



Diploma Supplement

This Diploma Supplement follows the model developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES. The purpose of the supplement is to provide sufficient independent data to improve the international «transparency» and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates, etc). It is designed to provide a description of the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. It should be free from any value judgments, equivalence statements and suggestions about recognition. Information in all eight sections should be provided. Where information is not provided, an explanation should give the reason why.



1. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

- 1.1 **Family name(s):** XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- 1.2 **Given name(s):** XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- 1.3 **Date of birth (year/month/day):** XXXX/XX/XX
- 1.4 **Student identification number:** XXXXX
Identity Card/Passport Number: XXXXXXXXXXXX

2. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

- 2.1 **Name of qualification and title conferred (in original language):**
Licenciatura em Biologia, Licenciado
- 2.2 **Main field(s) of study for the qualification:**
Epistemology, Methodology and Techniques of Research; Biology and Animal Behaviour, Biology and Evolution, Molecular and Cellular Biology, Plant Biology and Microbiology.
- 2.3 **Name (in original language) and status of awarding institution:**
ISPA - Instituto Universitário de Ciências Psicológicas, Sociais e da Vida Private University Institute recognized as such in the Decree-Law 221/2009, published in *Diário da República* (Official Gazette), Série 1, and nr. 174, September 8th.
- 2.4 **Name and status of institution (if different from 2.3) administering studies (in original language):**
Not Applicable
- 2.5 **Language(s) of instruction/examination:**
Portuguese, English

3. INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL OF THE QUALIFICATION

- 3.1 **Level of qualification:**
University higher education – *Licenciatura* - Level 6 (*European Qualifications Framework*)/ Level 5 (*International Standard Classification of Education*)
- 3.2 **Official length of programme:**
3 (three) years, 6 (six) semesters, 38 weeks of full-time study per academic year. 180 ECTS.
- 3.3 **Access requirements(s):**
Entrance to the degree course can be made through an Institutional Entrance Competition, the Special Conditions Regimes, the Special

Access Competitions or The Re-entry, Change and Transfer of Course Regimes.

To apply to higher education through the Institutional Entrance Examination, students must satisfy the conditions referred to in section 8.

4. INFORMATION ABOUT CONTENT AND OBTAINED RESULTS

4.1 Mode of study:

Full-time or Part-time

4.2 Programme requirements:

The Degree in Biology aims to provide students training in all key areas of the biological sciences. Additionally, this Degree aims to provide training in other disciplines whose knowledge is now considered essential to the study of biological phenomena, particularly in the fields of mathematics and statistics and biophysics and biochemistry. Simultaneously, training in biology is founded in the understanding of the research process, the different components of data collection and analysis, research planning, critical evaluation of different hypotheses and development of procedures to test their validity.

4.3 Details of the study programme and classifications/ marks/ credits obtained:

Scientific Areas	Com.	Opt.
Epistemology, Methodology and Techniques of Research	70.5	
Biology and Animal Behaviour	24	12
Biology and Evolution	15	12
Molecular and Cellular Biology	22.5	
Plant Biology and Microbiology	24	

Com. Compulsory / Opt. Optional

The Transcript of Records is enclosed (see appendix 1)

4.4 Grading scheme and, if available, grade distribution guidance:

On a 0 to 20 grading scheme, a minimum grade of 10 in each course unit is necessary to pass.

In order to establish the course unit's grades for each group of the ECTS grading scale, the distribution of students with passes in the previous five academic years and/or in a total of at least thirty students is taken into consideration. When a cohort of this scale is impossible, the ECTS grading scale is replaced by the use of a conversion table used to convert the grades from Portugal in the context of student exchange programmes.

It is important to notice that not all groups of the ECTS grading scale might be represented.

Interval	Grade	%
[10-11]	E	10
[12-13]	D	25
[14-15]	C	30
[16-17]	B	25
[18-20]	A	10



4.5 **Overall classification of the qualification (in original language):**
16 (Dezasseis) - B

5. INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION

5.1 **Access to further study:**

The *licenciado* degree allows access to post-graduate studies, according to the terms described in section 8.

5.2 **Professional status (if applicable):**

Not applicable.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6.1 **Additional information:**

Member of ISPA' Academic Association in 2012/2013.

