AACRAO Cuba Project Presents: Post-Secondary Education in Cuba

TAICEP 2018
Philadelphia
October 2, 1-2:15 PM





Presenters

Melanie Gottlieb

AACRAO International

Martha Van Devender

- Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
- TAICEP Representative

Aleks Morawski

- Foreign Credits
- AICE Representative

Patrick Leahy

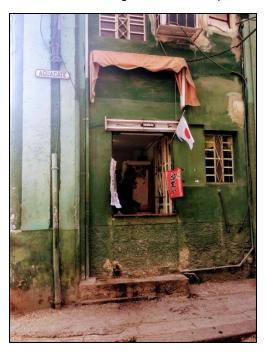
Michigan State University

Tanya Delgado

University of South Florida



Images: Christie Culp





International Research Agenda

Build Institution-Based Expertise & Create Opportunities to Teach

- Winter Institute
- Summer Institute
- Regional Trainings
- Online Courses

Create Opportunities to Publish

- C&U Journal
- SEM Q
- Monographs, Textbooks & White Papers

Create Support for Research

- Gloria Nathanson Grant
- AACRAO Research Grant
- Baden-Württemberg Seminar
- Cuba Project



Image: AACRAO





Image: Christie Culp

The Project



What was this all about?



Image: Christie Culp

Starting in Fall 2017, AACRAO recruited a research team to visit Cuba, including site visits to several Cuban HEIs.

Goals:

- Update AACRAO EDGE profile on Cuba
- Produce a publication on the Cuban educational system
- Present on our findings
- Promote educational exchange



Busquedas Investigativas Academic Explorations

Combination of professional educators and graduate students participating in credit-bearing courses in the US

Focus of exchange is week-long workshop with educational professionals in Cuba, "Researching Cuban Educational Practices"

24th year of the program, largest American contingent ever

Workshop rotates around country, Cubans compete for opportunity to travel/participate, Matanzas was site this year

AACRAO was part of this group.

Most of our group were graduate students from George Washington University and University of Maryland.



Image: Melanie Gottlieb



AACRAO Comparative International Education: The Cuba Project

https://www.aacrao.org/signature-initiatives/cuba

February 17-25, 2018 Havana and Matanzas

- Christopher Adams, Indiana University
- Tanya Delgado, University of South Florida
- Garett Seelinger, NAIA
- Janine Pacheco, University of New Mexico
- Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits/AICE
- Christie Culp, Loyola Marymount University
- Akniet Rysbek Kyzy, Stanford University
- Patrick Leahy, Michigan State University
- Mark Reid, University of Miami
- Martha Van Devender, ECE/TAICEP
- Robert Watkins, University of Texas at Austin
- Melanie Gottlieb, Deputy Director, AACRAO



Image: Christie Culp



Sample Schedule



Image: Christie Culp

Sat: fly to Cuba, meet group

Sun: lectures on Cuban education, bus tour,

Old Havana

Mon: visited University of Havana and ELAM,

more lectures

Tues: more University of Havana, travel to Matanzas, conference opening plus small

groups

Wed: small groups

Thurs: visited special education school, lectures at University of Matanzas, visit with Rector and Secretary General, small groups

Fri: new small group, closing plenary, party

Sat: back to Havana, AACRAO group meeting, another party

Sun: walk around neighborhood, back home

again



Meeting with the Secretaria General & Rector at Universidad de Matanzas



Image: Melanie Gottlieb's Camera





Image: Christie Culp

Introducing Cuba



Country Overview

- Gained independence in 1902
 - in 1898 from Spain, then 1902 from US
- Population: 11,147,407 (July 2017 estimate)
- Largest island in the Caribbean
- Official Language: Spanish
- Capital: Havana
- Administrative Divisions: 15 provinces and 1 special municipality (Isla de la Juventud)
- President: Miguel Díaz-Canel

Sources: CIA World Factbook, Wikipedia



The Educational System

Compulsory Education: through 9th grade (from primary through lower secondary, ages six through fifteen)

