mobility students are kindly invited to ask the corresponding hosting institution, through the local Mobility Coordinator or the secretariat, to provide the calculated probability density functions of the grades in their ToR.

## WHERE TO FIND THE GRADE DISTRIBUTION IN THE ToR

## Official Transcript of Records

## Name

Personal identity number 20000117-T461

## Completed courses

| Code | Name | Scope | Grade | Date | Note |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AF2609 | Foundation Engineering Level: Second cycle | 7.5 hp | E | 2022-11-04 | 1 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Grading table: A - 22.2\% (210), B - 18.9\% (179), C - 18.8\% } \\ & \text { (178), D-17.4\% (164), E-22.6\% (214) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| TEN1 | Examin | ( 4.5 hp ) | E | 2022-10-20 | 1 |
| ÖVN1 | Exercise | ( 3.0 hp ) | P | 2022-11-04 | 2 |
| Al2106 | Business Cycles in Construction and Real Estate Markets <br> Level: Second cycle | 7.5 hp | A | 2022-11-16 | 1 |
|  | Grading table: A - 27.5\% (172), B - 25.7\% (161), C - 20.8\% (130), D - 16.9\% (106), E-9.1\% (57) |  |  |  |  |
| TENA | Examination | ( 4.5 hp ) | A | 2022-10-26 | 1 |
| ÖVN2 | Exercise | ( 3.0 hp ) | P | 2022-11-16 | 2 |

## ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO REPORT THE GRADE DISTRIBUTION



## ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO REPORT THE GRADE DISTRIBUTION



## GRADES CONVERSION

## Example \#1:



Polimi

| Polimi |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Grade $^{\star}$ | Freq |
| 18 | $0.8 \%$ |
| 19 | $0.4 \%$ |
| 20 | $0.8 \%$ |
| 21 | $0.8 \%$ |
| 22 | $1.3 \%$ |
| 23 | $2.2 \%$ |
| 24 | $3.7 \%$ |
| 25 | $5.3 \%$ |
| 26 | $8.5 \%$ |
| 27 | $13.7 \%$ |
| 28 | $18.1 \%$ |
| 29 | $13.3 \%$ |
| 30 | $21.2 \%$ |
| 30 L | $10.1 \%$ |
|  | $100 \%$ |

## GRADES CONVERSION

## Example \#2:

UNIVERSITAT POLITĖCNICA DE VALĖNCIA

POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

| Polimi |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Grade* $^{2}$ | Freq |
| 18 | $4.4 \%$ |
| 19 | $3.0 \%$ |
| 20 | $3.8 \%$ |
| 21 | $3.2 \%$ |
| 22 | $4.1 \%$ |
| 23 | $5.3 \%$ |
| 24 | $7.3 \%$ |
| 25 | $8.4 \%$ |
| 26 | $10.4 \%$ |
| 27 | $13.1 \%$ |
| 28 | $12.9 \%$ |
| 29 | $9.1 \%$ |
| 30 | $10.1 \%$ |
| 30 L | $5.1 \%$ |
|  | $100 \%$ |



## GRADES CONVERSION

## Example \#3:



PONTIFICIA
UNIVERSIDAD
CATÓlica
DE CHILE

## POLITECNICO

MILANO 1863

| Polimi |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Grade $^{*}$ | Freq |
| 18 | $3.4 \%$ |
| 19 | $2.5 \%$ |
| 20 | $2.9 \%$ |
| 21 | $3.1 \%$ |
| 22 | $3.3 \%$ |
| 23 | $4.3 \%$ |
| 24 | $6.0 \%$ |
| 25 | $7.6 \%$ |
| 26 | $10.0 \%$ |
| 27 | $13.0 \%$ |
| 28 | $14.9 \%$ |
| 29 | $11.7 \%$ |
| 30 | $11.7 \%$ |
| 30 L | $5.9 \%$ |
|  | $100 \%$ |



## GRADES CONVERSION

## Example \#4:

Polimi

| Polimi |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Grade $^{*}$ | Freq |
| 18 | $3.4 \%$ |
| 19 | $2.5 \%$ |
| 20 | $2.9 \%$ |
| 21 | $3.1 \%$ |
| 22 | $3.3 \%$ |
| 23 | $4.3 \%$ |
| 24 | $6.0 \%$ |
| 25 | $7.6 \%$ |
| 26 | $10.0 \%$ |
| 27 | $13.0 \%$ |
| 28 | $14.9 \%$ |
| 29 | $11.7 \%$ |
| 30 | $11.7 \%$ |
| 30 L | $5.9 \%$ |
|  | $100 \%$ |

POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

THE NEW SYSTEM (based on grades distributions)

- FAIR TREATMENT
- TRANSPARENCY
- NON-DISCRETIONARY
- COHERENCE



[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, ECTS users' guide 2015 Publications Office, 2017, ISBN: 978-92-79-43562-1. DOI: 10.2766/87592

