

# BAC2019: Reminder about the rules for the choosing of the choosing of the subjects for the European Baccalaureate examinations (written and oral)

Dear Parents, Dear Pupils, Dear Teachers

The Deputy Secretary-General of the European Schools, Mr Beckmann, has sent a reminder about the rules for the choosing of the subjects for the European Baccalaureate examinations (written and oral) (Ref. 2018-09-M-1-EN) to all the European Schools as this is a matter of extreme importance for S7 pupils. Please find below the content of the document by Mr Beckmann.

Due to occurring problems with incorrect choice of subjects for written and/or oral examinations, I would like to remind you of the existing rules and restrictions.

Document 2014-11-D-11 Regulations for the European Baccalaureate gives general outline for the choices of subjects for written and oral examinations:

## Article 5 Subject matter of the examination

- 1. The European Baccalaureate shall cover subjects taught in the sixth and seventh years of secondary studies, and in particular:
  - the basic language
  - the first foreign language
  - mathematics
  - two of the options chosen by the pupil.

The number of written examinations shall be five; the number of oral examinations shall be three.

The above-mentioned rules are further developed and described in detail in the Document 2015-05-D-12 Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate.

#### 6.4 Written European Baccalaureate Examinations

- 6.4.1 Number and nature of written examinations
- 6.4.1.1 Candidates will sit 5 written examinations:
  - 1. Language 1 or Language 1 Advanced
  - 2. Language 2 or Language 2 Advanced
  - 3. Mathematics (5 periods) or Mathematics (3 periods)
  - 4. Option (4 periods)
  - 5. Option (4 periods)

## 6.4.1.2 Restrictions for compulsory subjects and for options

- Written examinations 1 and 2: Candidates who have chosen to follow an advanced course in Language 1 and/or in Language 2 will be required to sit a written examination on that course, and not, therefore, on the basic course in the subject.
- Written examinations 4 and 5: The choices of options will have to be made at the time of registering for the examination. The choices cannot be changed during the school year.
   Candidates who choose ONL cannot choose L4.

# 6.5 Oral European Baccalaureate Examinations

- 6.5.1 Number and nature of oral examinations
- 6.5.1.1 Candidates will sit 3 oral examinations. The subjects in which an oral examination will or may be taken are:
  - 1. Language 1 or Language 1 Advanced
  - Language 2 or Language 2 Advanced, or History (2 or 4 periods), or Geography (2 or 4 periods)
  - 3. Mathematics Advanced, or Philosophy (2 or 4 periods), or Language 3, or Language 4, or ONL, or Biology (2 or 4 periods), or Chemistry (4 periods), or Physics (4 periods)

# 6.5.1.2 Restrictions for compulsory subjects and for options

- Examination 1: Language 1 or Language 1 Advanced
   Candidates who have followed the advanced course will be required to sit an oral examination on that course, and not, therefore, on the basic course.
- Examination 2: Language 2 or Language 2 Advanced or Geography or History Candidates who have followed the Advanced Language 2 course and who wish to choose L2 for their second oral examination will be required to sit an oral examination on that advanced course, and not on the basic course.
  - The candidates who do not wish to sit an oral examination in Language 2 (basic or advanced course) will sit an oral examination in History (2 or 4 periods) or Geography (2 or 4 periods). It is possible for candidates to sit the History or Geography oral examination provided that they have not chosen to sit the subject in question as a written examination.

#### Examination 3:

Candidates who have followed the advanced course in Mathematics will be compulsorily examined on that course.

Candidates who have not followed the advanced course in Mathematics will be required to sit an examination in one of the options listed above, which they may choose freely, provided that they have not already chosen to take the subject in question as a written examination.

Candidates who choose the ONL cannot choose L4.

In accordance with Article 1.4 of the above-mentioned Arrangements *Candidates must choose the* examinations which they wish to sit at the time of registration. Choices are restricted by the dispositions in Articles 6.4.1 and 6.5.1. Once made, these choices cannot be changed. Schools will input pupils' choices in the School Management System by the 20<sup>th</sup> od October.

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