

"Survey of the German Educational System"

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Hochschule Fulda, Germany

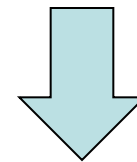
The German Educational System

- **education in the federal republic**
- **general conditions at German schools**
- **performance at school**
- **the structure of the system:**
from kindergarden to university
- **international assessment of the system**
- **the Sixth Form** (years 11 to 13 / 10 to 12)
- **vocational training / university**
- **Which way to go?**



German Federal Republic System

16 Länder
(federal states)



administration of
education by
the 16 Länder

BUT:

coordination by the 16
ministries of education

Conference of
Ministers of Education
CME = KMK

General conditions at German schools

- free transportation to and from school (until Year 10)
- free provision of school books
- equal funding of schools
(*school type / number of students*)
- financial contribution by parents expected
("Elternspende" – "donation") **but voluntary**
- equal pay for teachers depending on school type
(though promotion - functions)
- private schools
(80% state funding, state syllabus with slight variations, rest church / private institutions, parents; exams chaired by state authority)

General conditions (2)

- every year consists of two terms
 - term one: September till February
 - term two: February till July
- vacations:
 - autumn (2 weeks)
 - Christmas (3 weeks)
 - Easter (2 weeks)
 - summer (6 weeks)

Performance at School

- every student should be supported individually according to his / her interests and skills and given the chance to develop as an **individual** but also as **member of a group** and a **citizen of a democratic society**
- his / her performance at school is graded
 - participation and performance during the lessons ("**oral**" grades)
 - written tests (main subjects 2-3 tests per term) ("**written**" grades)
 - general attitude towards work, diligence, co-operation, social skills, tidiness
- grades (Years 1 to 10)

1 • excellent

2 • good

3 • satisfactory

4 • sufficient

5 • not sufficient

6 • unsatisfactory



4 positive grades, 2 negative grades

students move up to next year // repeat a year

Grade

13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

Age

19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3

Elementary School (Grundschule)	
Kindergarten	

Klasse 4 (2004)		MO	DI	MI	DO	FR
7.55-8.40	1.	Deutsch	Religion	Deutsch	Religion	Deutsch
08.40-09.25	2.	Mathe	Englisch	Mathe	Deutsch	Mathe
09.40-10.25	3.	Sachunter.	Deutsch	Sport	Mathe	Sport
10.30-11.15	4.	Kunst	Mathe	Sport	Sachunter.	Sachunter.
11.25-12.10	5.	Kunst	Sachunter.	Englisch		
12.15-13.00	6.	(LRS)	Musik	Musik		

8 Fächer / 25 Wochenstunden
8 Subjects / 25 lessons a week



Jahrgangsstufe 4

Schuljahr 2003/04

1.Halbjahr

Zeugnis

für

Andreas K.

