

b UNIVERSITÄT BERN

**Admissions Office** 

## Excerpt from the Admission Requirements Academic Year 2019/2020

## 5 Foreign Entrance Qualifications

(Decision of the University Directorate of 11 December 2018 based upon art. 11 of the UniV, www.belex.sites.be.ch/data/436.111.1/de)

## 5.4 General Requirements for Upper Secondary School-Leaving Certificates

- 5.4.1 Qualifications or upper secondary school-leaving certificates from other countries have to meet the following requirements. They must
  - ① be of general educational character,
  - ② have been acquired after completion at least 11 school years, of which at least 3 years at academic upper secondary school
  - ③ show an emphasis on Classical Languages, Modern Languages, Humanities and Social Sciences or Mathematics/Natural Sciences,
  - represent the highest possible level of upper secondary school in the country awarding the diploma and
  - ⑤ grant admission to all university faculties and to all branches of study in the country awarding the diploma and
  - 6 have been acquired in a full-time, class-based course of instruction.
- 5.4.2 With regard to point 5.4.1 foreign qualifications and foreign upper secondary school-leaving certificates are only considered to be of general educational value if at least 6 individual subjects of general educational value according to the following categories are stated continuously in the last 3 years of school education:

Subject group	Subject Group Category	Subject Catalogue
1	First language	mother tongue or language of instruction
2	Second language	free choice
3	Mathematics	Mathematics
4	Natural Sciences	Biology, Chemistry or Physics
5	Humanities and Social Sciences	Geography, History or Economics/Law
6	free choice	1 more subject from the subject groups 2, 4 or 5



- 5.4.3 The following qualifications are not recognised even though they meet the subject combination stated under 5.4.2 and represent a general upper secondary school-leaving certificate in the country awarding the diploma:
  - ① subject related upper secondary school-leaving certificates or upper secondary school-leaving certificates from polytechnics
  - ② degree certificates and diplomas from vocational schools and polytechnics¹ (such as schools of engineering, colleges of technology, schools for paramedical professions, upper secondary schools which place emphasis on economics, music conservatories, higher education institutions which place emphasis on arts and foreign languages, schools of interpreting, agricultural colleges, upper secondary schools which place emphasis on domestic science, schools of hospitality and tourism and the like)
  - ③ correspondence courses, evening courses and non-student school-leaving certificates
  - school-leaving certificates from secondary schools and upper secondary schools which
    place emphasis on professional and vocational training as well as from schools that offer
    at the same time vocational trainings
  - ⑤ school-leaving certificates obtained after having attended schools (at secondary level II) that belong to different education systems. Exception: A proof can be provided that all three years at an academic upper secondary school were completed successfully.
  - © entrance examination certificates from foreign institutions of higher education

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exception: Degrees from accredited German and Austrian universities of applied sciences in accordance with agreements.