



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

SCUOLA DI ARCHITETTURA
URBANISTICA INGEGNERIA
DELLE COSTRUZIONI

International Mobility Committee

GRADES VALIDATION

16.12.2025 | Francesco Pittau

HOW ARE GRADES IN MOBILITY VALIDATED AT AUIC SCHOOL?

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 Guide¹.*

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](https://doi.org/10.2766/87592)

NO DIRECT CONVERSION THROUGH TABLES IS ALLOWED!

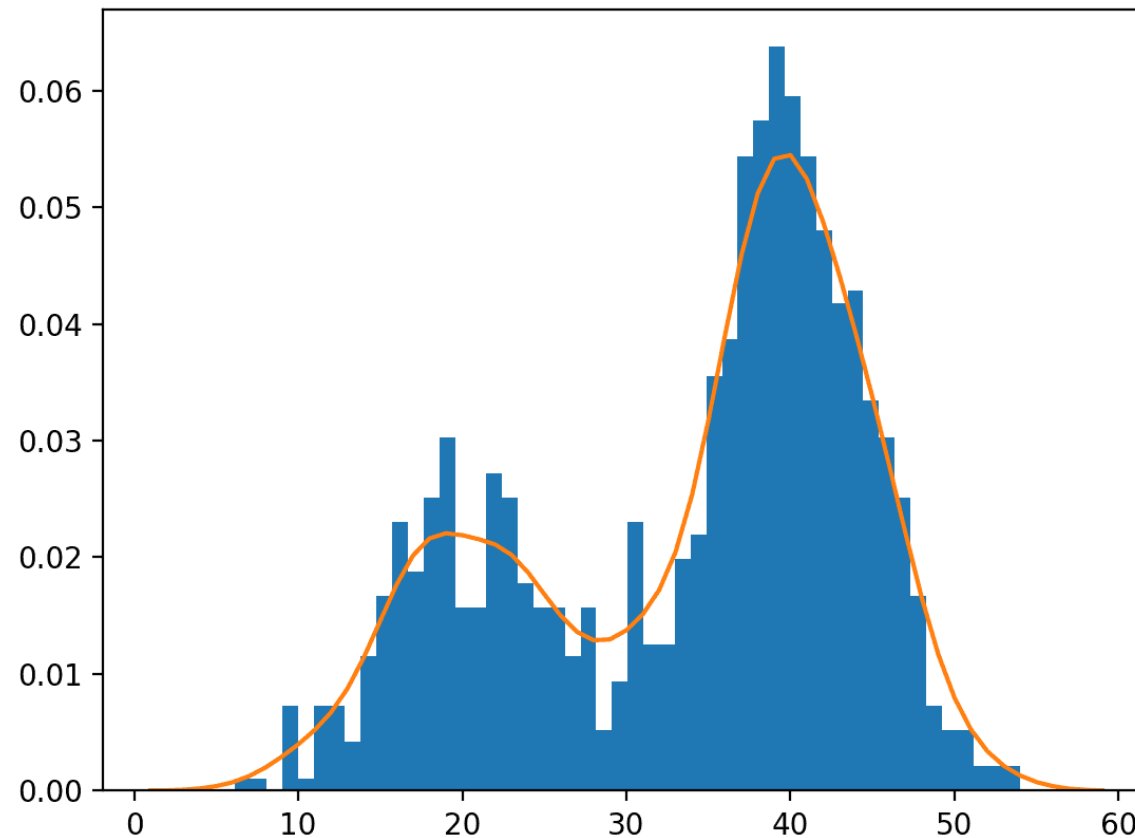
AUSTRIA	AT ITA	<5 respinto	4 22/30	3 26/30	2 29/30	1 30/30L											
BELGIO/FRANCIA	B/F ITA	0-9/20 respinto	10/20 22/30	11/20 24/30	12/20 25/30	13/20 26/30	14/20 27/30	15/20 28/30	16/20 30/30	17/20 30/30 L	18/20 30/30L	19/20 30/30L	20/20 30/30L				
DANIMARCA	DK ITA	 respinto	2 22/30	4 25/30	7 27/30	10 29/30	12 30/30L										
GERMANIA	D ITA	<5.3 respinto	5.3 18/30	5 19/30	4.7 20/30	4.3 21/30	4 22/30	3.7 23/30	3.3 24/30	3 25/30	2.7 26/30	2.3 27/30	2 28/30	1.7 29/30	1.3 30/30	1 30/30 L	
GRECIA	GR ITA	1-4 respinto	5 22/30	6 24/30	7 26/30	8 28/30	9 29/30	10 30/30 L									
