

Contents

<i>Preface & Acknowledgments</i>	i
--	---

CHAPTER ONE: The Higher Education System of the United Kingdom

Brief Historical Summary	1
Structure of Higher Education in the UK	3
Higher Education Awards and Qualifications	4
Certificate Level	4
Intermediate Level	4
Honours Level	5
Masters Level	5
Doctoral Level	5
<i>The number of levels in the framework</i>	6
Legislation and Major Policy Directions	6
The Robbins Report 1963	6
<i>Acts of Parliament and White Papers</i> <i>(government policy intentions)</i>	6
<i>Education Reform Act 1988</i>	7
<i>Further and Higher Education Act 1992</i>	8
<i>Higher Education in the Learning Society</i> <i>(The Dearing Report) 1997</i>	8
<i>Government response to the</i> <i>Dearing Report 1998</i>	10
<i>Higher Education for the 21st Century</i> <i>Response to the Dearing Report</i>	11
<i>Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998</i>	11
White Paper: The Future of Higher Education 2003	11
<i>Higher Education Act 2004</i>	11
<i>Governance</i>	13
Funding of Higher Education	13
Research Funding	15
<i>Funding from the Department of Health</i>	15
<i>Teacher Training Agency</i>	15
Student Finance	15
Widening Participation	16
Curricula and Pedagogic Issues	17
<i>Specialization</i>	18

<i>Methods of Assessment</i>	18
<i>Degree Classifications and GPA Equivalency</i>	18
<i>Modular Degree Structures</i>	19
Credit Accumulation and Transfer	19
<i>Foundation Degrees</i>	20
Academic Staff (Faculty)	21
<i>The Higher Education Academy</i>	21
<i>The Leadership Foundation</i>	21
Quality and Standards	22
<i>The Quality Assurance Agency for</i> <i>Higher Education (QAA)</i>	22
<i>The External Examiner System</i>	24
<i>Teaching Quality Information</i>	24
<i>Qualitative data includes:</i>	24
Admissions to Higher Education	24
<i>European and International Students</i>	26
<i>Curriculum 2000</i>	26
<i>The Schwartz Report 2004</i>	26
Measuring and Recording	27
Student Achievement	27
<i>Progress Files</i>	27
<i>Transcripts</i>	27
<i>Personal Development Planning (PDP)</i>	28
Research	28
Competition and Enterprise in Higher Education	28
<i>Science and Innovation White Paper 2000</i>	28
<i>The Lambert Review</i>	29
The UK and Europe	29
<i>The Bologna Process</i>	30

CHAPTER TWO:

Scotland	33
Brief Historical Summary	33
The School Education System	34
State Schools	34
Independent Schools	35
Public Examinations	36

University Entrance	36	Independent Schools	55
Undergraduate Degree Structure	37	Higher Secondary Schools:	
Higher Education Awards and Qualifications	37	Sixth Form Colleges.....	55
Funding of Undergraduate Study.....	38	Higher Secondary Schools: Tertiary Colleges.....	55
Postgraduate Study.....	38	Colleges of Further Education	
Funding of Postgraduate Study.....	39	Fourteen to Nineteen.....	55
Political Context, Funding and Governance	40	Awards and Qualifications	56
CHAPTER THREE:		Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA)....	56
Further Education	41	Edexcel	56
Structure of Further Education.....	41	Oxford, Cambridge and	
Landmarks in Further Education	42	RSA Examinations (OCR).....	57
<i>The Further and Higher Education Act 1992</i>	42	Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC)	57
<i>Education Act 1996</i>	43	Council for the Curriculum, Examinations	
<i>Learning to Succeed 1999</i>	43	and Assessment (CCEA).....	57
<i>Why Change Was Necessary</i>	43	General Certificate of	
Funding of Further Education.....	44	Secondary Education (GCSE).....	57
<i>Learning and Skills Act 2000</i>	44	General Certificate of Education Advanced	
The Learning and Skills Council (LSC)	44	and Advanced Subsidiary Levels	
<i>The framework</i>	44	(A- levels and AS- levels)	58
LearnDirect.....	45	University of Cambridge International	
QCA National Qualifications		Examinations (CIE).....	60
Framework FE/HĒ	46	City and Guilds of London Institute (CGLI)	60
Further Education Developments 2005	46	The Royal Society of Arts (RSA).....	60
<i>Learning and skills—</i>		London Chamber of Commerce and Industry	
<i>The Agenda for Change 2005</i>	46	(LCCI).....	61
<i>Realizing the Potential 2005</i>		Pitman Examinations Institute (PEI)	61
<i>(the Foster Report)</i>	46	The National Council for	
CHAPTER FOUR:		Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ)	61
Secondary Education.....	47	The Qualifications and	
From the 1944 Education Act to		Curriculum Authority (QCA).....	61
the 1988 Education Reform Act.....	47	National Assessment Agency (NAA)	62
The Education Reform Act of 1988.....	49	<i>GCSE and A/AS Levels</i>	62
The National Curriculum.....	49	National Qualifications Framework (NQF).....	63
The Tomlinson Report 2004.....	51	Framework Developments in Scotland,	
14-19 Education and Skills White Paper 2005	52	Wales and Northern Ireland	63
Higher Standards, Better Schools for All		Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted)	63
White Paper 2005.....	54	CHAPTER FIVE:	
The Structure of Secondary Education		Professional Qualifications	65
in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.....	54	Historical Perspective	65
School Years.....	54	Categories of Qualifications.....	66
Comprehensive Secondary Schools.....	54	<i>Regulated Professional Qualifications</i>	66
County Grammar Schools	54	<i>Professional Qualifications</i>	66
Secondary Modern Schools	55	<i>Other Professions</i>	66
Voluntary Secondary Schools	55	<i>Structure of Qualifying Associations</i>	67
City Technology Colleges	55	Royal Charters and Chartered Bodies.....	67
		Notes to Admissions Officers	
		and Credential Evaluators	67
		The Langlands Review	69

Examples of Professional Bodies.....	69
<i>Chartered Management Institute (CMI)</i>	69
<i>Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)</i>	69
<i>Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD)</i>	69
<i>General Medical Council (GMC)</i>	70
<i>Royal College of Nursing (RCN)</i>	70
<i>Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)</i>	70
<i>Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)</i>	70
<i>Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE)</i>	70
<i>Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)</i>	70
<i>Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)</i>	71
<i>Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)</i>	71
<i>Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)</i>	71
The Law Society of England and Wales.....	71
The Bar Council.....	72

Appendices

<i>Appendix A:</i> Abbreviations/ Acronyms	73
<i>Appendix B:</i> Higher Education Institutions in the United Kingdom	77
<i>Appendix C:</i> Further Education Colleges in the United Kingdom	81
<i>Appendix D:</i> The Structure of the National Qualifications Framework	89
The Significance of NQF Levels.....	89
The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications	89
Framework developments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	90
Proposed Level Indicators in the NQF	90
Framework for Achievement.....	90
<i>Appendix E:</i> Professional Bodies and Learned Societies.....	93
<i>References</i>	97