6.2 **Further information sources:**

<http://www.ispa.pt>

7. CERTIFICATION OF THE SUPPLEMENT

7.1 **Date:** 2013/11/07

7.2 **Signature:**

Rui Filipe Nunes Pais de Oliveira

7.3 **Capacity:** (Dean of ISPA - Instituto Universitário de Ciências Psicológicas, Sociais e da Vida)

7.4 **Official stamp or seal:**

All pages of this document carry the seal of this institution.

8. INFORMATION ON THE NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

The description of the Portuguese Education System, officially provided by NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Centre), is enclosed (see Appendix II).

APPENDIX I

Transcript of Records of the student: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Course	Academic Year	Grade	Grade in Detail	Duration	Course Year	ECTS	Final Grade	ECTS Grade
Animal Biology	2010/11	15	Fifteen	Semestral	1	9	Passed	C
Cellular Biology and Genetics	2010/11	16	Sixteen	Semestral	1	7.5	Passed	B
Biophysics	2010/11	17	Seventeen	Semestral	1	7.5	Passed	B
Mathematics	2010/11	15	Fifteen	Semestral	1	6	Passed	C
Plant Biology	2010/11	16	Sixteen	Semestral	1	9	Passed	B
Initiation to Scientific Research I	2010/11	19	Nineteen	Semestral	1	7.5	Passed	A
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry	2010/11	13	Thirteen	Semestral	1	7.5	Passed	D
Biostatistics	2010/11	15	Fifteen	Semestral	1	6	Passed	C
Animal Physiology	2011/12	14	Fourteen	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	C
Ecology	2011/12	16	Sixteen	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	B
Developmental Biology	2011/12	16	Sixteen	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	B
Initiation to Scientific Research II	2011/12	16	Sixteen	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	B
Plant Physiology	2011/12	12	Twelve	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	D
Evolutionary Biology	2011/12	18	Eighteen	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	A
Microbiology	2011/12	16	Sixteen	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	B
Laboratory Techniques	2011/12	12	Twelve	Semestral	2	7.5	Passed	D
Bioethics	2012/13	17	Seventeen	Semestral	3	7.5	Passed	B
Bioinformatics	2012/13	15	Fifteen	Semestral	3	7.5	Passed	C
Thematic Seminars	2012/13	17	Seventeen	Semestral	3	3	Passed	B
Conservation and Spatial Planning	2012/13	14	Fourteen	Semestral	3	6	Passed	C
Marine Biology	2012/13	13	Thirteen	Semestral	3	6	Passed	D
Project	2012/13	17	Seventeen	Semestral	3	18	Passed	B
Field Course in Marine Biology	2012/13	16	Sixteen	Semestral	3	12	Passed	B

Grade

On a 0 to 20 grading scheme, a minimum grade of 10 in each course unit is necessary to pass.

ECTS Grading Scale

ECTS Grading Scale	% of Approved Students
A	10
B	25
C	30
D	25
E	10

In order to establish the course units grades for each group of the ECTS grading scale, the distribution of students with passes in the previous five academic years and/or in a total of at least thirty students is taken into consideration. When a cohort of this scale is impossible, the ECTS grading scale is replaced by the use of a conversion table used to convert the grades from Portugal in the context of student exchange programmes. It is important to notice that not all groups of the ECTS grading scale might be represented.

ECTS Credits

1 academic year = 60
1 semester = 30

Notes:



APPENDIX II

Information on the Portuguese Higher Education System

The Framework Law on the Education System (Law nr. 46/86, dated 14 October 1986, further amended by Laws nr.115/97, dated 19 September and nr. 49/2005, dated 30 August) establishes the general legal framework of the Education System.

According to this Law, the educational system comprises three levels: basic, secondary and higher education. Basic Education is universal, compulsory and free and comprises three cycles, the first cycle lasts for four years, the second lasts for two years and the third lasts for three years. Secondary education is compulsory and it comprises a three year cycle (corresponding to 10th, 11th and 12th year of schooling).

Higher Education Structure

The first steps towards the legal reform of the system of higher education were made in 2005, with the introduction of the new credit system (ECTS) for the cycles of study, mobility mechanisms, diploma supplement, amongst others. Changes were also made to the Basic Law for the Education System in order to implement the Bologna Process.

