



Statement

senior general secondary education ('HAVO') culture and society profile

from 2014 onwards

The aim of this course of education is to ensure that pupils develop in broad sense and to prepare them for entry into higher professional education ('HBO').

Holders of a HAVO diploma may be admitted to an HBO programme (art. 7.24, Higher Education and Research Act, or 'WHW'). Additional requirements may be set for admission to an HBO programme, depending on the profile chosen. In addition, pupils may continue to the fifth year of pre-university education ('VWO'), which prepares pupils to study at a university ('WO'). They can also continue to senior secondary vocational education and training ('MBO').

The study curriculum for HAVO consists of a core phase (the first three years of study) and an advanced phase (years four and five).

This programme has been categorized at level 4 within the Dutch Qualification Framework (NLQF). The NLQF level is comparable to level 4 of the European Qualification Framework (EQF).

NLQF/EQF level:

4

A profile for the advanced phase must be selected at the end of the core phase. A profile consists of a cohesive programme of education which prepares pupils for HBO. Four profiles are available:

- nature and technology
- nature and health
- economics and society
- **culture and society**

For each profile, the education and examination package for HAVO consists of:

- one component which is common to all profiles: the common component;
- a profile-specific component, which is specific to that profile;
- a free-choice component, in which pupils may choose a minimum of one subject, depending on the chosen profile.

In order to enable a comparison between the Dutch system of assessment and the systems of assessment that are in place in other countries, each grade between 1 and 10 is described below:

10 - outstanding	5 - almost satisfactory
9 - very good	4 - unsatisfactory
8 - good	3 - very unsatisfactory
7 - more than satisfactory	2 - poor
6 - satisfactory	1 - very poor

The final examination consists of two parts: the school examination and the central examination. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science determines the programme of examinations for the entire final examination. This includes a decision regarding which material must be examined and how this material is to be divided between the school examination and the central examination. The profile paper is part of the school examination. The paper demonstrates that the pupil has sufficient knowledge, insight and skills in relation to that particular profile. The final examination includes a compulsory arithmetic test. The arithmetic test is separate from the subject of mathematics. The arithmetic test determines whether the pupil has sufficient understanding, knowledge and skills in relation to performing calculations.

The programme has a nominal duration of five years (ages 12 to 17 years). It begins after eight years of primary education (ages 4 to 12 years), and is part of the Dutch system of general secondary education. HAVO is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and is fully funded by national government. This type of education is regulated by the Secondary Education Act ('WVO').