

The new French baccalaureate in 2021

1. Why this reform?

The reform of the general baccalaureate aims to reinforce the baccalaureate, national diploma of end of secondary studies and first degree of higher education.

The 4 main objectives of the reform are:

- simplify the exam, which has become too complex. Students now spend between 12 and 16 final exams according to the stream.

From 2021, they will sit for the preliminary French examination in Première and for 4 final examinations in Terminale.

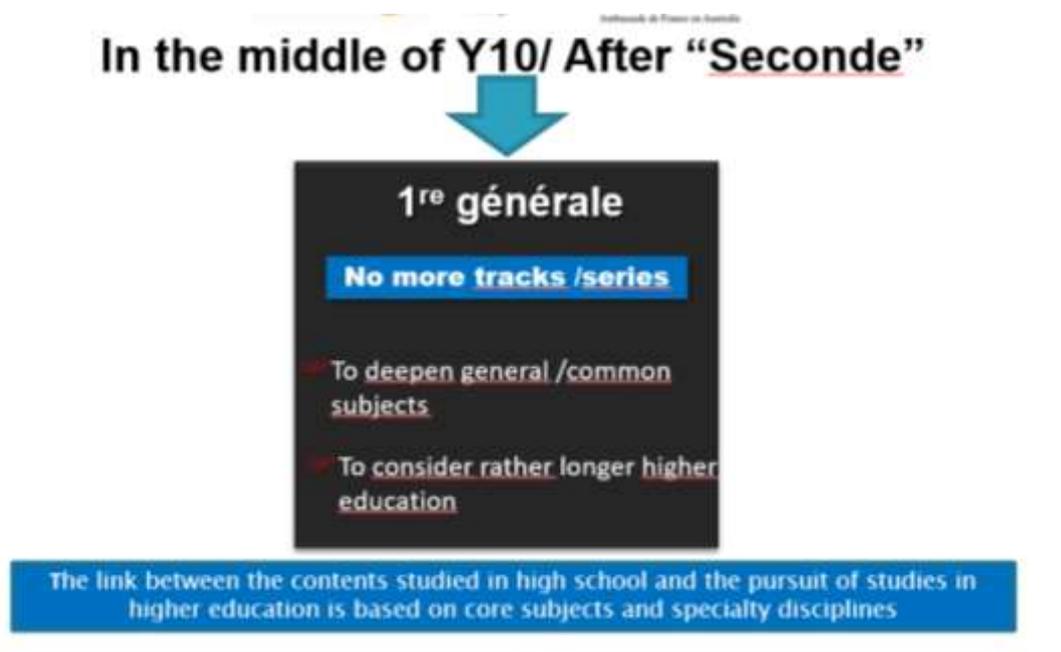
- give meaning and strength to the exam to enable students to better prepare for success in higher education.

- better value the work of students. The examination will take into account the work of the student during his year of Première and final year, while today, the student plays his baccalaureate on a single week.

- better support high school students in their post bac studies project with hours dedicated to guidance and more freedom in the choice of subjects that fascinate them.

2. A new organization

- No more series but pathways chosen by each student according to his tastes and ambitions.



Specialty courses which
will be offered in our
schools

- * Maths
- * Biology
- * Physics & Chemistry
- * Humanities, Literature and Philosophy
- Languages, literatures and foreign cultures
- SOSE
- History-Geography, geopolitics, political science

In Y11 and Y12, the time devoted to orientation will allow students to refine their project for further education.

Specialty courses allow students to gain in-depth knowledge in the lessons they have chosen.

The teaching programs are renovated, taking into account the world of today (digital, humanities, energy transition ...).

New lessons emerge: a science course common to all students in Premiere and Terminale.

3. Assessing the new French Bac

Starting in 2021, the French Baccalaureate will combine ongoing assessments and final examinations.

- Ongoing assessments (“contrôle continu”) :

During Premiere and Terminale, students take different exams based on nationally designed exercises, focused on History and Geography, Foreign languages A and B, Science culture, PE and 1 specialty subject they have chosen. These ongoing assessments contribute for 30% of the final grade.

Throughout the two years, students also take different tests given by their teachers for each mandatory subject. These assessments (“livret scolaire”) contribute for 10% of the final grade.

- Final examinations (nationally designed written test) :

At the end of Premiere, students take a French language and literature final exam in June, as the first part of the Baccalaureate. They are tested on their written skills and on an oral presentation of a text.

At the end of Terminale, students take 3 written exams (Philosophy and two specialty subjects they have chosen and studied during Premiere and Terminale) and one oral exam about a personal project linked to a specialty subject. These exams contribute for 60% of the final grade.