The new structure divided into 3 cycles of studies was created in 2006 and it was completely implemented in Portugal in 2009/2010. Generic qualification descriptors were also defined for each of the cycles of studies, based on acquired competences, as well as the structure for the first and second cycles of study in terms of typical ECTS intervals.

Portuguese higher education includes university and polytechnic education. University education is offered by public and private university institutions while polytechnic education is offered by public and private non-university institutions. Private higher education institutions must be subject to the previous recognition of the Ministry of Education and Science. The higher education system comprises also a concordatary institution.

Licenciado degree

Both university and polytechnic institutions confer the degree of *licenciado* (bachelor). In polytechnic education, the cycle of studies that leads to the degree of *licenciado* has 180 credits and a normal length of six curricular semesters of students' work. In certain cases namely those covered by internal legislation or by European legislation, the cycle of studies can have up to 240 credits with a normal length of up to seven or eight curricular semesters of students' work.

In university education, the cycle of studies that leads to the degree of *licenciado* has from 180 to 240 credits and a normal length between six to eight curricular semesters of students' work.

In the first cycle of studies, the degree of *licenciado* is conferred, by universities or polytechnics institutions, to those that, after concluding all the curricular units that integrate the study programme of the *licenciatura* course, have obtained the established number of credits.

Mestre degree

Both university and polytechnic institutions confer the degree of *mestre* (master). The cycle of studies that leads to the degree of *mestre* has from 90 to 120 credits and a normal length of between three to four curricular semesters of students' work or in exceptional circumstances, 60 credits and a duration of two semesters, resulting from a stable and consolidated practice in that specific field at international level.

In polytechnic education, the cycle of studies that leads to the *mestre* degree must ensure predominantly that the student acquires a professional specialization. In university education, the cycle of studies that leads to the *mestre* degree must ensure that the student acquires an academic specialization resorting to research, innovation or expansion of professional competences. In university education, the *mestre* degree may also be conferred after an integrated cycle of studies, with 300 to 360 credits and a normal length of 10 to 12 curricular semesters of students' work, in cases for which the access to the practice of a certain professional activity depends on that length of time established by legal EU standards or resulting from a stable practice consolidated in the European Union. In this cycle of studies the degree of *licenciado* is conferred to those who have obtained 180 credits corresponding to the first six semesters of work.

The degree of *mestre* is conferred to those that, after concluding all the curricular units that integrate the study programme of the *mestrado* course, have obtained the established number of credits, as well as successfully defended in public their dissertation, their project work or their traineeship report.

Doutor degree

The *Doutor* (doctor) degree is conferred by universities and university institutes. The degree of *Doutor* is conferred to those that, after concluding all the curricular units that integrate the study programme of the *Doutoramento* (doctorate) course, when applicable, and have successfully defended their thesis in the public act.

Access conditions

General regime to accede to higher education

National and foreign students wishing to apply through the general regime to the first cycle of studies, must fulfill the following conditions:

- Have successfully completed a secondary course or a national or foreign qualification legally equivalent;
- Have set for the entrance examinations required for the degree programme the student wishes to attend and get the minimal mark required (there are higher education institutions that accept foreign tests or exams);
- Have fulfilled the prerequisites for the higher education course the student wishes to attend, if required.

Special conditions

Besides the *regime geral* (general regime), there are special conditions for top level athletes, Portuguese citizens on an official mission abroad, national or foreign staff in diplomatic mission, permanent staff of the Portuguese Armed Forces and scholarship holders within the framework of cooperation agreements signed by Portugal.

Special Competitions

Besides the general regime and the special conditions there are also special competitions for applicants with certain specific qualifications thus allowing new publics to accede to higher education in a perspective of lifelong learning, namely:

- applicants over 23 years old who have passed a special exam for assessing their capacity to accede to higher education;
- holders of a specialization technological course (non higher education post-secondary course).

Admission to higher education institutions is subject to *numerus clausus*.



Those who meet the following conditions may apply to the cycle of studies that leads to the *mestre* degree:

- Holders of the *licenciado* degree or legal equivalent;
- Holders of a foreign academic degree fully recognized as satisfying the objectives identical to the *licenciado* degree by the competent scientific body of the higher education institution where one wishes to be admitted;
- Holders of an academic, scientific or professional curriculum vitae that is recognized as attesting the capacity to carry out this cycle of studies by the statutorily competent scientific body of the higher education institution to which they wish to be admitted.