IRLANDA/UK	UK/IRL ITA	<40% respinto	41-43% 20	44-47% 21	48-53% 22	44-58% 23	57-61% 24	62-67% 25	68-73% 26	74-79% 27	80-84% 28	85-89% 29	90-95% 30	96-100% 30L			
LETTONIA	LV ITA	<3 respinto	4 20/30	5 22/30	6 24/30	7 26/30	8 28/30	9 30/30	10 30/30 L								
MALTA	M ITA	NA respinto	35-44 22/30	45 23/30	45-49 24/30	50-54 25/30	55-64 26/30	65-69 27/30	70-74 28/30	75-79 29/30	80-94 30/30	95-100 30/30 L					
OLANDA	NL ITA	<5.5% respinto	5.5 21/30	6 23/30	7 25/30	8 27/30	9 29/30	10 30/30L									
POLONIA	PL ITA	<1 respinto	2 22/30	3 26/30	4 29/30	5 30/30L											
PORTOGALLO	P ITA	0-9/20 respinto	10/20 21/30	11/20 23/30	12/20 24/30	13/20 25/30	14/20 26/30	15/20 27/30	16/20 28/30	17/20 29/30	18/20 30/30	19/20 30/30 L	20/20 30/30L				
REP. CEEA	CZ ITA	F respinto	E 22/30	D 25/30	C 27/30	B 29/30	A 30/30L										
SLOVACCHIA	SK ITA	<F respinto	E 22/30	D 25/30	C 27/30	B 29/30	A 30/30L										
SLOVENIA	SLO ITA	<5 respinto	6 22/30	7 25/30	8 27/30	9 29/30	10 30/30L										
SPAGNA	E 	<5 respinto	5 aprob 18-21/30	6 aprob 22-24/30	7 not 25-26/30	8 not 27-28/30	9 sobres 29-30/30	10 MH 30/30L									
SVEZIA	S ITA	TG - U respinto	3 22/30	4 27/30	5 30/30L												

