

# *The Prestige of British Education*

*Similarities and Differences between US and UK Education*



**D U C E R E**  
GLOBAL BUSINESS SCHOOL

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## The Prestige of British Universities

British Universities are renowned for their world class reputation. In fact, 4 of the top 10 ranked universities in the world are located in London alone.

British education prides itself on constantly striving to adapt and evolve to the needs of modern learners.

## The Origins of US Higher Education

The higher education system in the USA was modeled on the British system. The UK has been the basis for higher education standards in other countries for centuries. In fact the city that is home to Harvard, MIT and other notable institutions, was named Cambridge, in honor of the British University.

“ *Sitting at the top of the world rankings, UK universities have a reputation for developing the skills that employers are looking for.*

*BritishCouncil.us*

Thousands of international students study in the UK each year, being the second most popular study destination for overseas students. A world-class education and solid job prospects are what a British degree will provide for you at a minimum.

Holding a British degree will set you apart in today’s competitive job market, regardless of the country you are in.

More information, visit:

[ducere.education](https://ducere.education)

[www.studying-in-uk.org](https://www.studying-in-uk.org)

[BritishCouncil.us](https://BritishCouncil.us)

“ *British qualifications are acceptable in Yale and Harvard, says Moriarty. They are a currency and you can trade them across the world.*

*Forbes, ‘Why The World Loves A British Education’*

## British and US Education - Similarities and Differences

The British and US higher education systems have a lot in common with a shared history. They are both considered the most prestigious education systems in the world. However there are also some fundamental differences, in particular:



### Bachelor Degrees

At the Bachelor's level, there are some significant differences between the two systems.

#### Time to Graduate

##### BRITISH

- » Standard 3 years, and various accelerated options cater for completion within 2 years.

##### US

- » Standard 4 year format, although actual graduation is between 5-6 years.

#### Specialization

##### BRITISH

- » The British education system has far greater flexibility. Students who wish to undertake a broad based humanities education, or undertake various electives may do so, similarly to the US system. However the British system also allows for specialization, if a student wishes to study only dentistry, or marketing for example, they may do so, without the necessity of any GE's.

##### US

- » The US System is categorized as a liberal arts college education. Irrespective of a students passions or career goals, they are mandated to undertake an extensive array of general education courses (GE's) taking approximately two years.
- » Requirements include: Algebra, Calculus, Foreign Language, History, Sciences amongst other disciplines.

## Masters Degrees

The level of education and focus on a specialized field are similar in both systems. One of the significant differences is in the entry to a Masters program.

### BRITISH

- » Academic pathway, with similar provisions to the US system
- » Management Experience: Entry under Management Experience recognises that years of extensive management experience equates to the same readiness (arguably better preparation) as a bachelors degree. Entry by experience is not an easier entry option, as the experience can often require more than 5 years of demonstrated management expertise.

### US

- » The US requires an academic path as entry to a Masters. This is in the form of a Bachelors degree as a minimum standard. Universities often have even stricter academic entry criteria including the GPA of the bachelors degree and also sitting a GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test).



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*It seems ironic, that schools would gladly invite Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg or Richard Branson, to give an expert lecture to MBA students, but those same institutions would refuse them entry to the same program.*

*Mat Jacobson,  
Founder & CEO, Dūcere*

## Conclusion

Ultimately both the US and UK systems of education are the best standard in the world. Neither is better or worse, they offer differences which is the best possible outcome for the consumer. Different students will have different expectations and goals. Choosing the right education environment, and ultimately the right university, is based on meeting the personal learning styles of each individual.

*Ducere and its global university partners offer degrees to cater for every stage of career development*