Those who meet the following conditions may apply to the cycle of studies that leads to the *doutor* (doctor) degree:

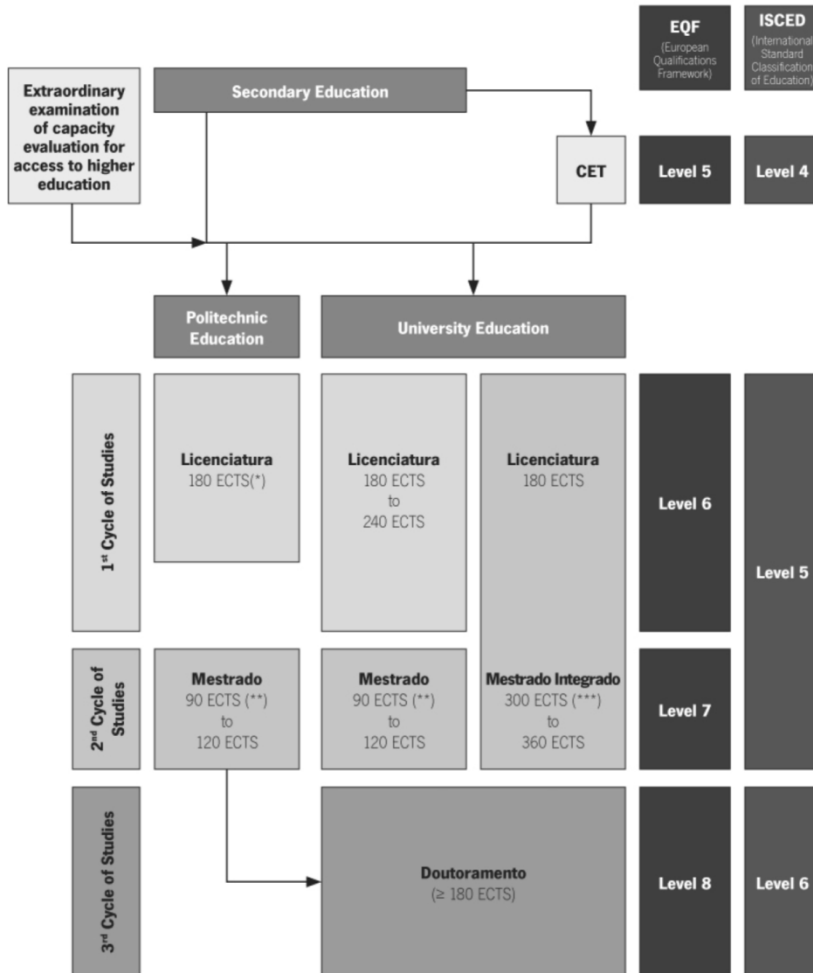
- Holders of the *mestre* (master) degree or legal equivalent;
- Holders of a *licenciado* degree who have a particularly relevant academic or scientific curriculum vitae that is recognized as attesting the capacity to carry out this cycle of studies by the statutorily competent scientific body of the higher education institution to which they wish to be admitted.
- Holders of an academic, scientific or professional curriculum vitae that is recognized as attesting the capacity to carry out this cycle of studies by the statutorily competent scientific body of the higher education institution to which they wish to be admitted.

Classification System

The degrees of *licenciado* and *mestre* shall have a final classification between 10 and 20 on a numerical scale of 0 to 20, as well as its equivalent in the European scale of comparability of classifications.

The academic degree of *doutor* is assigned a final classification pursuant to the regulating standards approved by the university that confers it.

Diagram of the Portuguese Higher Education System according to Bologna



(*) Except when in order to exercise a certain professional activity requiring education and training rating between 210 and 240 ECTS.

(**) In exceptional circumstances, and subject to the fulfillment of every requirement relating to the definition of the objectives of the degree and the conditions for acquiring the latter, a cycle of studies leading to a *Mestre* degree in a specialized field may amount 60 credits resulting from a stable and consolidated practice in that specific field at international level

(***) A *Mestre* degree may also be granted following an integrated cycle of studies of which the duration, for the purposes of obtaining access to a professional activity, a) is established by European Union regulations; and b) results from a regular and consolidated practice within the European Union; in such cases, a *Licenciado* degree is granted to students having obtained 180 ECTS (3 years, 6 semesters).