

DEGREES

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company's entry-level positions are in engineering, accounting and marketing. The company produces bar code scanning devices for shopping market chains.

The company hires both people with bachelor's degrees and those with master's degrees in business administration, depending on the position. Sometimes it's preferable to hire someone with just a bachelor's degree because "the price tag on an M.B.A. would be higher," Hopwood said.

"We're not a company known with being obsessed with hiring M.B.A.s, though we have been known to hire our share of them," he said. "Some positions need the exposure of an M.B.A."

Julie Stokes, U.S. Bank administrative assistant in human resources, said the company places most of their new employees in management and commercial loan training programs. Experience in banking is just as much an asset as an M.B.A. in business, she said.

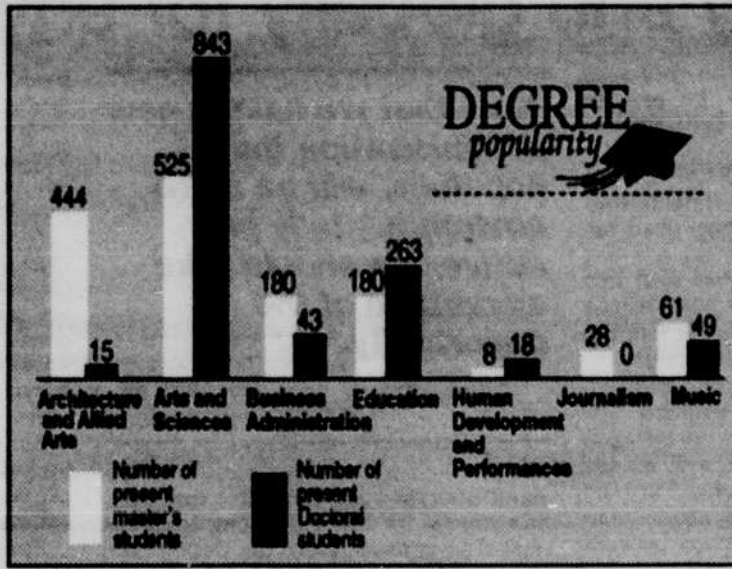
"You don't need to have one to get a job in the field of banking," Stokes said. "But as in any field, if you continue your education, it can open more doors for you."

Francoise Calin, romance languages department director, said graduate students in the department typically want to become college professors. But a bachelor's degree in a foreign language can "definitely" give students not planning on being professors an edge in the job market, she said.

"My feeling is a B.A. in a foreign language helps them get a job anywhere," Calin said. "For teaching it is not enough. Our B.A.s are not becoming teachers. They're going into teaching or going to graduate school or they go to work at travel agencies."

Students who want to be foreign language teachers at the high school level should get master's degrees, Calin said. Those who want to be university professors should earn doctoral degrees, she said.

Just like a romance languages



Many students at the UO clearly have graduate programs in mind, but many of them are not clear about which program meets their needs.'

— Larry Smith, Career Planning and Placement director

bachelor's degree, a mathematics bachelor's degree does not prepare students for much of a career in that field without additional schooling, said Frank Anderson, head of the mathematics department. But he said many students get some technical training and bachelor's degrees in math, and then go on to work in aerospace engineering or electronics.

"With a bachelor's degree in mathematics, a student is really not prepared to go get a job as a mathematician," Anderson said. "Students with a master's degree are more directly employable as mathematicians, and if you're serious about mathematics, you should get a Ph.D."

Anderson also said, however, that students with bachelor's degrees in math can teach at the high school level.

In journalism, more and

more prospective journalists are getting advanced degrees in fields like business and medicine so they can work at specialized publications, said Arnold Ismach, the University School of Journalism dean.

"If you're talking about being a professional or a practitioner, it doesn't serve you to have both a bachelor's and a master's degree in journalism," he said.

But "there's no guarantee and no lure that a graduate degree is going to help," he said.

About 50 years ago, it was common practice for newspapers to hire students with no college degree at all, Ismach said.

Most students who earn a bachelor's degree in biology go on to take some kind of graduate training or schooling, said Charlene Larison, undergraduate biology adviser.

But those who just earn bachelor's degrees in the field can get jobs as biologists with the Fish and Wildlife Department, or as caretakers of a zoo's botanical garden.

Students who want to be biology teachers at the university level need doctoral degrees, Larison said.

Students who want to teach music at a university need doctoral degrees, said Gary Martin, School of Music associate dean. But many students do choose to take their bachelor's degrees and become private music teachers in the community.

Grad students should try different settings

By Tammy Batey
Emerald Associate Editor

German native Christof Romahn, 25, said he came to the United States to earn a doctoral degree to gain some international flavor.

Romahn, who is studying physics at the University, said he thinks it's important to "get out" and explore the world. He is doing this in part by attending graduate school here.

"I came here to get to know another culture and to get another perspective," he said.

Not all students have the money to travel overseas for graduate school as Romahn did. However, most people in academia agree students can gain a much broader perspective of their field and of the world by attending a graduate school at least in a different state from where they earned their bachelor's degree.

Universities often have different theoretical views on a discipline so students can gain a more thorough knowledge of the field if they attend two different schools, said Larry Smith, Career Planning and Service director.

Graduate school is for job preparation, not for enlightenment, as the first four years of college are, Smith said. Students should attend a graduate school because that school's academic department can offer them the most, he said.

But there are exceptions to every rule, Smith said.

"If you know you'll work on the West Coast but you want to see the East Coast, go to school on the West Coast," he said. "It may be the only time you get out there."

Raqueel Karis, 22, earned a bachelor's degree in business at the University and is now working toward a master's in industrial relations at the school.

Karis said she decided to stay at the University because it has one of the best industrial relations programs in the Northwest.

"All of the signals said to stick with it," she said.

The recommendation that students attend a graduate school different from the school where they received a bachelor's degree is "fairly universal," said Frank Anderson, head of the mathematics department. It's recommended even if the university where a student received a bachelor's degree is a "crackerjack institution," he said.

Few students get all three degrees — their bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees — at the University's School of Music, said Gary Martin, School of Music associate dean and director of the graduate program. Students should experience different schools.

"It gives a professional breadth to the doctorate," Martin said. "It shows the student has the ability to succeed at different schools."

"They should attend the same school if it's a very good school, but they'll have a narrower breadth so you give up one advantage for another," he said. "It's a trade-off."

Gita Joshua earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry at Women's Christian College in Madras, India, and a master's degree in French at Miami University at Oxford, Ohio.

Joshua decided to attend graduate school in the United States because the French graduate programs at universities in India focus solely on history and literature.

"I wanted to do more than a bare surface, superficial study of the language," she said.

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