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The table used in the past to convert grades for Architecture Courses (LM-4) **do not meet** the requirements of the ECTS 2015 Guidelines. Consequently, since the A.Y. 2023-24, it is revoked and **cannot be used** to make the grade conversion anymore.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADE VALIDATION

Based on the comparison of probability density functions of grades.



GRADES DISTRIBUTION

Par. 4.3 User'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 comparison with the statistical distribution of grades in a **parallel reference group** of another institution.

The following is an illustrative example of a grading table:

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

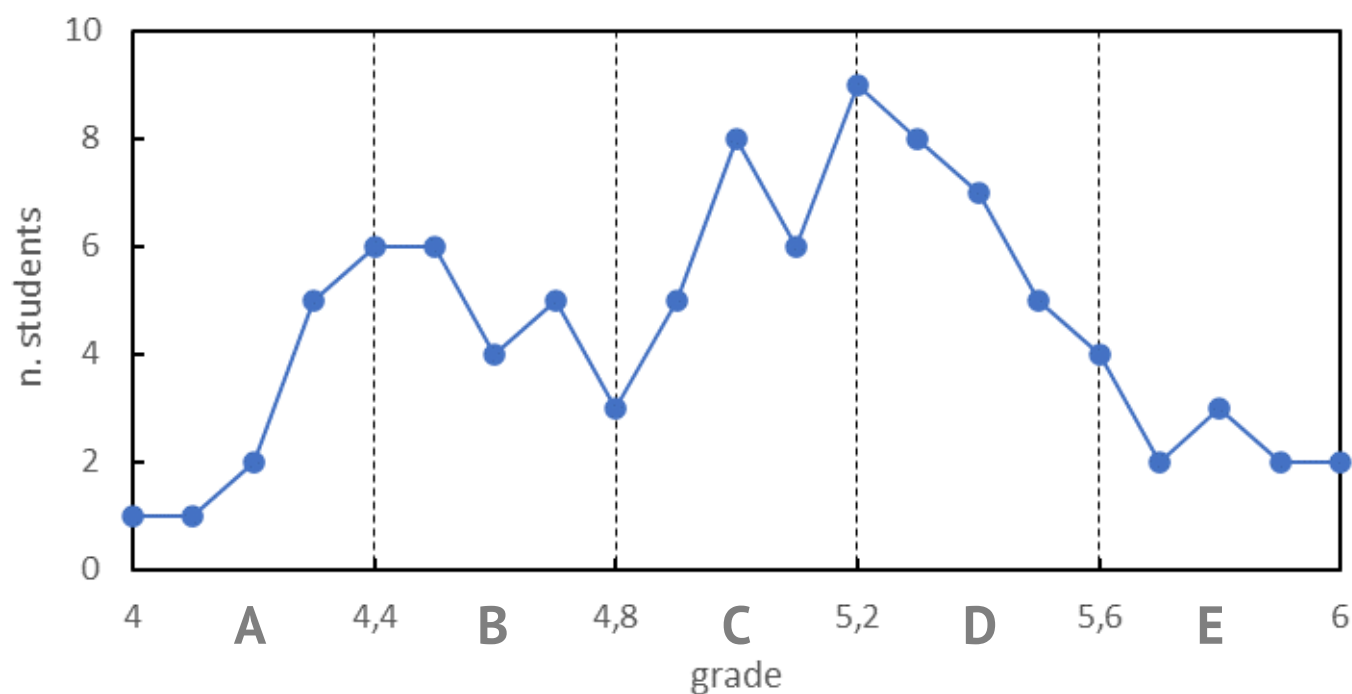
* Grading systems/approaches may be established at national level.

HOW TO BUILD A STATISTICAL DISTRIBUTION TABLE

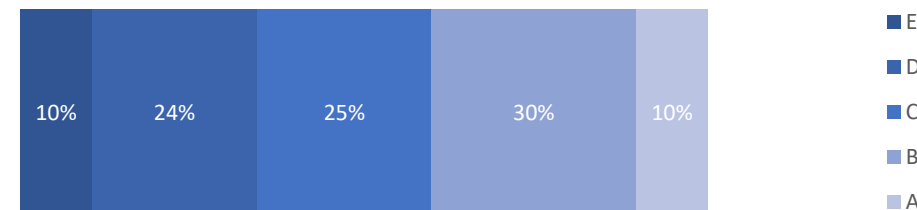
Example: ETH Zürich – CH

Ranking: 4(pass) ÷ 6(excelent)

