

General Outline: Education in Syria

Basic Education (9 years)

First Cycle

4 years

Second Cycle

5 years

Secondary Education

3 years

Post-Secondary Education

1-6 years



Basic Education: Weekly Lesson Timetable (2014-2015)

NUMBER OF WEEKLY PERIODS* IN EACH GRADE										
		GRADE LEVEL								
		FIRST CYCLE				SECOND CYCLE				
SUBJECTS		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Religious Education		1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Arabic Language		10	9	8	8	7	7	6	6	6
Foreign Language	English	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	French	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3
	Russian	-	-	-	-	-	-	2**		
Mathematics		4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5
Social Studies		1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	4
Science and Health Education		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4
Music Education		2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Art Education		2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
Physical Education		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Informatics		-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Sub-total		27	27	27	27	27	27	30	30	30
Extra Activities	Physical and Science Activities	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	Professional Education	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
	Informatics	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	Scout Activities	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	-	-
Total Weekly Periods		31	31	30	30	31	31	32	33	32

Source: Syrian Ministry of Education

*Definition: Period = 45 minute class

** In grade 7, students choose between French or Russian to fulfill foreign language requirements (in addition to English.)

Student Assessment, Grade Level 1-4

SYRIAN GRADES	SYRIAN LETTER GRADE EQUIVALENCY	WES GRADE EQUIVALENTS
10	Excellent	A
9	Very Good	A
8	Good	B
5-7	Medium	C
0-4	Weak	F



Student Assessment, Grade Level 5-9

SYRIAN GRADES	WES GRADE EQUIVALENTS
70-100	A
60-69	B
40-59*	C
0-39	F

Source: Syrian Ministry of Education

*The passing grade is 40, with the exception of Arabic language, in which the passing grade is 50.

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Secondary Education: Weekly Lesson Timetable (2014-2015)

SUBJECT		NUMBER OF WEEKLY PERIODS* IN EACH GRADE				
		10TH GRADE - COMMON YEAR FOR BOTH STREAMS	11TH GRADE - SCIENCE STREAM	11TH GRADE - LITERATURE STREAM	12TH GRADE - SCIENCE STREAM	12TH GRADE - LITERATURE STREAM
Religious Education		2	2	2	2	2
Arabic		5	4	7	4	8
Foreign Language	English	3	3	4	4	5
	French	2	2	3	4	5
Philosophy and Human Science		1	2	3	-	5
History		2	1	3	-	3
Geography		2	-	3	-	3
Math - Statistics		4	5	1	8	-
Science Education (for Literature Branch)		-	-	1	-	-
Informatics		2	2	2	-	-
Physics		2	4	-	5	-
Chemistry		2	2	-	2	-
Biology		2	3	-	3	-
Art Education		1	-	1	-	-
Physical Education		1	1	1	-	1
National Education		1	1	1	1	1
Total		32	32	32	33	33

Source: Syrian Ministry of Education
*Definition: Period = 50 minute class

Secondary Grading Scale for U.S. and Canada

SYRIAN GRADES	WES GRADE EQUIVALENTS
70-100	A
60-69	B
40-59*	C
0-39	F

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Programs of Study

LEVEL	DEGREE	INSTITUTION TYPE	PROGRAMME LENGTH	GRADUATION REQUIREMENT
Stage I	Diploma	Technical Institutes	2 years	- Minimum GPA 50%
	Bachelor's degree	Universities	4-6 years	- Minimum GPA 50% or 60% - Project/research/training/ Internship
Stage II	Higher Diploma	Universities	1-3 years	- Minimum GPA 60% - Project/research
	Master's degree	Universities	2 years	- Minimum GPA 60% - Thesis
Stage III	Doctoral degree	Universities	3 years (min)	- Minimum GPA 60% - Dissertation

Source: World Education Services



Grading Scale for U.S. and Canada

SYRIAN GRADES	WES GRADE EQUIVALENTS
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60-69	B
50-59	C
0-49	F

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Grade-by-Grade Comparison, Syria – Canada

Grade 9	It is suggested that students who have completed grade 9 in Syria have completed the equivalent of grade 9 in the Ontario secondary school education system.
Grade 10	It is suggested that students who have completed grade 10 in Syria have completed the equivalent of grade 10 in the Ontario secondary school education system.
Grade 11	It is suggested that students who have completed grade 11 in Syria have completed the equivalent of grade 11 in the Ontario secondary school education system.
Grade 12	It is suggested that students who have been awarded the secondary school certificate have the equivalent of an Ontario secondary school diploma.

Grade-by-Grade Comparison, Syria – U.S.

Grade 9	It is suggested that students who have completed grade 9 in Syria have completed the equivalent of grade 9 in the U.S.
Grade 10	It is suggested that students who have completed grade 10 in Syria have completed the equivalent of grade 10 in the U.S.
Grade 11	It is suggested that students who have completed grade 11 in Syria have completed the equivalent of grade 11 in the U.S.
Grade 12	It is suggested that students who have been awarded the secondary school certificate have the equivalent of a high school diploma in the U.S.