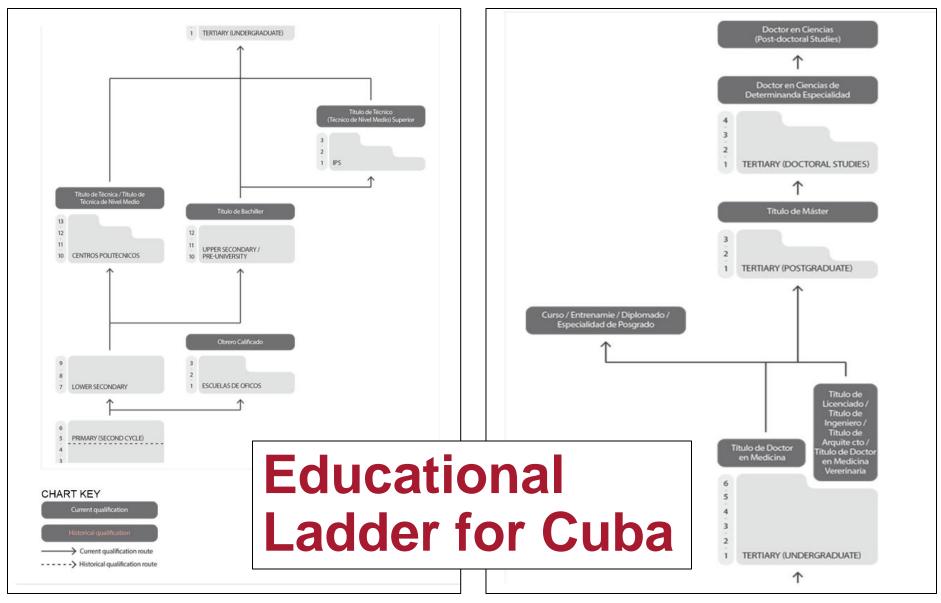
Language of Instruction: Spanish

Administration: *Ministerio de Educación* (Ministry of Education) - http://www.mined.gob.cu/; *Ministerio de Educación Superior* (Ministry of Higher Education) - https://www.mes.gob.cu/

Education is highly centralized.

Curriculum and policy decision making happens in central government ministries. System is influenced by Spanish, U.S., and Soviet educational systems.

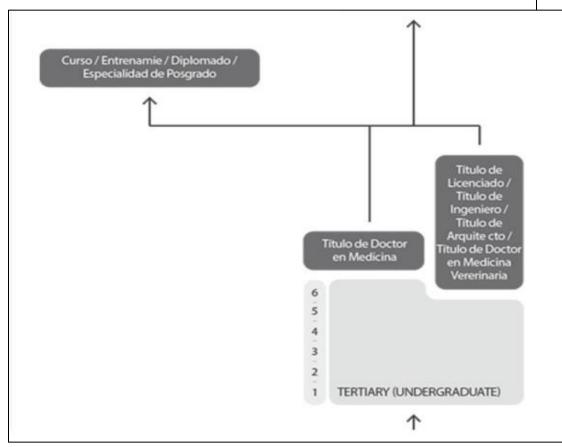




Images: https://www.naric.org.uk/product/International Comparisons/Chart.aspx?CountryID=40&CountryChartID=40



Educational Ladder for Cuba: Post-Secondary



Doctor en Ciencias (Post-doctoral Studies) Doctor en Ciencias de Determinanda Especialidad TERTIARY (DOCTORAL STUDIES) Titulo de Máster TERTIARY (POSTGRADUATE)

Images: https://www.naric.org.uk/product/International Comparisons/Chart.aspx?CountryID=40&CountryChartID=40



First Degrees

Técnico Superior (Higher Technician)

- 2-3 years
- Requires: Bachiller
- Applied in nature
- Does not lead to advanced standing in other post-secondary programs
- Suggested equivalence: Associate's degree? What do you think?

Licenciatura (Licentiate/Bachelor)

- 4-5 years
- Requires: Bachiller
- Suggested equivalence: Bachelor's degree



First Degrees: *Grado* (Undergraduate Education)

Ingeniero (Engineer) / Arquitecto (Architect)

- 5 years
- Requires: Bachiller
- Suggested equivalence: Bachelor's degree

Doctor en Medicina Veterinaria, Estomatologia, or Medicina (Doctor in Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, or Medicine)

- Vet Med & Dentistry 5 years, Medicine 6 years
- Requires: Bachiller
- First professional degrees
- Suggested equivalence: Completion of study in a professional health sciences program, other options?