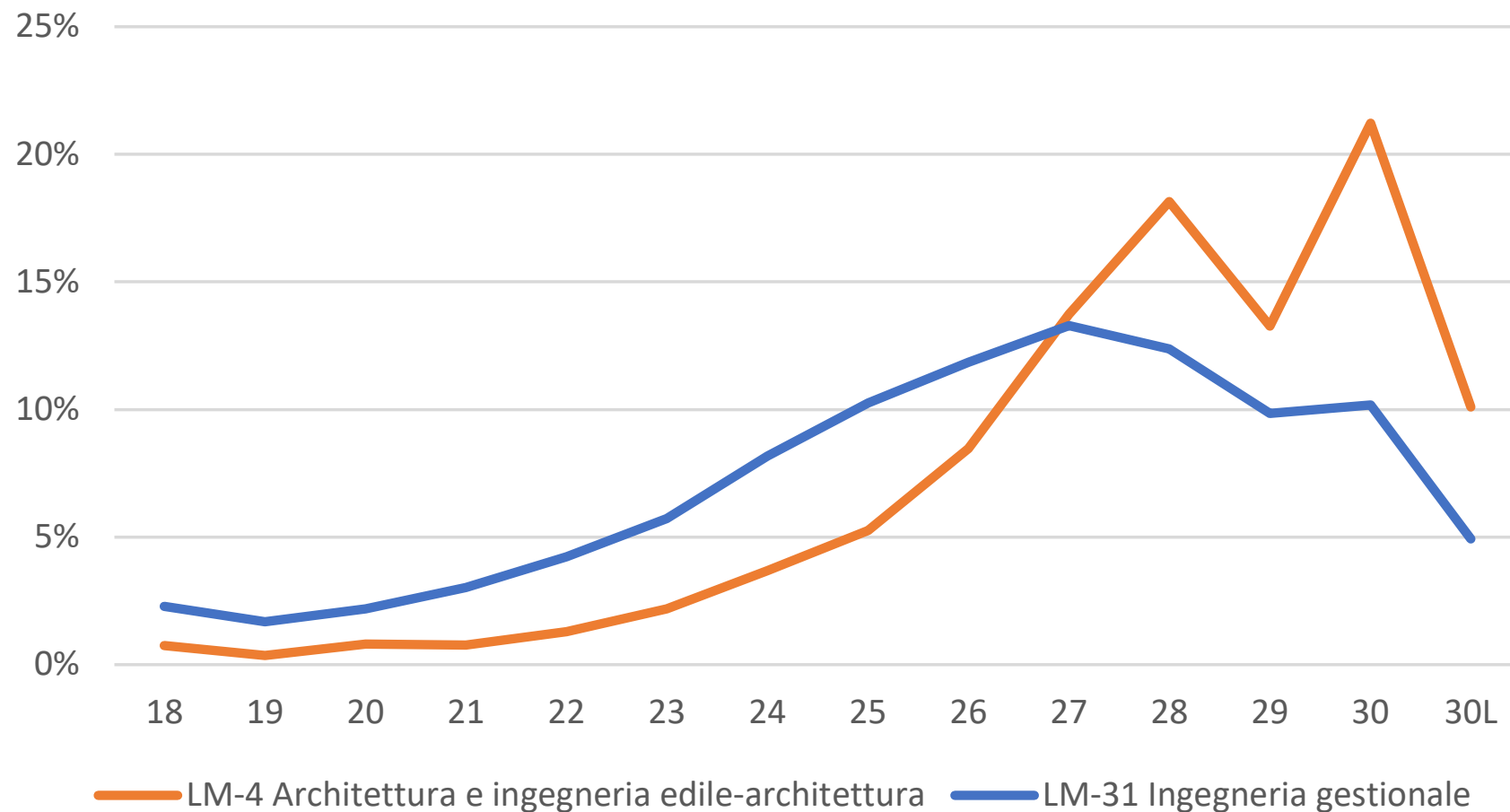
Grade distribution



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

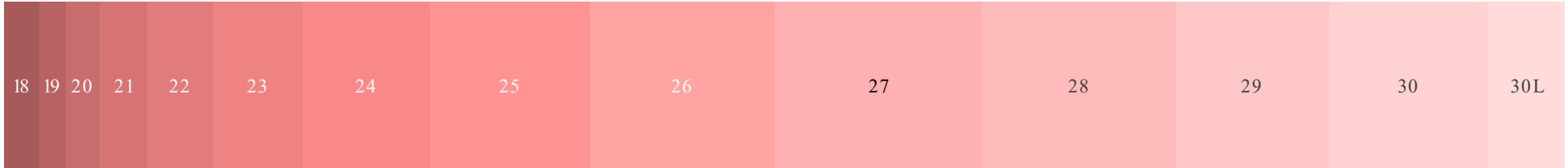


All distribution curves of the PoliMI Programmes are annually monitored and reported by the International Mobility Unit, divided by Class of Degree.