Arbeitsverhalten

2

Sozialverhalten

2

Pflichtunterricht

Religion

2

Kunst

2

Deutsch

2

Werken/Textiles Gestalten

Sachunterricht

2

Musik

2

Mathematik

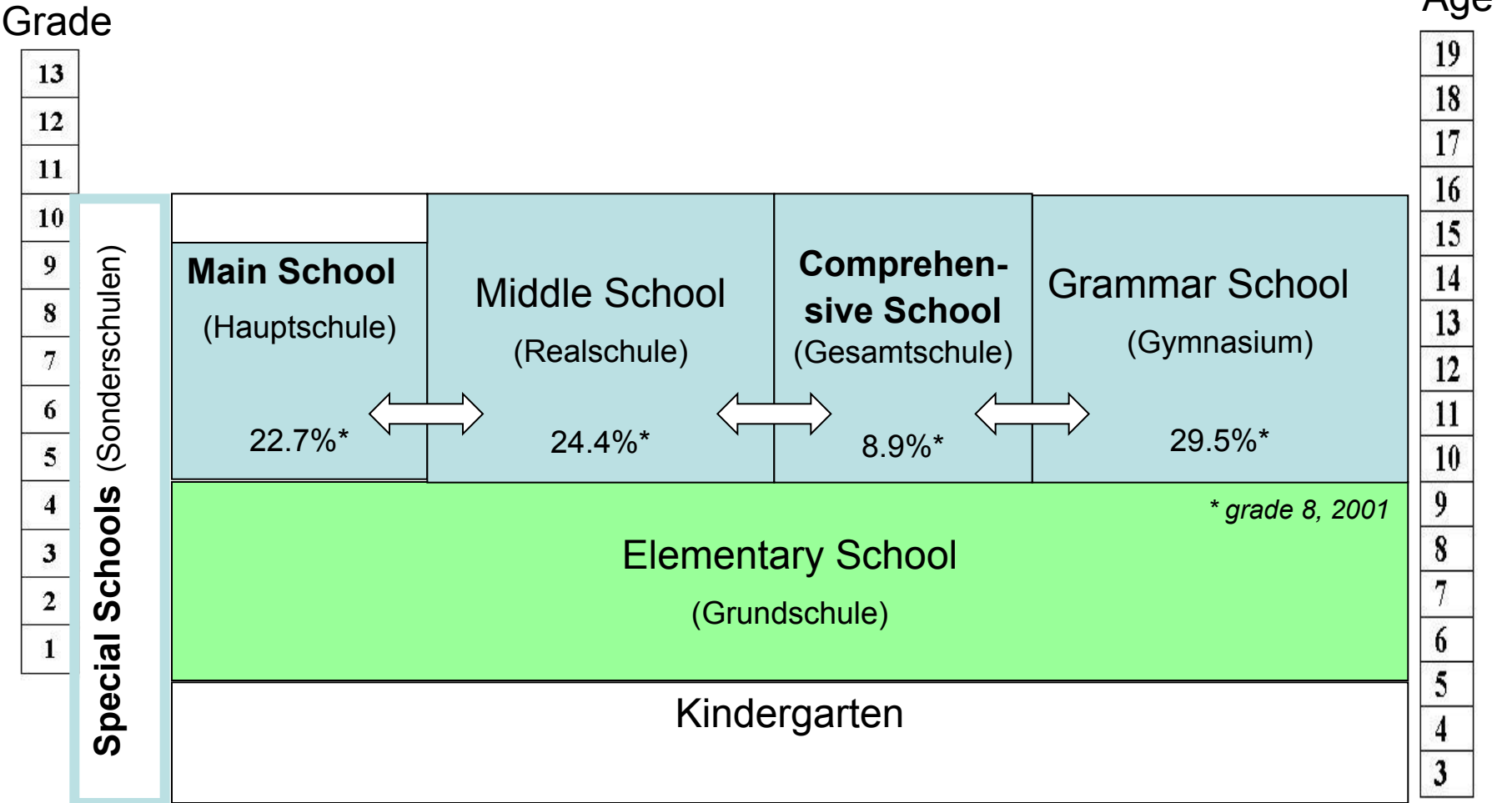
2

Sport

2

Einführung in Englisch*)

2



Klasse 8 (2004)		MO	DI	MI	DO	FR
7.55-8.40	1	Sport	Religion	Deutsch	Religion	Deutsch
08.40-09.25	2	Sport	Mathe	Englisch	Sozialkunde	Latein
09.40-10.25	3	Musik	Deutsch	Musik	Geschichte	Mathe
10.30-11.15	4	Erdkunde	Latein	Geschichte	Mathe	Religion
11.25-12.10	5	Mathe	Sozialkunde	Chemie	Latein	Englisch
12.15-13.00	6	Englisch	Chemie	Latein	Physik	Deutsch
13.05-13.50	7	AG				
14.05-14.50	8	AG	Band			
privat				Sport	Musikverein	

12 Fächer / 30 Wochenstunden
12 Subjects / 30 lessons a week

Klasse 5 (2005)	G8	MO	DI	MI	DO	FR
7.55-8.40	1	Mathe	Latein	Mathe	MASS	Latein
08.40-09.25	2	Deutsch	Mathe	Latein	Kunst	Mathe
09.40-10.25	3	Englisch	Deutsch	KL	Kunst	Sport
10.30-11.15	4	Latein	Deutsch	Musik	Religion	Sport
11.25-12.10	5	Religion	Biologie	Sport	Mathe	Deutsch
12.15-13.00	6	Musik	Erdkunde	Deutsch	Latein	Biologie
13.05-13.50	7	Chor			Deutsch	Erdkunde
14.05-14.50	8					
privat		Violine Fußball	Kinder-turne n		Fußball	Messdiener

10 Fächer / 32 Wochenstunden
10 Subjects / 32 lessons a week

Klasse 10 (2004)		MO	DI	MI	DO	FR
7.55-8.40	1	Physik	Franze	Bio	Russisch	Deutsch
08.40-09.25	2	Russisch	Mathe	PoWi	Physik	Mathe
09.40-10.25	3	Deutsch	Religion	Franze	Englisch	Chemie
10.30-11.15	4	Mathe	Russisch	Mathe	Religion	Musik
11.25-12.10	5	Englisch	Deutsch	Geschichte	Geschichte	Englisch
12.15-13.00	6	Bio	Chemie	Musik	Franze	Sport
13.05-13.50	7	Franze	<i>Chor</i>	Sport	Deutsch	
14.05-14.50	8	<i>Informatik</i>				
14.50-15.35	9	<i>Informatik</i>				
privat			<i>Chor</i>	<i>Piano</i>		<i>Chor</i>