Posgrado (Graduate Education)

Maestría (Master) / Máster (Master)

- 1-3 years
- Requires grado (first degree)
- Suggested equivalence: Master's degree

Especialista (Specialist)

- Duration varies
- Often seen in health sciences
- May not have grade reports
- Suggested equivalence: Graduate study, Master's degree?



Doctorado (Graduate Education)

Doctor en Ciencias (Doctor in Sciences)

- 3-4 years
- Requires completion of undergraduate education, at least
- Suggested equivalence: Doctorate degree

Doctor en Ciencias Pedagógicas (Doctor in Pedagogical Sciences), other new types of applied doctorado

- 3-4 years
- Suggested equivalence: Doctorate degree





Image: Martha Van Devender

Documentation & Evaluation



Universidad de Matanzas Licenciado

What would this be equivalent to in your country?

Could they get licensed as a professional? What kind?



El Rector de la Universidad de Matanzas "Camilo Cienfuegos"

en uso de las facultades que le están conferidas y a propuesta del Decano de la Facultad, expide el presente Título de

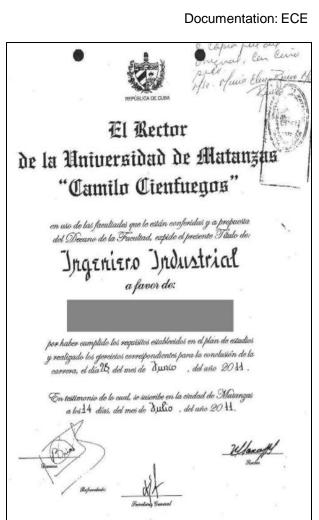
Licenciado en Contabilidad y Finanzas

en altríción a que el mismo ha cumplido los requisilos establecidos para los estudios de la especialidad y ha realizado los ejercicios correspondientes para la culminación de los mismos el díanueve de julio de dos mil nueve.

En testimonio de lo cual, se suscribe en la Ciudad de Matanzas, a los quince días del mes de julio de dos mil nueve.

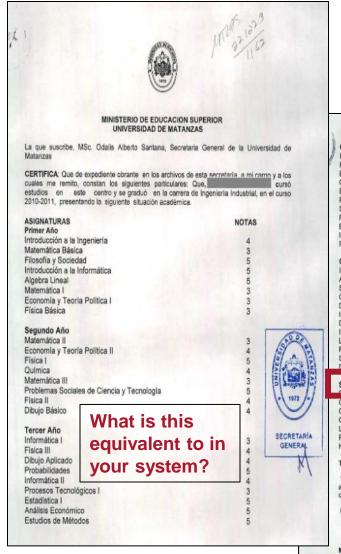




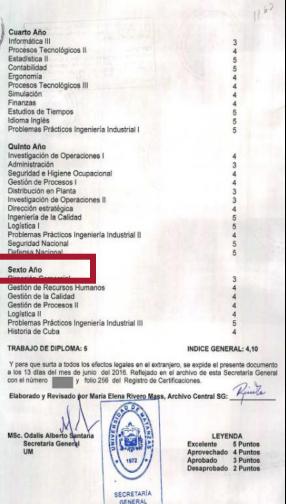


Registrado en tomo ' II. folio 3 23 número

Registrado en tomo I folio 302 número



Ingeniero



Universidad de Matanzas

del Registro de Titulos de la Secretaria General del CES

de la Secretaria de la Facultad de l'icness Estamies e Inflormitio





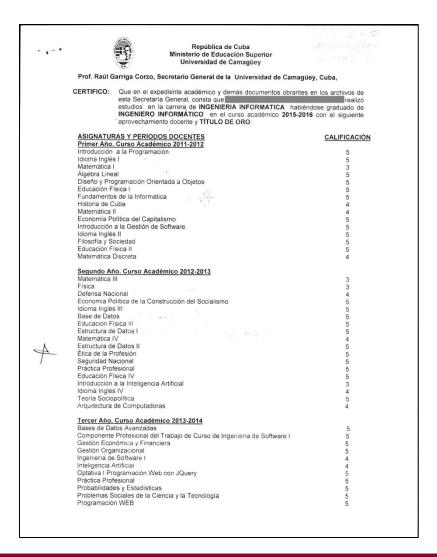
What similarities do you see between these documents? Differences?

