



University of Essex

Year Abroad... **(1st year of degree up to and** **including 2019-2020)** **...How it counts**

Grade Conversion

Essex Students **Guidance**

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1st year of degree up
to and including
2019-2020

How your year counts (Full Year Abroad)
Grade Conversion Guidance for students whose 1st year of degree was up to and including
2019-2020
Essex Students Guidance

The required credit load and the grading scales on your Year Abroad are always different from here at the University of Essex. At the University of Essex you must take 120 Essex credits per academic year, whilst in Europe you would usually take 60 ECTS and in USA you would usually take 30 credits (for example). To pass the Year Abroad you must be enrolled on to and attempt the equivalent of 120 Essex credits and obtain an Essex year mark of 40 or above.

The grading scales at your host institution will be also different to Essex. While at Essex a first-class mark would be 70% and over this may be an A or 90% at some other institutions abroad.

The aim of this guidance is to provide you with information on how University of Essex will convert your marks when you return to Essex after studying abroad. Please note that your exact converted marks may vary, but when converting your marks, we will use the following information:

- Grade distribution data we have obtained from the host institution.
- Grading system from host institution – usually available on your transcript from abroad.
- Local expertise from Essex Abroad team as well as University of Essex staff with experience of teaching abroad.
- Data from previously converted grades.

Your Year Abroad grades will be converted using the University of Essex grade conversion process. Successful Year Abroad outcomes are awarded 60 Essex credits for non-language related degrees of 90 Essex credits for language related degrees, as per the University of Essex Rules of Assessment for Four Year Honours Degrees with the 1st year commencing up to and including 2019-2020. An overall fail on your Year Abroad would result in you being transferred to the 3 year variant of your course. Your degree classification will be based on a weighted average of year 2, the Year Abroad and your final year using a 30/20/50 split should the Year Abroad outcome raise the classification. If your Year Abroad outcome does not raise your degree classification, then your Year Abroad mark will not be used but will show on your HEAR.

To calculate the outcome of your Year Abroad we:

1. Take the grade achieved from your host University as per the transcript and pass requirements there.
2. Convert the host University grades to University of Essex grades using the Essex grade conversion process.
3. Calculate what the weighted year mark would be.
4. Divide the best 75% of those marks from the successful modules (75% rule) to determine your Essex outcome.

75% Rule

This rule is applied to the year abroad to recognise the challenges which students encounter on a year abroad including academic differences.

Up to 25% of the lowest marks from your Year Abroad (based on correct credit load enrolment) will be 0 weighted and discounted from the calculations.

N.B. over enrolled credits will not be included due to students needing to take the correct credit load.

Please note that the grade conversion process is unique to University of Essex and other Universities may use different conversion process. It is important that you only take advice from Essex Abroad team about the conversion of your grades.

Below is guidance on how the grades from abroad will be converted to University of Essex grades, by country. Some institutions in the same country may have some variations and this is not reflected in the guidance below. The grading at your host institution will be different to Essex. While at Essex a pass mark would be 40, this may be a D or 50 at some other institutions abroad.

Country	Essex Grades and Class			
	70	60	50	40
	First	2:1	2:2	Third
Australia	80 or HD	70 or Dist	60 or CP	50 or P
Australia (Uni SA)	Distinction	Credit	P1	P2 or SP
Belgium	16	14	11	10
Canada (numerical grading)	80	70	60	50
Canada (letter/GPA grading)	GPA 3.7 or A-	GPA 2.7 or B-	GPA 2.0 or C	GPA 1.0 or D-
China (Hong Kong and Macau)	3.7 (A-)	2.7 (B-)	2.0 (C)	1.0 (D)
China (mainland)	85	75	68	60
Croatia	4 or B (75)	3 or C (68)	3 or C (60)	2 or D (50)
Cyprus	8.5	6.5	5.5	5.0
Finland	4 or B	3 or C	2 or D	1 or E
France (10)	8	7	6	5
France (20)	16	14	11	10
Germany	1.5	2.5	3.5	4
Netherlands (<i>varies at each host</i>)	8	6.5, 7 or 7.5	5.5, 6 or 7	5, 5.5 or 6
Norway	B	C	D	E
Poland	4.5	4	3.5	3
Romania	9	7	6	5
Singapore	4.5 or A-	3 or B-	2 or C	1 or D/D-
Spain	8.0	7.0	6.0	5.0
USA (and ISEP for GPA)	GPA 3.7 or A-	GPA 2.7 or B-	GPA 2.0 or C	GPA 1.0 or D-

Grading system from host institution – usually available on transcript from abroad