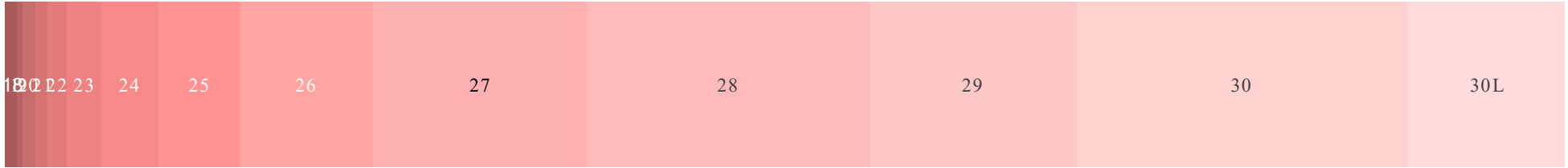
DISTRIBUTION PER CLASSES OF DEGREE

IDENTICAL RANGE (18-30 L)...DIFFERENT DISTRIBUTION

LM-31



LM-4



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 **normal (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

Print date
2023-02-13

Name

Personal identity number

20000117-T461

Completed courses

Code	Name	Scope	Grade	Date	Note
AF2609	Foundation Engineering <i>Level: Second cycle</i> <i>Grading table: A - 22.2% (210), B - 18.9% (179), C - 18.8% (178), D - 17.4% (164), E - 22.6% (214)</i>	7.5 hp	E	2022-11-04	1
TEN1	Examin	(4.5 hp)	E	2022-10-20	1
ÖVN1	Exercise	(3.0 hp)	P	2022-11-04	2
AI2106	Business Cycles in Construction and Real Estate Markets <i>Level: Second cycle</i> <i>Grading table: A - 27.5% (172), B - 25.7% (161), C - 20.8% (130), D - 16.9% (106), E - 9.1% (57)</i>	7.5 hp	A	2022-11-16	1
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

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE NAME</u>	<u>ECTS CREDITS</u>	<u>UPV GRADE</u>	<u>RELATIVE POSITION (1)</u>	<u>PASS RATE (2)</u>
13458	ESPAÑOL III GENERAL (B) B1	4,50	2,00	--	--
33547	Business Management	6,00	10,00 (MH)	75%;25%;0%	9/9
10063	ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY	12,00	10,00 (MH)	100%;0%;0%	5/5
33538	Maintenance and conservation of structures	4,50	7,80	60%;4%;36%	76/77
14424	Pathology and Rehabilitation	4,50	9,00	71%;14%;15%	8/8
TOTAL CREDITS ENROLLED:		31,50			
TOTAL CREDITS OBTAINED:		27,00			

Information about the grading scale and credits:

In the Spanish university system courses are graded on a scale of 0 to 10 points, with the following qualitative equivalences:

0 - 4,9: "Suspenso" (Fail)

5 - 6,9: "Aprobado" (Pass)

7 - 8,9: "Notable" (Good)

9 - 10: "Sobresaliente" (Excellent)

M.H.: A special mention, "Matrícula de Honor" may be granted to up to 5% of the students in a group provided they have got a "sobresaliente".

To pass a course is necessary to get at least 5 points

1 ECTS credit = 25 student work hours

Definitions:

(1) X%; Y%; Z% - Percentage of students who successfully passed the course and obtained a lower grade (X%), the same grade (Y%) and a higher grade (Z%).

(2) Number of students who successfully passed the course compared to the total number of assessed students.

NP ("No Presentado"): The student was absent from the whole examination or failed to submit the totality assessed work required for a subject.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO REPORT THE GRADE DISTRIBUTION

ID: 100,000-3

FACULTY:		ACTIVIDADES UNIVERSITARIAS (UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES)									
PROGRAM OF STUDY:		PROVISIONAL INTERCAMBIO CONVENIO BILATERAL (PROVISIONAL EXTERNAL STUDENT EXCHANGE FUND)									
Course #	Course Title	Cr	Grade UC	(*) Rkn	(**)	Course #	Course Title	Cr	Grade UC	(*) Rkn	(**)
2022 Semester 2						2022 Semester 2					
AQI0106	Cmd Architectural Conservation And Rehabilitation	10	6.1	12 of 24		ARQ3001	Problems in the Contemporary Architecture	10	6.3	8 of 28	
						CCL2341	Fundaments for Hydraulic	10	6.1	5 of 10	
AQT007U	Optional Workshop Project I	15	5.8	3 of 11							