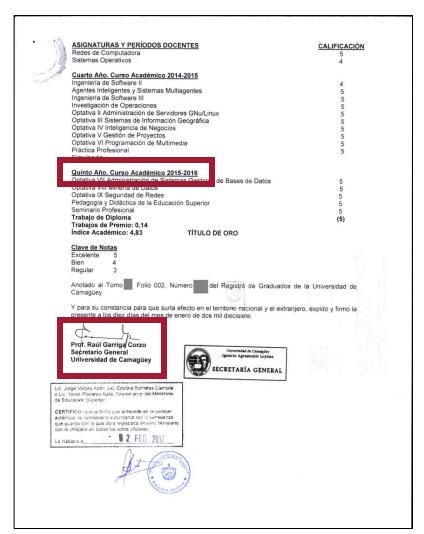
Universidad de Camagüey Ingeniero





Grade report for Engineering program







Where is the weighting?

Credit reconstruction is a reality for Cuban evaluation. Grade reports do not include hours. You may want to ask for them. You may be able to find some information online. You may need to be flexible.



Plan of Studies

- Reported in hours
- Represents national curricula with a portion of the study unique to the student
 - Percentage of unique study depends on era
 - May even be listed just as Elective
- Considered the third essential educational document in Cuba

Do you ask for it? If so, does it have to be official?

Is it essential for an accurate evaluation?

Are you going to talk about this when you get back to your office?

REPÚBLICA DE CUBA MINISTERIO DE EDUCACIÓN SUPERIOR UNIVERSIDAD DE CAMAGUEY

lan temático de la carrera de Informática Curso 2015/2016.

latemática I

lementos de Lógica y conjuntos. Concepto de función de una variable real. Límite, continuidad, erivadas y diferenciales de las funciones de una variable real. Cálculo de Integrales definidas e noropias. Aplicaciones del cálculo diferencial e integral de las funciones de una variable real. otal de horas: 96

latemática II

oncepto de función de varias variables reales. Límite, continuidad, derivadas y diferenciales de las inciones de varias variables. Cálculo Integral de funciones de varias variables. Aplicaciones. Apliaciones del Cálculo diferencial e integral de las funciones de varias variables.

otal de horas: 96

latemática III

cuaciones Diferenciales Ordinarias (EDO). EDO de primer orden. EDO lineales con coeficientes onstantes. Sistemas de EDO lineales con coeficientes constantes. Métodos de solución (incluye ociones sobre métodos operacionales). Series numéricas. Series de funciones: Series de potencias. eries de Taylor. Series de Fourier y aplicaciones. Elementos de la teoría de análisis de algoritmos.

latemática IV

undamentos de los métodos numéricos. Métodos numéricos del Álgebra Lineal: Operaciones con latrices. Sistemas de ecuaciones lineales. Raíces de ecuaciones. Aproximación de funciones. Deriación e integración numérica. Solución de ecuaciones diferenciales. Optimización. otal de horas: 64

Igebra Lineal

ieometría Analítica del plano y del espacio. Rectas, planos, cuádricas, curvas en el espacio y sólios. Sistemas de ecuaciones lineales. Matrices y determinantes. Espacios vectoriales reales. Geneador, base y dimensión. Aplicaciones lineales, matrices y sistemas de ecuaciones lineales. Sistemas e coordenadas y sus cambios vinculados a problemas algebraicos y geométricos otal de horas: 64

robabilidades y Estadística Matemática

roceso y pensamiento estadístico. Tipos de datos. Estadística descriptiva. Introducción a la modeición probabilistica de procesos. Modelos probabilisticos más utilizados, incluyendo la distribución ormal bivariada. Muestreo y distribuciones muéstrales. otal de horas: 84

estión Económica y Financiera

Itroducción a la Contabilidad financiera, su utilización en la dirección de las empresas. La ecuación e la contabilidad. Documentos primarios. La cuenta y los principales libros de la contabilidad. Métos para el tratamiento contable. Principales estados financieros. Capital de trabajo. Financiamiento corto plazo. Contabilidad de costo. Clasificación de costos. Los sistemas de costo. Los costos para l control y la toma de decisiones. Costo estándar. Análisis de desviaciones. Presupuestos de gastos ingresos. Costos relevantes para la toma de decisiones a corto plazo. Análisis de equilibrio y de soto -volumen-utilidad. Evaluación de proyectos de inversión.