13 Fächer / 33 Wochenstunden
13 Subjects / 33 lessons a week



Wigbertschule Hünfeld

Gymnasium des Landkreises Fulda

Jahrgangsstufe 8

Schuljahr 2003/2004 1. Halbjahr

ZEUGNIS

für

~~NAME~~

Arbeitsverhalten

3

Sozialverhalten

2

PFLICHTUNTERRICHT

Religion

2

Mathematik

3

Deutsch

3

Biologie

Englisch

4

Chemie

3

(1. Fremdsprache)

Latein

4

Physik

3

(2. Fremdsprache)

Erkunde

3

Kunst

Geschichte

3

Musik

2

Politik und Wirtschaft

3

Sport

2

Grade

13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

Special Schools (Sonderschulen)

Main School
(Hauptschule)
22.7%*

Middle School
(Realschule)
24.4%*

Comprehensive School
(Gesamtschule)
8.9%*

Grammar School
(Gymnasium)
29.5%*

G8
(5
plus
3
)**

Elementary School
(Grundschule)
* grade 8, 2001
** started in 2005

Kindergarten

Berufsakademie
study inst. + in-
company training

**University,
colleges of higher edu
etc.**

ABITUR Allgemeine Hochschulreife
entrance requirement for higher education

Age

19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3

International assessment

- PISA survey: **poor results**

(OECD Programme for International Student Assessment)

- UN inspection 2006: **severe criticism**

Vernor Munoz said the system was excluding children from poor families and immigrant backgrounds from the chance of a good education.

... the problems were caused by the structure of the education system, which usually **selects children at the age of 10** to go to either a grammar school or a vocational one.

This was **too early**, he said, and meant the potential of many children was not being exploited.

BBC News 2006/02/21

- UN report, March 21st 2007: **similar criticism**

national reaction to situation of immigration

If multiculturalism means that it's OK for 30,000 Turks to live in a certain quarter of Berlin, and never leave, and live like they're still in deepest Turkey, then the term is now discredited

Nikolaus Blome, Die Welt newspaper (Nov 2004)

new immigration law (1 January 2005):

- compulsory language lessons and
- compulsory civic lessons for new arrivals,
- BUT: people from ethnic minorities who are already here?



"These politicians say: They don't speak German, they don't want to be part of German society, and they have their own structures. But I ask: ~~Where are the~~ courses where we can learn German? Where is the help to integrate us, to show - you are welcome and we want you here?" *Erol Ozkaraca, lawyer, Berlin; BBC News 2004/11/30*

German education system fails immigrant children

March 22, 2007

GENEVA -- Germany's education system fails migrant and refugee children through its policies of academic selection, which compound existing social and economic discrimination, a UN human rights report said Wednesday.

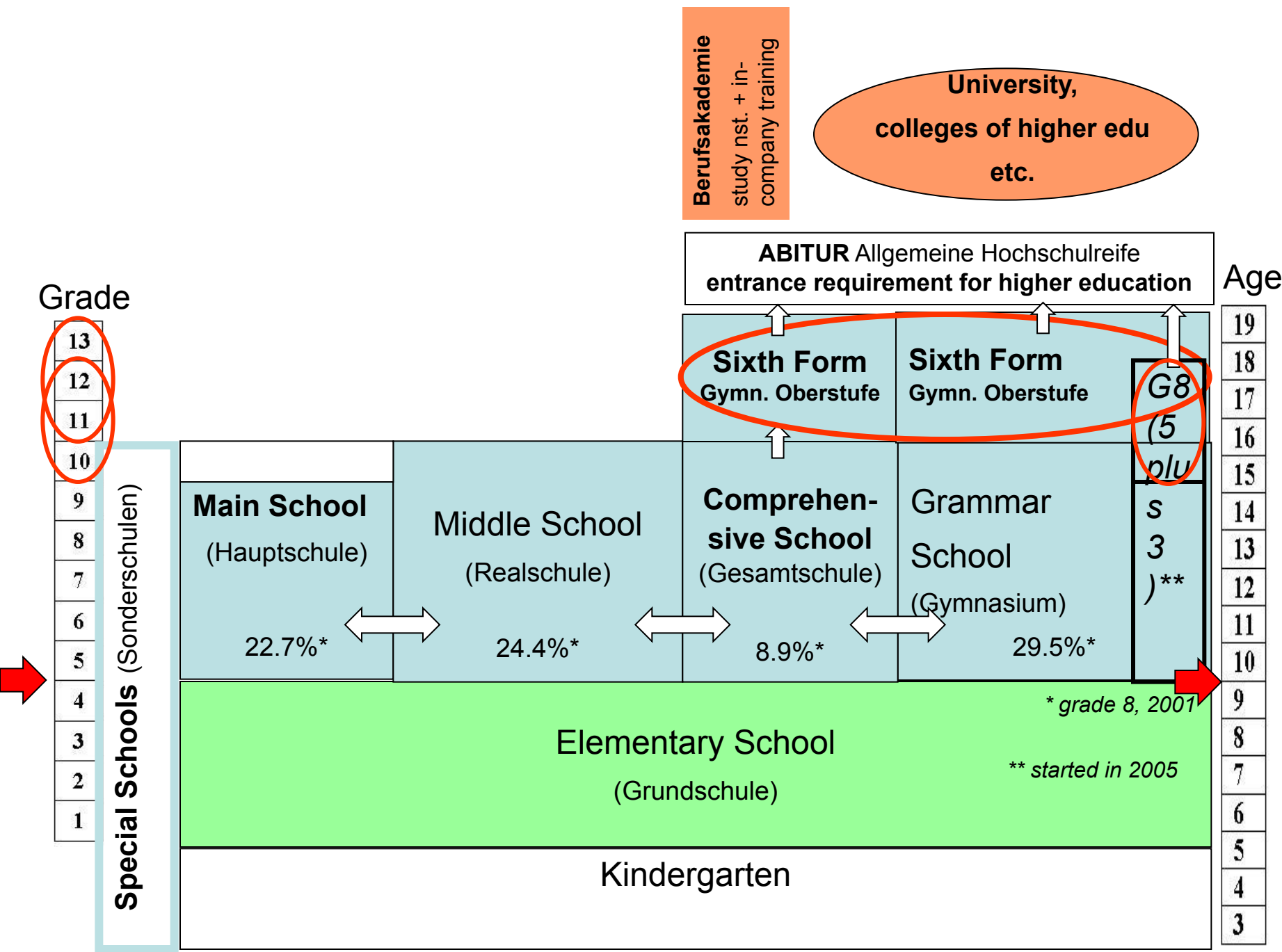
*Secondary education in Germany varies between each "Land" (federal state) but it broadly divides pupils between **vocational training** ("Hauptschule"), **intermediate level** ("Realschule"), or **academic school** aiming for higher education ("Gymnasium").*

