Education in Great Britain and the United States

Reifsnyder & Dewhurst
Graduate Post-Secondary Education
NOTE: Adult education programs, while not separately delineated above, may provide instruction at the elementary, secondary, or higher education level. Chart reflects typical patterns of progression rather than all possible variations.

Types of Advanced Degrees

- Professional
  - Law
  - Medicine
  - Pharmacy
  - Theology

- Research
  - M.A.
  - Ph.D.

Some professional degrees carry the title “Dr.”, but this is not to be confused with the “Dr.” title for research doctorates (Ph.D.)
PROFESSIONAL DEGREES
Professional Degree Programs

- **initial phase**
  - coursework or laboratory instruction
  - one to two years

- **advanced phase**
  - advanced coursework and seminars
  - supervised clinical experience or field work

- graduates are required to be certified by the state before practicing their profession

- **dual programs**
Professional Degrees

- **Chiropractic**--Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C. or D.C.M.)
- **Dentistry**--Doctor of Dental Science (D.D.S.) or Doctor of Medical Dentistry (D.M.D.)
- **Law**--Juris Doctor (J.D.)
- **Medicine**--Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)
- **Optometry**--Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)
- **Osteopathy**--Doctor of Osteopathy or Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)
- **Pharmacy**--Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)
- **Podiatry**--Doctor of Podiatry (D.P., Pod.D.) or Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.)
- **Theology**--Master of Divinity (M.Div.) or Hebrew Letters (M.H.L.)
- **Veterinary Medicine**--Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.)
RESEARCH DEGREES

Master & Doctorate
Master’s Degree Programs

- in academic fields and applied research fields
- 1 to 3 years beyond the bachelor’s degree or professional degree
- requirements:
  - completion of advanced coursework
  - completion of a master’s thesis or comprehensive examinations
Master’s Degrees

- Master of Architecture (M.Arch)
- Master of Arts (M.A.)
- Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)
- Master of Education (M.Ed.)
- Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.)
- Master of Theology (Th.M.)
- Master of Library Science (M.L.S.)
- Master of Music (M.M.)
- Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)
- Master of Science (M.S.)
- Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)
- Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)
Research Doctorate Programs

“the highest earned academic degree in U.S. postsecondary education”
Research Doctorate Programs

- initial stage
  - preliminary coursework
  - can have a major, minor, and/or outside minor
- preliminary or comprehensive exams
- ABD status (All but Dissertation)
- dissertation defense
Selected Doctorate’s Degrees

- Doctor of Chemistry (D.Chem.)
- Doctor of Forestry (D.F.)
- Doctor of Geological Science (D.G.S.)
- Doctor of Health and Safety (D.H.S.)
- Doctor of Modern Languages (D.M.L.)
- Doctor of Music (D.M.)
- Doctor of Public Administration (D.P.H.)
- Doctor of Science in Dentistry (D.Sc.D.)
- Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)
- Doctor of Juristic Science (J.S.D.)
- Doctor of Sacred Theology (S.T.D.)
- Doctor of Nursing Science (D.N.Sc.)
- Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.)
- Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
How long does it take?

- Humanities – 8 ½
- Life Sciences – 7
- Math – 7
- Physical Sciences – 7
- Social Sciences – 7½
- Business & Management – 7
- Education – 8
- Engineering – 6 ½

*Note: number of years AFTER receiving a Bachelor’s Degree!!!*
EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

Education and U.S. Law
African Americans

- *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)
  - US supreme court upheld the constitutionality of segregation
  - "separate, but equal" doctrine

- *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*
  - "separate but equal" doctrine for education violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment
  - bussing as a means of desegregating schools
little rock, arkansas
Affirmative Action

- policies or programs to help minorities in the pursuit of jobs, admission to universities or government contracts
- first used in Executive Order 11246
  - "take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin." (Johnson)
- problems with policies that establish quotas or "set-asides" to promote minority candidates
Regents of the University of California v. Bakke

- Allan Bakke applied to the University of California at Davis Medical School.
- He was denied admission even though his test scores were higher than those of several minority applicants who were admitted.
- 16 of the 100 spots were reserved for "disadvantaged" applicants.
- Court ruled that the school must admit Bakke, but it did not ban the use of quotas.
- Prop. 209 (1996)
Religion & Education

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof"
Establishment Clause

- "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion"
- separation of church and state
  - prohibits the government from establishing a national religion
  - court is free to interpret the establishment clause
The U.S. Courts have...

**ALLOWED**
- state reimbursements to parents for transporting their children to parochial schools
- federal aid for constructing churches on religiously-affiliated college campuses
- "dismissed time"
- tax deductions to parents for parochial school tuitions

**NOT ALLOWED**
- prayer in public schools
- direct state aid to parochial schools
- no posting of the ten commandments
- no daily minute of silence for prayer and meditation
Free Exercise Clause

"Congress shall make no law ... prohibiting the free exercise thereof"

government won't interfere with a citizen's right to practice religion

government must remain neutral with regards to religion

**Wisconsin vs. Yoder (1972)**
Scopes “Monkey” Trial

- John T. Scopes arrested in Tennessee for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution in public school
- Scopes is fined $100
- Tennessee SC reversed the decision of the lower court one year later, but on a technicality
- Eventually theory is permitted in schools
LANGUAGE & EDUCATION
Meyer vs. Nebraska

- series of state laws banning German from schools
  - Ohio law (1839)
  - Wisconsin’s Bennett Law (1889)
  - Edwards Law in Illinois (1889)
- US Supreme Court decided on June 4, 1923:
  - 14th amendment guaranteed parents the right to have their children taught in a language other than English
Current Situation

- Many schools have teachers of English as a second language or some kind of tutor program.
- Bilingual schools for areas with high density of non-English schools (e.g., Southern California).
- The tradition European curriculum has been opened up to material from other cultures (African, Asian, Hispanic).
Dumbing Down the Curriculum

Problems
- A steady decline in the average test scores
- Increase in "functionally illiterate"

Reasons for this Decline
- More elective courses
- Television
- Lack of money to pay good teachers
- Students are given easier material to work with
Solutions to the Problem

- lengthen the school year and school day
- formulate a new core curriculum
- raise the standards of performance
- George Bush's 1989 plan ⇒ "Goals 2000"
- George W. Bush's program ⇒ No Child Left Behind