Higher Education (Enseignement supérieur)

Places

University or Uni

Ex: Which uni was she at?

College

(US) a university where you can study for an undergraduate(= first) degree

EX : to go to college [ˌʌndəˈgrædjʊɪt]

(UK) University division (faculté)

Degrees

Bachelor's degrees or undergraduate courses

BA (Bachelor of Arts): 3 years

→ a first university degree(= qualification) in the arts or social sciences, or someone who has this degree Ex : She has a BA in History from the University of Sussex.

BSc (Bachelor of Science): 3 years

→ a first-level university degree in science Ex : a BSc in geology/chemistry/biology

It takes four years to get a bachelor's degree in the US, on more year than in England.

In America, the first year of a degree is known as the Freshman year, the second as the Sophomore year, the third as the Junior year and the final year as the Senior year. ['sof.ə.mɔːr]

Postgraduate Courses

MA (Master of Arts): 1 year

→ an advanced college or university degree in a subject such as literature, language, history, or social science, or a person who has this degree

Ex: He has an MA in linguistics

MSc (Master of Science): 1 year

→ an advanced college or university degree in a scientific subject, or a person who has this degree EX : She has/is doing/is studying for an MSc in biochemistry.

PHD (Doctor of philosophy): 3 years

→ the highest college or university degree, or someone who has this

EX: He has a PhD in Italian literature.

She's a PhD.

Words and expressions to remember

To sit (for) an exam/ To take an exam

To pass an exam ‡ to fail an exam

An undergraduate (a student who is studying for their first degree at a college or university)

A graduate (a person who has a first degree from a university or college)

A postgraduate (étudiant de troisième cycle)

Graduate school (école supérieure de troisième cycle)