*"It is clear that this **early classification** militates against the less-advantaged children and teenagers," said the report by the UN's Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Vernor Munoz. [...]*

***Poor children of immigrant origin** are over-represented at the "Hauptschule" level and under-represented at the "Gymnasium," the UN report noted.*

*"The system would appear to have a negative effect, since the **disadvantaged end up being doubly disadvantaged**," it said. [...]*

... to be continued ...



Gymnasiale Oberstufe

(~ Sixth Form, Years 11-13/10-12)

exam = Abitur (entrance requirement for higher education)

Requirements in Year 11 for qualifying for Years 12+13/11+12

subjects cover
3 academic fields (**AF**)



1st AF:
Language,
Literature, Art

- German
- 1st Language
- 2nd Language
- Art / Music / Drama



2nd AF:
Social
Sciences

- History
- Politics & Economy
- Religion
- (Geography)



3rd AF:
Mathematics,
Natural Sciences

- Maths
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- (IT)

Plus:
Sports

Gymnasiale Oberstufe (2)

- points for
 - participation and performance during the lessons ("oral" grades)
 - written tests (2 tests per term) ("written" grades)

- points (Years 11 to 13 / 10 to 12)

15, 14, 13 • excellent (1)

6, 05

• sufficient (4)

12, 11, 10 • good (2)

04, 03, 02, 01 • not sufficient (5)

9, 8, 7 • satisfactory (3)

00

• unsatisfactory (6)