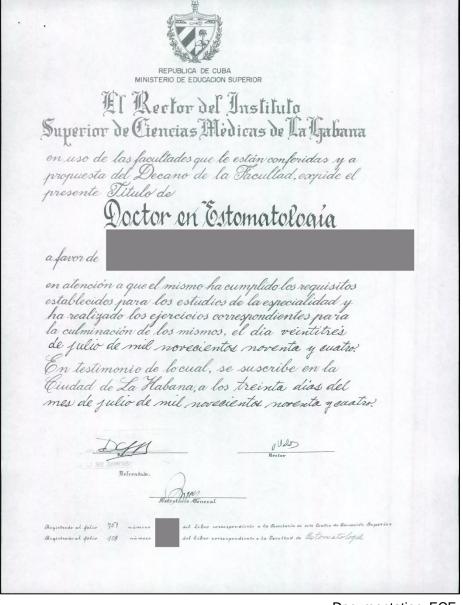
estión Organizacional

troducción a la gestión, enfoques y tendencias. La gestión como proceso, el ciclo administrativo o el gestión: planificación, organización, liderazon y control. Objetivos, la gestión a través de objetivos



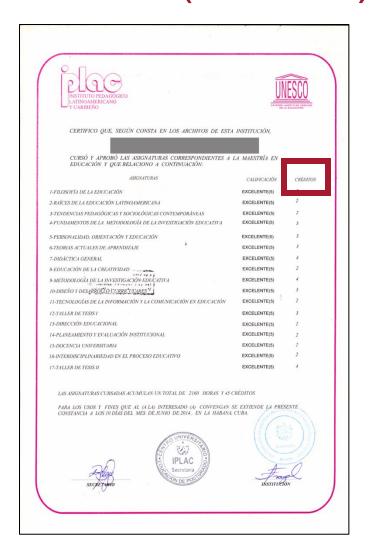
Doctor en Estomatologia (Doctor in Dentistry)

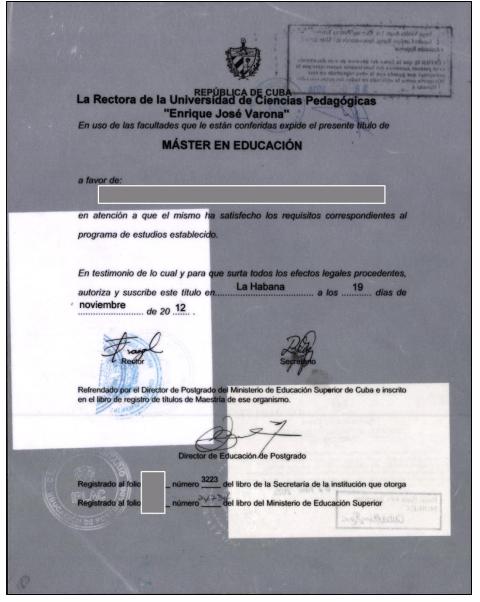
- 5 years of study
- National curriculum
 - Ministry of Higher Education then
 - Ministry of Public Health now
- Allows graduates to practice or go on to further dental studies
- Program included 1-1.5 years of clinical practice
- Reissued transcripts come from UCMH
 - http://instituciones.sld.cu/ucmh/





Máster (Master)







Especialista (Specialist)

- This example might be closer to a residency than an academic degree program.
 - Try to get additional information beyond the degree itself
- Some fields lead to advanced standing in other graduate programs, even doctoral ones.
- This example was awarded the year the medical science institutes were upgraded to universities.





Doctor

- Highest academic degree awarded
- Can include research, & dissertation, coursework, or clinical practice
- National focus on increasing number of doctors produced annually
- Tier with most flexible curricula





Grading Scales

Numbers	Other Numbers	Classification	Suggested US Equivalence
90-100	5	excellent	A
80-89	4	very good	В
70-79	3	good	С
60-69	2	fail, may try again	F
0-59	1	fail, may not try again	F
	90-100 80-89 70-79 60-69	Numbers 90-100 5 80-89 4 70-79 3 60-69 2	Numbers90-1005excellent80-894very good70-793good60-692fail, may try again0-591fail, may not

Most commonly used scales for post-secondary documentation.



