

Swiss Grading System

Swiss Grading Scale Table

Percentage Range	Grade	Description
93-100	6	outstanding
89-92	5.75	close to perfect
84-88	5.5	extraordinary
81-83	5.25	very good
76-80	5	good
73-75	4.75	close-good
70-72	4.5	average
66-69	4.25	just above pass
60-65	4	exact pass
57-59	3.75	just below pass
52-56	3.5	below pass
47-51	3.25	clearly below pass
42-46	3	pass clearly missed
37-41	2.75	clear fail
32-36	2.5	very clear fail
27-31	2.25	weak - clear fail
22-26	2	very weak - clear fail
17-21	1.75	extremely weak – clear fail
12-16	1.5	absolute fail
07-11	1.25	absolute fail
00-06		1 clearest fail

The grading also includes half points (e.g., 5.5, 4.5) and quarter points (e.g. 4.25, 3.75, 5.75).

The Swiss grading system emphasizes precision in assessment, and the scales provide a detailed reflection of a student's performance. Keep in mind that the conversion to percentage ranges and GPA is approximate.

Understanding Grades in Switzerland

Diving deeper into the Swiss grading system, let's explore what each grade signifies about a student's performance, capturing the essence of their academic achievements. This part of our guide aims to shed light on the qualitative aspects behind the numbers, providing insights into what educators in Switzerland consider when assigning these grades.

Rough distinctions (detailed grades see table above)

6: Excellent

A grade of 6 in Switzerland's education system is the highest possible achievement. It indicates exceptional performance, demonstrating a deep understanding of the subject matter, the ability to think critically and apply knowledge in complex situations, and often going above and beyond the required standards. A student receiving a 6 has mastered the course content to the fullest.

5.5: Very Good

A 5.5 signifies very good performance, reflecting a strong grasp of the material, with few minor errors. Students at this level show excellent analytical skills and the ability to synthesize and apply their knowledge effectively. It's a sign of high achievement, just a step below perfect.

5: Good

Receiving a 5 means the student has a good understanding of the core content, with some areas of strength and perhaps a few weaknesses. These students can apply their knowledge in familiar contexts and demonstrate solid academic skills. It's a commendable grade, indicating satisfactory performance above the average.

4.5: Satisfactory

A grade of 4.5 is considered satisfactory, indicating that the student has met the basic requirements and understands the majority of the material but may struggle with more complex concepts or applications. This grade suggests room for improvement but a good foundation to build upon.

4: Sufficient

The grade of 4 is the minimum passing mark in the Swiss system, denoting sufficient understanding and achievement. It signifies that the student has grasped the essential aspects of the subject but has notable gaps in knowledge and application. A 4 is a clear signal that additional effort is needed to overcome weaknesses.

3.5 and below: Insufficient/Fail

Grades of 3.5 and below are considered failing marks, indicating insufficient understanding of the subject matter. These grades reflect significant gaps in knowledge and the inability to meet the course requirements. For students, receiving a grade in this range is a call to action for additional study, support, and focus to improve their understanding and performance.

source: <https://gradedcalculator.io/switzerland/>
shortened and slightly adapted by MB