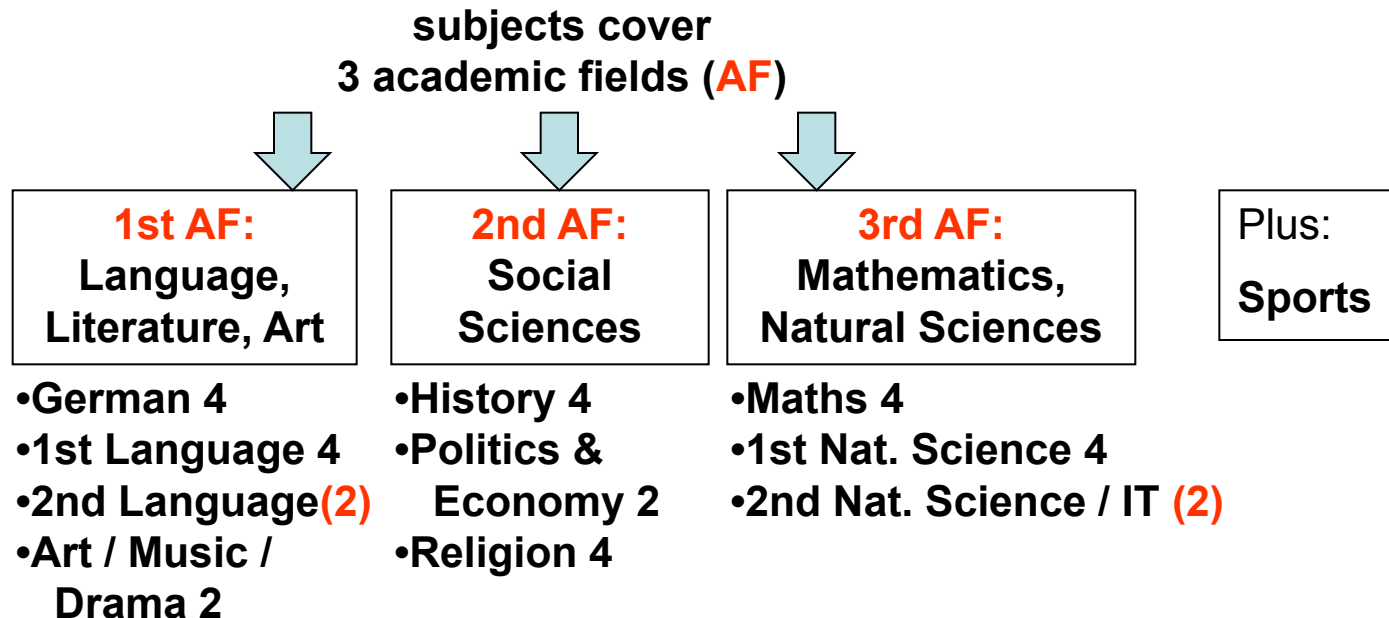


11 positive grades, 5 negative grades

Qualification for Years 12+13 / 11+12

- no subject with 00 points
- maximum 1 main subject (G, Lang, M)
less than 05 points (BUT: compensation 2x7, 1x10 required)
- maximum 2 subjects less than 05 points
(BUT: compensation 2x7, 1x10 required)

Obligatory Courses in Years 12+13 / 11+12



Klasse 12 (2004)		MO	DI	MI	DO	FR
7.55-8.40	1	Geschichte	Deutsch		Deutsch	Musik
08.40-09.25	2	Geschichte	Deutsch	Englisch		Tutor
09.40-10.25	3		Geschichte	Englisch		PoWi
10.30-11.15	4	Religion	PoWi			Biologie
11.25-12.10	5	Religion		Mathe	Biologie	Deutsch
12.15-13.00	6	Mathe	Biologie	Musik	PoWi	Deutsch
13.05-13.50	7	Mathe		Musik	Religion	
14.05-14.50	8	Chemie	Mathe		Chemie	
14.50-15.35	9	Chemie			Chemie	
15.40-16.25	10	Chemie				Sport
16.25-17.10	11					Sport

History
 Religion
 Maths
 Chemistry
 German

Pol.&Econ.
 Biology
 English
 Music
 Sports

10 Fächer / 34 Wochenstunden

10 Subjects / 34 lessons a week

WINFRIEDSCHULE

Gymnasium des Landkreises Fulda

FULDA

Jahrgangsstufe 12 (Qualifikationsphase) Schuljahr 2002/2003, 1. Halbjahr

L E I S T U N G S N A C H W E I S

für

Fach	Kurs	WStd	Kursthema	Kursleiter	Punkte
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Sprachlich-literarisch-künstlerisches Aufgabenfeld

Deutsch	Gk	3	Staatsraison u. Menschlichk.	Appel	10
Englisch ab 5	Lk	5	Human Relationships	G.Möller	08
Musik	Gk	2	Musikalische Formgestaltung	Hans	13

Gesellschaftswissenschaftliches Aufgabenfeld

Politik & Wirtsch.	Gk	3	Indust. u. DienstleistGes. BRD	Kollmann	12
Geschichte	Gk	3	Gesell. Veränd. am Beginn Mod.	Schrammar-B.	07
Ev. Religion	Gk	2	Die Frage n. Jesus Christus	Breil	10