How to Evaluate: U.S. Standard

Example: Engineering

When evaluating Cuban education, you need to reconstruct the raw Cuban hours and then convert the hours or credits to your system.

In the case of the program from Camagüey, we ended up **dividing** by 20.

Introduction to Programming

3.25 credits, grade of A

English Language I

1.5 credits, grade of A

Mathematics I

4.75 credits, grade of C

Linear Algebra

• 3.25 credits, grade of A

Object Oriented Design & Programming

· 4 credits, grade of A



Resources – Post-Secondary

- EcuRed- Ministerio de Educación Superior
 - http://www.ecured.cu/Ministerio_d e_Educaci%C3%B3n_Superior# Universidades_y_Centros_de_Inv estigaci.C3.B3n_del_MES
- UNIVERSIA Educación Superior en Iberomérica – Cuba 2016
 - http://www.cinda.cl/wpcontent/uploads/2016/11/CUBA-Informe-Final.pdf
- Ministerio de Educación (Ministry of Education) http://www.mined.gob.cu/
- Ministerio de Educación Superior (Ministry of Higher Education) https://www.mes.gob.cu/
- Anything by Dr. Lou Nunes on Cuba: <u>drloununes@gmail.com</u>

- Portal CubaEduca
 - http://www.cubaeduca.cu/
- OEI Sistemas Educativos Nacionales
 - https://www.oei.es/historico/quipu/c uba/
 - https://www.oei.es/historico/homologaciones/cuba.pdf
- "Education in Cuba" <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Cuba</u>

Paid resources (Including books)

 AACRAO EDGE, UK NARIC International Comparisons, NAFSA Online Guides, Australia Country Education Profiles (also have print volume from 1993 under NOOSR series), IERF New Country Index Vol. II (2011)



Sourcing Documents

Legalization:

- 1. Embassy sends documents to MINREX in Cuba
- 2. Documents come back from MINREX to the embassy
- 3. Embassy legalizes docs with stamps and seals.

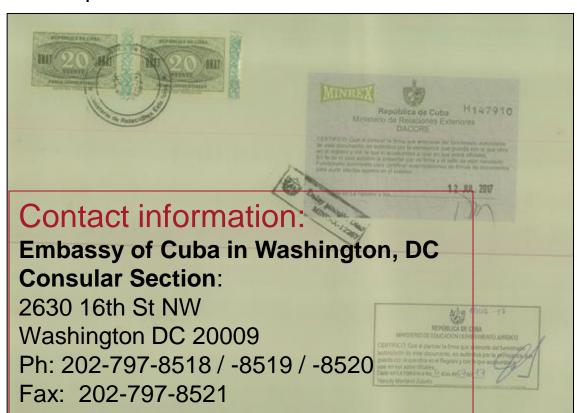
The Embassy of Cuba in Washington, D.C. can help!

Document request:

The embassy can request duplicate diplomas and transcripts directly from Cuba.

Consular services:

http://www.cubadiplomatica.cu/ eeuu/ES/ServiciosConsulares. aspx#LEGACERTCUBA





Legalization & Certification

To take effect abroad, Cuban documents must first be legalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINREX) and then by our consulate. That is why, when you need to legalize a document, you can do it through our consulate, so you must:

- Present the original document legalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Postal Money Order for \$ 40.00 USD to legalize at the consulate.
- If you have the document, the consulate offers the service of sending it to the Foreign Ministry to legalize, which has a cost of \$25.00 USD, just for shipping.
- When the document legalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, you will be contacted to send a Postal Money Order of \$80.00 USD (\$40.00 USD Minrex legalization and \$40.00 USD for legalization at the consulate).
- Remember that if you do not pick up at the consulate, you must add a Postal Money Order in the amount of \$ 20.00 (non-personal pending).
- Do not forget the return envelope.