GRADES CONVERSION

Example #1:



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GRADES DISTRIBUTION

Polimi	
Grade*	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%
30L	10.1%
100%	

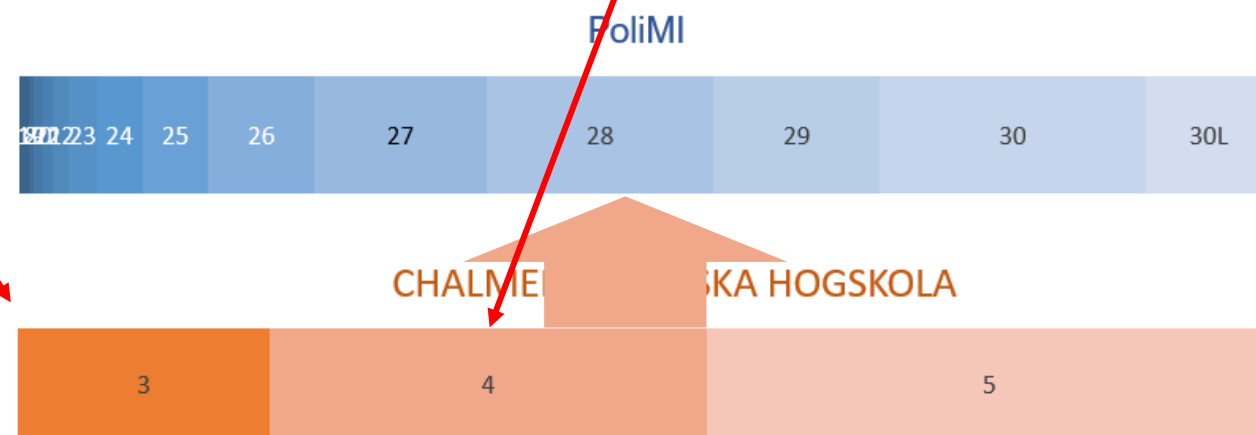
HALMERS TEKNISKA HOGSKOL	
Grade	Freq
3	20%
4	35%
5	45%
100%	

Grade: 4

CFU: 7.5

Equivalent grade: 28

RIGHELLO DI CONVERSIONE



GRADES CONVERSION

Example #2:

Polimi	
Grade*	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%
30L	5.1%
100%	

UPV	
Grade	Freq
X	71.0%
Y	14.0%
Z	15.0%
100%	

X%; Y%; Z% - Percentage of students who successfully passed the course

X%: lower grade

Y%: the same grade

Z%: higher grade



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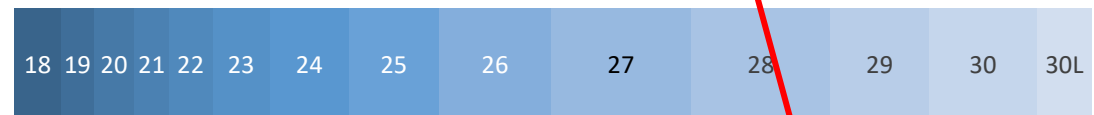
ECTS: 4.5

Grade: 9

Equivalent grade: 29

RIGHELLO DI CONVERSIONE

Polimi



UPV



GRADES CONVERSION

Example #3:

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%
30L	5.9%
100%	

Pontificia	
Ranking position	3
Total class	11
Ranking	Freq
Lower	72.7%
Higher	27.3%
100.0%	



PONTIFICIA
UNIVERSIDAD
CATÓLICA
DE CHILE



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

Credits: 15

Grade: 5.8

CFU: 9

Equivalent grade: 29

RIGHELLO DI CONVERSIONE

PoliMI



Pontificia



GRADES CONVERSION

Example #4:

U.PORTO



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ECTS: 6

Grade: B

CFU: 6

Equivalent grade: 29

RIGHELLO DI CONVERSIONE

PoliMI



U.PORTO

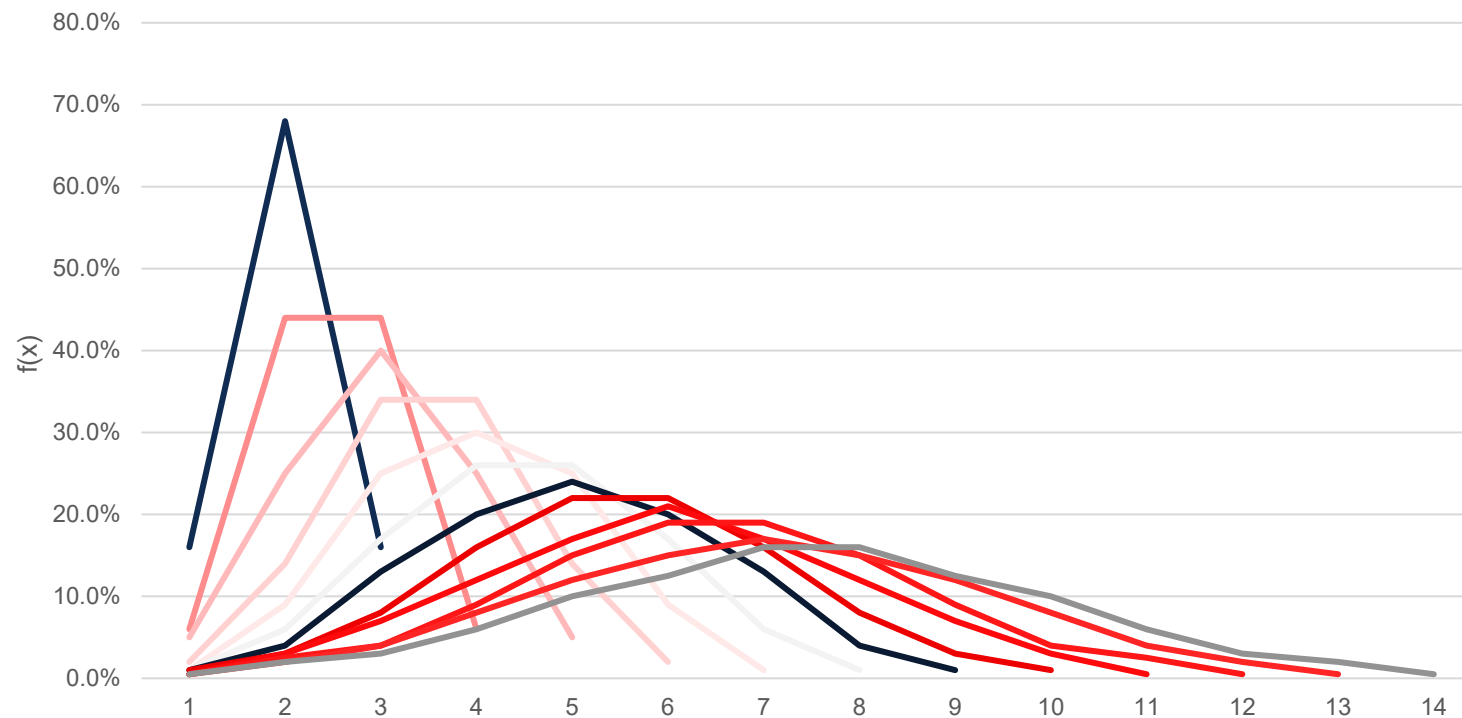


Polimi	
Grade*	Freq
18	3.4%
19	2.5%
20	2.9%
21	3.1%
22	3.3%
23	4.3%
24	6.0%
25	7.6%
26	10.0%
27	13.0%
28	14.9%
29	11.7%
30	11.7%
30L	5.9%
100%	

U.PORTO	
Grade	Freq
E	10%
D	25%
C	30%
B	25%
A	10%
100%	

WHAT IF THE GRADE DISTRIBUTION IS NOT AVAILABLE?

A normal distribution will be considered for the grade validation according to the grade system used by the host University



THE CONVERSION SYSTEM (based on grades distributions)

- FAIR TREATMENT
- TRANSPARENCY
- NON-DISCRETIONARY
- COHERENCE





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