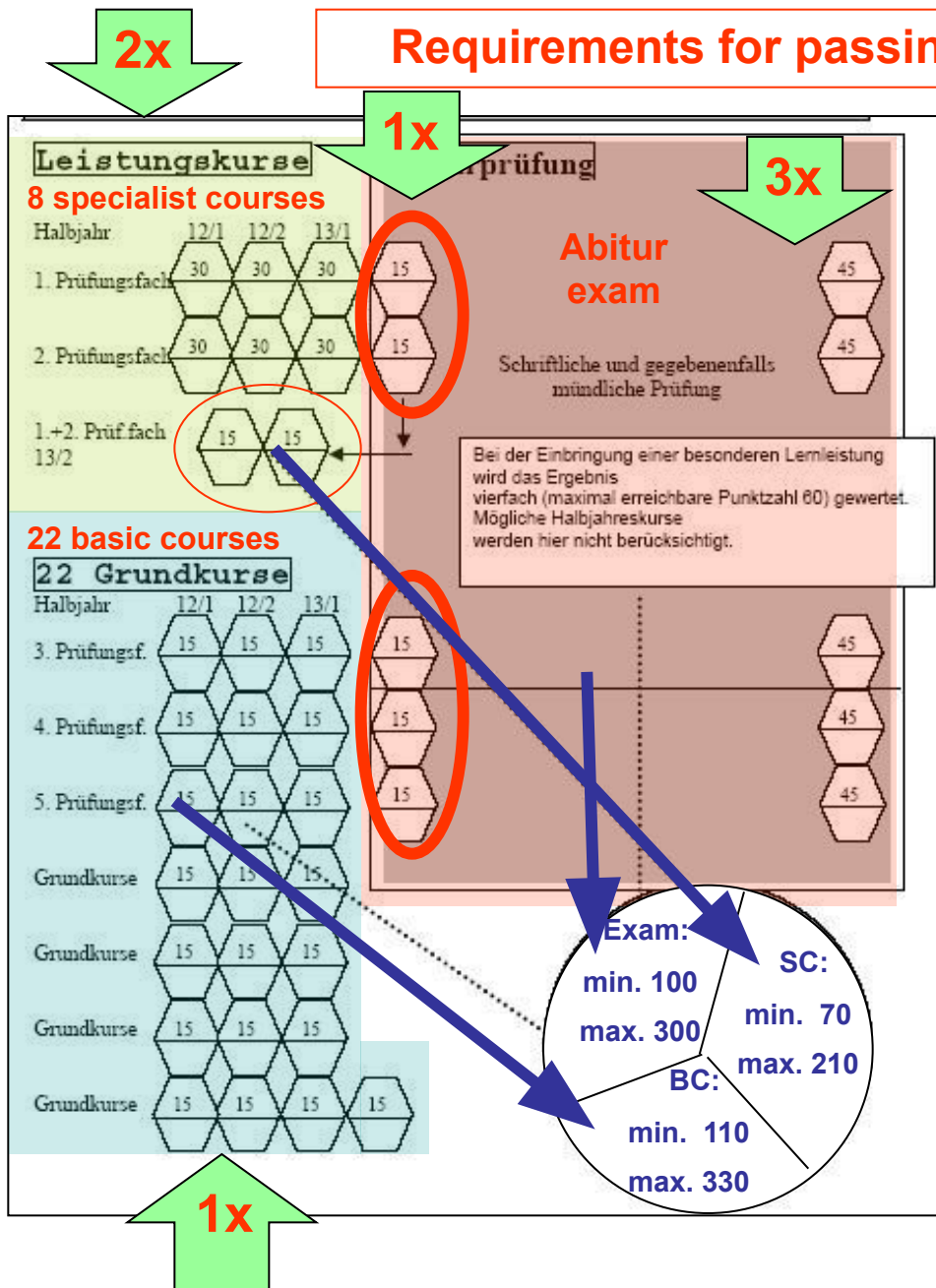
Mathematisch-naturwissenschaftlich-technisches Aufgabenfeld

Mathematik	Gk	3	Analysis 2	Oehlke	10
Biologie	Lk	5	Ökologie	Listmann	09
Chemie	Gk	3	Biochemie der Proteine	Herr	07

Sport	Gk	2	Badminton 1	H. Bülow	12
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2 Fehlstunden, davon 0 unentschuldigt

Requirements for passing the Abitur exam



2 specialist subjects:

obligatory: **Language** or **Mathematics** or **Science**

exam subjects:

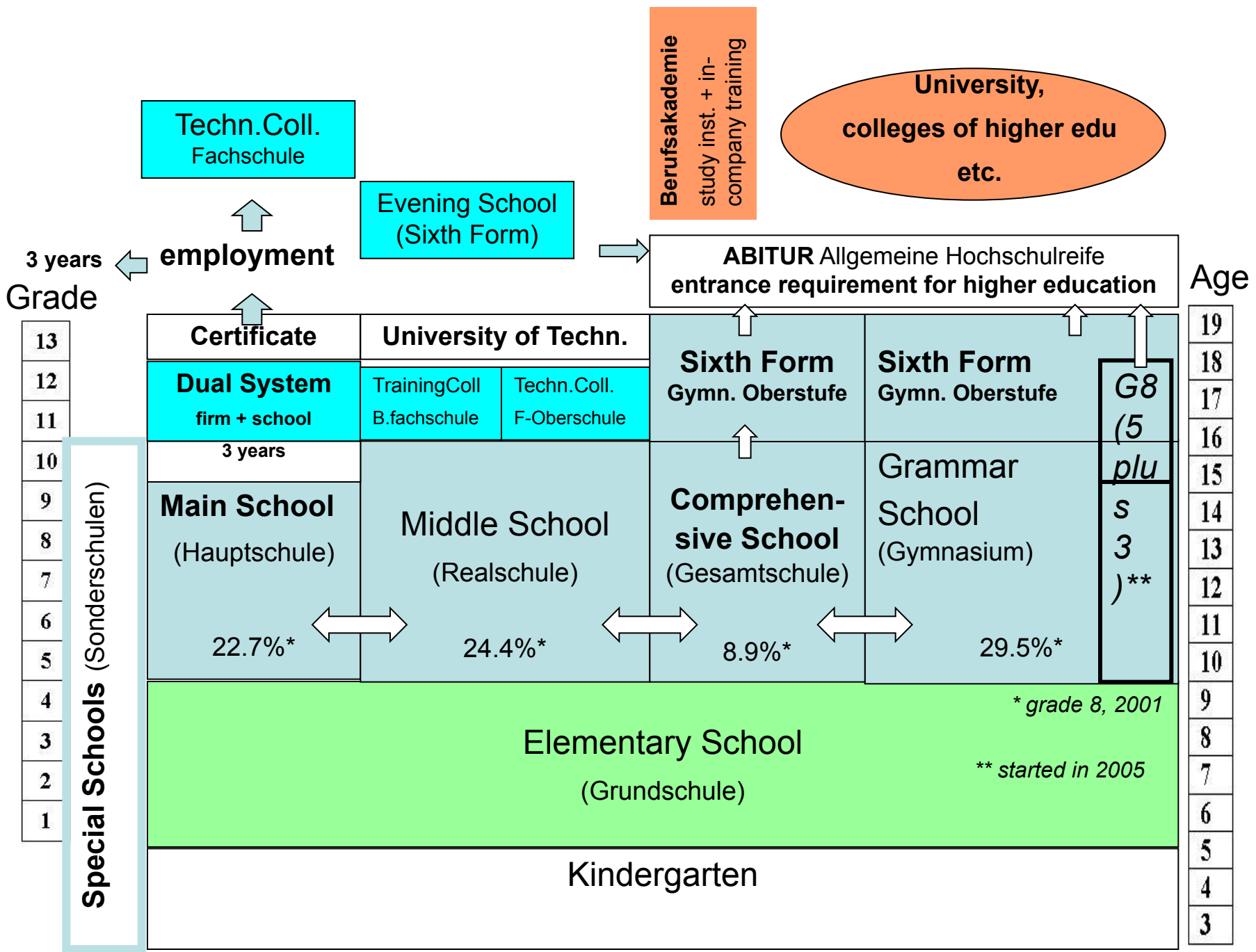
- German (academic field AF 1)
- Mathematics (academic field AF 3)
- Language or Science or IT (AF 1 or 3)
- 2 others
- the subjects cover all 3 AF

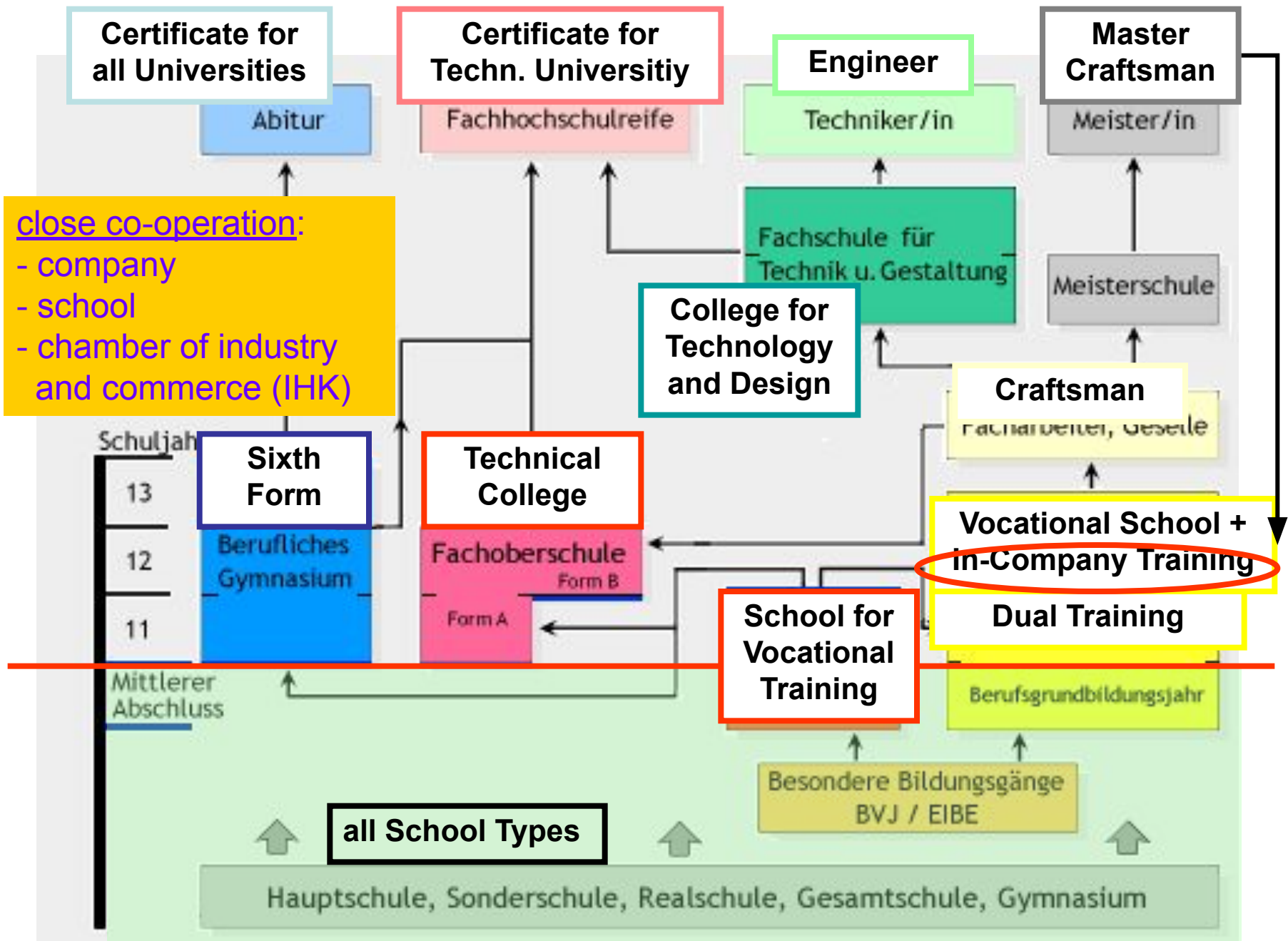
exams:

- 3 written exams
- 1 (+1) oral exams
- (1) presentation / paper

You fail:

- too few points in **exam** or **SC** or **BC**
- a course / an exam **00** points

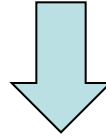




Which way to go?

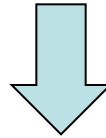


Unemployment?



School should prepare young people for life ...

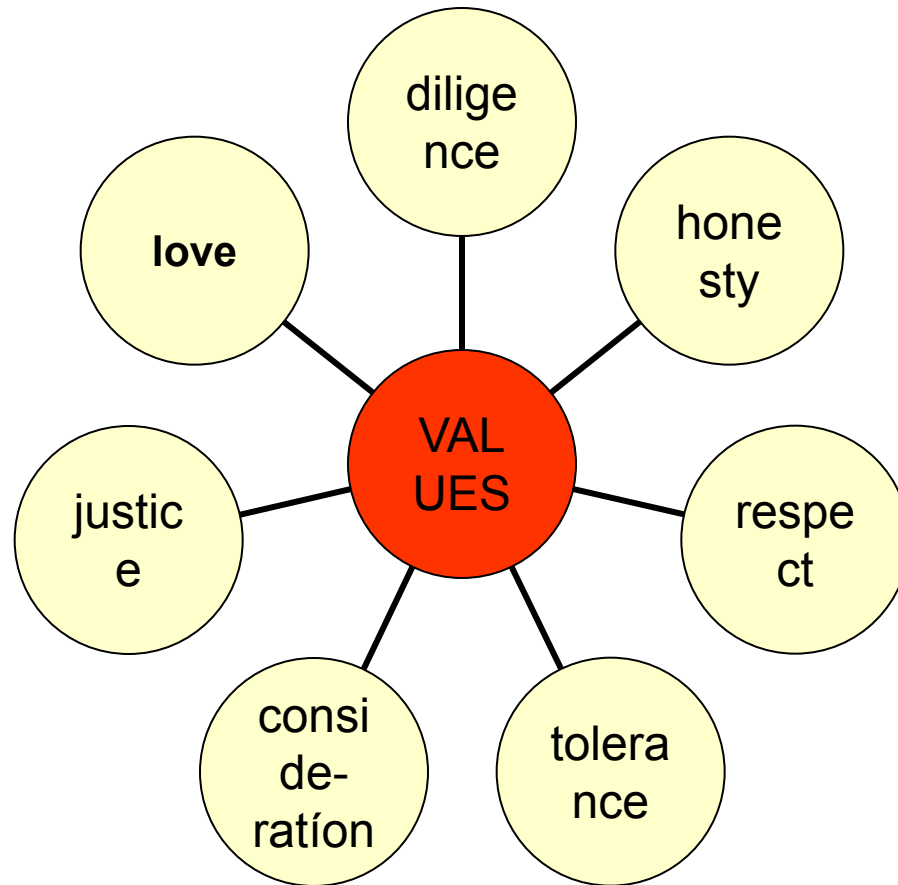
... even life without a (good) job!



only

School does not provide the workforce for the economy ...

... but tries to give the students the skills to live a happy and content life as individuals and members of society.



Education is more than Mathematics and Latin.