Stamps & Seals





Documentation: Foreign Credits

New format since 2016



Cuban Sources of Legalized Documents

Consultoría Jurídica Internacional (Casa no. 1)

- Calle 16 No. 314 e/ 3ra y 5ta
- Miramar, Playa, Ciudad Habana
- Phone: (+53) 7204-1318
- (+53) 7204-8402
- FAX: (+53) 7204-2303
- E-MAIL: jashna@cji.cu

Consultoría Jurídica Internacional (Casa no. 2)

- Calle 22 no. 108 e/1ra y 3ra
- Miramar, Playa, Ciudad Habana
- Phone: (+53) 7204-5906/ (+53) 7204-5702
- Fax: (+53) 7204-5721/ (+53) 7204-5717
- E-MAIL: gquintana@cij.cu

Bufete de Servicios Especializados

- 23 y J Vedado, Ciudad Habana
- Phone: (+53) 7832-6813 / (+53) 7832-6024
- Fax: (+53) 7833-2159
- F-MAIL: besnet@enet.cu or nuris@bes.onbc.cu

Bufete Internacional

- Ave. 5ta no. 4002 Esq. a 40
- Playa, Ciudad Habana
- Phone: (+53) 7204-5126/27
- (+53) 7204-5736/37
- Fax: (+53) 7204-5125
- E-MAIL: bufete@bufeteinternacional.cu

How do you get Cuban documentation?



What documents do you even need?

- Certified transcript
- Diploma
- Plan of studies or syllabus
- Translations
- All certified or only some certified
- Some version of the above

Much of this is determined by institutional policy.





Image: Garrett Seelinger

Field of Study Focus: Teacher Training



Developments in Teacher Training (I)

Cuba has always spent time and resources on education.

- Since before revolution
- Important aspect of their culture
 - 2nd largest chunk of the national budget

Institutos Pedagogicos (Pedagogical Institutes) were created in 1970's

- Start training students as early as grade 10 to become teachers
- Could work as teachers upon graduation
- Credentials equivalent to academic upper secondary
- Leads to further studies in Education



Developments in Teacher Training (II)

Ministry of Education has been constantly improving the teacher training system.

- Provide better services to students interested in the pedagogical sciences
- Now students need to pass national exam for entry to post-secondary program in Education
- Training upgraded to also occur in *Institutos Pedagógicos Superiores* (Higher Pedagogical Institutes).

In early 2000s, urgent need for teachers brought a new tendency called the "emergent" teacher.

- Start training students as early as grade 9 to become teachers
- Could work as primary education teachers upon graduation
- Students placed in schools within their own communities
- Credentials equivalent to academic upper secondary
- Leads to further studies in Education



Education Credentials

Licenciado en Educación (Licentiate in Education)

- Offered at Universidades de Ciencias Pedagógicas & Institutos Superiores Pedagógicos
- Current plan of studies is 4 years, has been 5 in the past
- Programs exist for elementary, primary, secondary, & special education instructors

Máster en Educación (Master in Education)

- Offered by Centro de Estudios para el Perfeccionamiento de la Educación Superior (CEPES)
- For students who want to be education researchers or university professors
- Requires entrance & exit exam, plus dissertation

Doctor en Ciencias Pedagógicas (Doctor in Pedagogical Sciences)

- Offered by Universidad de La Habana and CEPES offices across the country
- Relatively new types of degree
- More popular than the Master
- Pedagogical Sciences and Education Sciences tracks
- Requires entrance & exit exam, plus dissertation









El Rector de la Universidad de Ciencias Pedagógicas "Félix Varela Morales"

en uso de las facultades que le están conferidas y a propuesta del Decano de la Facultad, expide el presente Título de:

> Licenciado en Educación Humanidades

> > a favor de:

por haber cumplido los requisitos establecidos en el plan de estudio y realizado los ejercicios correspondientes para la conclusión de la carrera, el día 12, del mes de julio , del año 2011.

En lestimonio de lo cual, se suscribe en la ciudad de Santa Clara a los 12 días, del mes de julio , del año 2011 .

AM Decano

Rector .

Refrendado.

