

26.5.2026

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**Title**

Degree classifications in English, Welsh and Northern Irish universities : trends, 1994-95 to 1998-99

**Publication year**

2002

**Source/Footnote**

In: Higher education quarterly. - 56 (2002) 1, S. 92 - 108

**Inventory number**

15169

**Keywords**

Ausland : Großbritannien : Hochschulwesen allgemein ; Ausland : Großbritannien : Studium, Studenten, Lehre

**Abstract**

In order to determine trends in the percentages of good degrees awarded, data showing the awards profiles for the five academic years 1994?95 to 1998?99 for universities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland were analysed by institution and by subject area. Although earlier research had shown a rise in the modal class of honours degree over the period 1973 to 1993, the present analyses demonstrate that, although there is an overall upward trend in the percentage of good degrees, the direction of the trend has varied from subject area to subject area. In seven of 17 subject areas, the upward trend is, statistically, reasonably robust. The trends in individual institutions have varied, probably as a result of differing combinations of influences. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)