

Abstract: The main aim of this thesis is to describe the French lycées of general education. The first part of this thesis is devoted to the differences and similarities between this specific type of lycées and the other types of lycées. At first, the lycées are situated among the other educational stages, then the evolution of the French educational system is mentioned and finally the different types of lycées are contrasted. Then, in the second part, the structure of these lycées is described as well as the pedagogical staff and several recent issues are indicated. The new educational reform is also incorporated in this section. The last part of this thesis is focused on the grading system and on the final exam “baccalauréat” that ends the secondary education and gives access to the higher education.