Gristiffs Secretario General

Registrado en tomo folio 022 número del Registro de Titulos de la Secretaria General del CES
Registrado en tomo / folio 802 número de la Secretaria de la Facultad de La Facultad de la Cercetaria de la Facultad de La

	La Rectora de la Universidad de Ciencias Pedagógicas "Enrique José Varona" En uso de las facultades que le están conferidas expide el presente título de
	MÁSTER EN EDUCACIÓN
	a favor de:
	en atención a que el mismo ha satisfecho los requisitos correspondientes al
	programa de estudios establecido.
	autoriza y suscribe este título en
	Refrendado por el Director de Postgrado del Ministerio de Educación Superior de Cuba e inscrito en el libro de registro de títulos de Maestria de ese organismo.
	en el libro de registro de títulos de Maestria de ese organismo.
(i)	en el libro de registro de títulos de Maestria de ese organismo. Director de Educación de Postgrado
in the state of th	en el libro de registro de títulos de Maestría de ese organismo.

Education Degrees

Documentation: ECE





Image: Melanie Gottlieb

Further Thoughts on Cuban Education

Cuban Medical Internationalism

- Since the 1959
 Revolution, with
 socialized health system
- Two fold approach
 - Send Cuban medical personnel abroad
 - Bring medical students & patients to Cuba
- Medical workers are Cuba's most important export commodity.
- Humanitarian aid & disaster relief
- Priority of educational system



Image: Garrett Seelinger

Escuela Latinoamericana de Medicina (ELAM)



ELAM (I)

Founded in 1999 as Escuela Latinoamericana de Ciencas Medicas

Only international students (non-Cubans) are eligible to enroll.

Students participate in medical school program leading to the **Doctor en** *Medicina* degree.

124 countries represented, most are from Africa, many from Latin America, & the U.S. is represented!

Language of Instruction: Spanish, with intensive language instruction for non-Spanish speakers Most students start after completing high school. U.S. students start after college, to align with U.S. residency system.

Follows Cuban national curriculum for medicine

Free of charge, includes support from students' home countries



ELAM (II)

ELAM Program Structure:

- Phase One: Years one and two focus on study, including study with patients and community.
- Phase Two: Years three, four, five, and six, students are placed in different medical universities in Cuba to continue studies. Receiving institutions may conduct entrance exam before admitting and/or look for certain courses to be completed before making admit decision. This phase is dedicated to learning via on the job, clinical training.

Students receive diploma of doctor en medicina, signed by the university rector, after they finish the full six years of medical education.

Students go back to home countries to work as doctors, preferably in low income or underserved communities.

U.S. students typically finish their residency programs in the U.S., after which they become licensed. Ideally, they work with populations who have issues accessing our health system through traditional methods.



Sociocultural Context of Education

"For the greater good"

- Education at all levels is free and meant to be accessible
- Expectation is for students to contribute back to society (both Cuba and the wider world) after completing their education
- Opportunities are available based on demand established by government's strategic plan

Values education is integrated into all subjects throughout educational career

- Everyone is involved in this process—family to community members
- Goal to establish "Cubanity" throughout a student's education
- Educating students on morality and social behavior will create a better Cuba society overall



Image: Martha Van Devender



Constant State of Improvement

- Ongoing reforms and changes to the educational system
- Many changes are enshrined in law and apply to the entire education system.
- Constant fluctuations make it difficult to determine what is happening when things do change
 - Structurally
 - As evidenced in educational documentation

1976 Primer Perfeccionamiento de la Educación Cubana

 Creation of the Ministerio de Educación Superior with emphasis on quality of university programs

Segundo Perfeccionamiento de la Educación Cubana

 Inclusion of information technology in the education process

2010 Tercer Perfeccionamiento de la Educación Cubana (2010)

Transformation of teaching methods

Agenda 2030



Education for All

- Legacy of the literacy campaign
 - Exceedingly high literacy rate
- Enshrined in law
 - Teachers are upgrading their credentials to accommodate needs of students
- Role of the final exams in Math, History, & Spanish
 - Other placement exams
- Top 10 choices of major
 - Are they geographically limited?
 - Individual vs. societal needs



Image: Janine Pacheco



Technology in Education

Technology in education for workforce development vs. holistic education

Technology in classrooms is limited (by developed nation standards)

Lack of ready internet access provides significant limitations

Striking technological differences in library environments, including at post-secondary institutions



Questions?



Image: AACRAO

Thank you!



Contact Us!

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Patrick Leahy

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Tanya Delgado

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Melanie Gottlieb

gottliebm@aacrao.org



Image: Garrett Seelinger

