

Categorization of the Portuguese degree levels



12 May 2011 - update

Level of program	Definitions
Bachelor degrees:	
Bacharelato	The total length of these programmes, usually offered by polytechnics, is 3 years long leading to the "bacharel" diploma.
Licenciatura - 1º ciclo	Programme according to Bologna process. The total length of these programmes at this level is normally 3/4 years long (180 to 240 ECTS).
Licenciatura Bietápica - 1.º ciclo	These programmes, usually offered by polytechnics, award a first degree after the successful examinations in the 3 former years (Bacharel classified as 5B).
First degree of the Mestrado Integrado : "Licenciado"	Programme according to Bologna process. These 5/6 years (300 to 360 ECTS) programmes, only offered by universities, award a first degree after the successful examinations in the 3 former years - 180 ECTS ("Licenciado" classified as 5A).
Master degrees:	
Mestrado	According to 1992 Portuguese Education System legal regulation, the degree "Mestrado", is offered only by universities, fulfills all three requirements of ISCED-97, as a first degree at advanced research level.
Mestrado - 2º ciclo	Programme according to Bologna process. The total length of this programme at this level is normally 1/2 years long (180 to 240 ECTS, exceptionally can be 60 ECTS).
Second degree of the Mestrado Integrado: "Mestre"	Programme according to Bologna process. These 5/6 years (300 to 360 ECTS) programmes, only offered by universities, award a first degree after the successful examinations in the 3 former years - 180 ECTS ("Licenciado" classified as 5A). After plus 2/3 years successful completion a second degree is awarded. ("Mestre" classified as 5A).

Licenciatura Bietápica – 2º ciclo	These 4/5 year programmes, usually offered by polytechnics, award a first degree after the successful examinations in the 3 former years (Bacharel classified as 5B). After plus 1/2 years successful completion a second degree is awarded. (Licenciado classified as 5A)
Licenciatura (parte terminal)	Second phase of a two steps organised programme, offered by universities, for a first degree tertiary level education programme (licenciatura).
Undivided degrees:	
<i>Only degrees awarded at the master level. Undivided degrees awarded refers to the 'pre-Bologna' degrees that were and sometimes still are awarded in a number of continental European systems. After the Bologna reforms, most of these undivided programs were split up into a bachelor and a master degree program.</i>	
<i>It is only necessary to distinguish undivided degrees separately if they cannot be counted under the headings of bachelor or master degrees.</i>	
Licenciatura	The total length of these programmes, usually offered by universities, at this level is normally 4/5 years long, but it could be 6 years long as in medicine and architecture. Only if the first and second cycle cannot be separated and specified under the previous headings of bachelors and master degrees.
Licenciatura Bietápica	Only if the first and second cycle cannot be separated and specified under the previous headings of bachelors and master degrees.
Mestrado Integrado	Only if the first and second cycle cannot be separated and specified under the previous headings of bachelors and master degrees.
Doctorate degree:	
<i>We only include the considered doctorate degrees and not the ones that are recognised.</i>	
Doutoramento	Programmes only offered by universities. For the sake of level 6 comparability exercise, the national terms (e.g. Ph D, Doctorate, Doutor, Doctor) must not be assumed as synonymous to the level 6 itself.
Doutoramento - 3º ciclo	Programme according to Bologna process. Programmes only offered by universities. For the sake of level 6 comparability exercise, the national terms (e.g. Ph D, Doctorate, Doutor, Doctor) must not be assumed as synonymous to the level 6 itself.

Degrees awarded in short first cycle:

Not specified. The Curso de Especialização Tecnológica should not be counted here.