The new French baccalauréat
The French Baccalauréat is undergoing a major reform, with both the general and technological pathways being affected. The ‘Option Internationale du Baccalauréat’ (OIB) is also impacted. The rationale behind the reform is to:

- simplify the qualification
- provide more flexibility and choice to pupils, and
- equip them with the necessary skills, competencies and knowledge to successfully embark upon and complete higher education studies.
NO MORE ‘STREAMS’ (SÉRIES)

From September 2019, for those starting in Year 12, the three ‘streams’ (Scientific (S), Economics & Social Science (ES) and Literary (L)) as we know them, will no longer exist.

► Traditionally, pupils in the Scientific stream would study Mathematics, Physics & Chemistry and Biology & Earth Sciences as their core subjects (carrying the higher coefficients in the baccalauréat),

► While those in Economics & Social Science would study Mathematics (but a different curriculum from those in S), History & Geography and Economics & Social Science as their core subjects.

► Literary stream pupils would study French Literature, with Philosophy and French carrying a higher weighting than in the other streams.
In the reformed baccalauréat, all pupils will study a common curriculum and choose three speciality subjects, one of which will be dropped at the end of Year 12.

In principle, pupils have the freedom to choose any three specialities, for example, a pupil could study Mathematics, Art and History, Geography, International Relations & Politics or choose Economics & Social Science, Human Sciences, Literature & Philosophy and Biology & Earth Sciences. However, there will be some constraints such as:

→ some subjects are complementary - for example it is likely that pupils who choose to study Physics & Chemistry, will also study Mathematics

→ choice will be limited by the subjects they may require for future studies, or

→ the number of possible combinations a school can logistically and realistically offer As before, pupils will also have a number of optional subjects to choose from in both Years 12 and 13, however these will not be formally examined and will not have a separate, individual grade
### FORMAT OF THE REFORMED BACCALAURéAT GÉNÉRAL

Source: French National Ministry of Education and Youth

The two specialities that are taken forward in Year 13 will carry the highest weighting (coefficient) in the overall qualification. The diagram below provides further information on the weighting of all subjects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMON CURRICULUM</th>
<th>Teaching time in Years 12 and 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French (Year 12 only)</td>
<td>16 HOURS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy (Year 13 only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics &amp; Citizenship</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>History &amp; Geography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern and Foreign Languages A and B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPECIALITY SUBJECTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>12 HOURS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classics with Ancient Greek or Latin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics &amp; Social Science</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology &amp; Earth Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics &amp; Chemistry</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science &amp; Programming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language, Literature &amp; Culture English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Sciences, Literature &amp; Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History, Geography, International Relations &amp; Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(3 specialities chosen by pupil, one dropped at the end of Year 12)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OPTIONS - ONE OPTION CAN BE CHOSEN IN EACH YEAR

| Year 12*                                                                         | 3 HOURS                          |
| Modern Foreign Language C                                                        |                                  |
| Art                                                                              |                                  |
| Classics (Ancient Greek or Latin)                                                |                                  |

| Year 13                                                                          |                                  |
| Advanced Maths**                                                                 |                                  |
| Additional Maths***                                                              |                                  |

*Option chosen in Year 12 is carried forward in Year 13. An additional option can be chosen in Year 13.
**Mathematics must be taken as a speciality in order to study Advanced Maths
***Additional Maths can be taken by those no longer studying Maths as a speciality.
LES ÉPREUVES DU NOUVEAU BACCALAUREAT GÉNÉRAL

ÉPREUVES COMMUNES DE CONTRÔLE CONTINU

- Philosophie
  COEFF. 8
- Grand oral
  COEFF. 10
- Enseignement de spécialité
  COEFF. 16

40% de la note finale

ÉPREUVES TERMINALES

- Français
  (épreuve anticipée en première)
  COEFF. 10
- Enseignement de spécialité
  COEFF. 16

60% de la note finale

BULLETINS SCOLAIRES

- Bulletins scolaires de première et de terminale
  COEFF. 10
- EPS
  COEFF. 5
- Langue vivante A
  COEFF. 5
- Langue vivante B
  COEFF. 5
- Histoire-géographie
  COEFF. 5
- Enseignement scientifique
  COEFF. 5

Enseignement de spécialité suivi uniquement en première
COEFF. 5

Ministère de l'Éducation nationale et de la Jeunesse - Février 2019
SHIFT FROM 100% EXAM-BASED EVALUATION TO A BLEND OF 40% CONTINUOUS AND 60% EXAM-BASED ASSESSMENT

100% examination based

3 preliminary baccalauréat exams in Year 12 (première) in:
- Written and oral French
- Sciences (Literary and Social Sciences streams)
- Oral Group Work

In the Year 13 (terminale):
- 9 subject based exams
- and orally examined options (Latin, Ancient Greek, Art)

2019 - 2020

2020 - 2021

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

40% of the final score

FINAL EXAMS

60% of the final score

10% of the final score:
- Year 12 and 13 report cards

30% of final score:
- Generalised exams (épreuves communes)
  - 2 exams in Year 12
  - 1 in Year 13

1 preliminary baccalauréat exam in Year 12
- Written and oral French

4 final exams in Year 13
- 2 speciality subjects
  - Philosophy
  - Final oral exam
Currently, students are assessed for the most part, during one week of tests in Year 12 (1ère) and Year 13 (Terminale). In comparison, the 2021 baccalauréat will be based, in part, on continuous assessment in Year 12 and Year 13, as well as on the traditional final exams. The final exam results will make up 60% of the final grade. Pupils will continue to sit a written and oral test in French at the end of Year 12. In Year 13, students will take four final exams:

- two written tests will focus on the subjects of speciality chosen by the candidate
- a written Philosophy test
- an oral presentation prepared during the course of Years 12 and 13 on one or both of the chosen speciality subjects

Coursework assessment will count for 40% of the final grade.

- 30% of the final grade will be composed of general tests organised in three sequences in the second and third quarters of Year 12 and during the second quarter of Year 13
- 10% of the final grade will correspond to the grades achieved in the school reports for all subjects during the course of Years 12 and 13 in order to take into account pupils’ daily work
Link with universities

- Dutch universities have been informed by NUFFIC and the school. They adjusted their selections with the content of the new specialty programs and the French high schools in other countries informed and explained in each country with the French Embassies of the new French baccalaureate.

- This is the strength of the AEFE network, present with more than 500 high schools in 180 countries.
FURTHER INFORMATION

→ Information on the curriculum of core and speciality subjects in Year 12 and Year 13 in French

http://quandjepasselebac.education.fr/bac-general-cours-communs-et-specialites

→ Information in English from the French Ministry of Education on the baccalauréat 2021

www.education.gouv.fr/cid131517/revitalizing-the-baccalaureat.html

→ Information in French from the French Ministry of Education on the baccalauréat 2021


LFVVG 2020