

DEGREE QUALIFICATIONS OF BUSINESS LAW TEACHERS

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For many years, whether or not Business Law teachers should hold a law degree has been a favorite topic wherever Business Law teachers meet. In some quarters, particularly in schools which are members of the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the almost universal consensus is that only holders of law degrees should be used as Business Law teachers. In schools outside of the AACSB membership, the opinions are in conflict.

This study was undertaken to establish the extent to which the various schools offering an organized curriculum in business had progressed toward the use of holders of law degrees. The material presented herein covers 472 teachers in 173 different schools. Schools which do not offer an organized curriculum in business were not included in the study.

Most of the information reported was collected by the circulation of a questionnaire during the fall semester of the 1954-1955 session. Direct inquiries were made of several deans where the information could not be obtained with accuracy elsewhere. In a few instances, reliance was of necessity placed on the current bulletin of the school involved. The information for the member schools of the AACSB was checked against the Association's directory, Faculty Personnel, Seventh Edition, 1955.

Table I is a tabulation of the degrees held by the Business Law teachers in the 76 schools that were members of the AACSB during the 1954-1955 session. It does not include the schools which were admitted to membership at the 1955 annual meeting of the Association.

Perhaps the most important fact demonstrated by Table I is the overwhelming use of law degree holders as Business Law teachers.

The two Ph.D.'s reported may not show the full extent to which nonlawyers are used over a longer period of time. Some deans replied that specified teachers who did not hold a law degree "taught an occasional section." More than 20 teachers who do not hold law degrees listed Business Law as a field in the 1955 edition of the AACSB's directory. The listing, in most cases, means no more than that they have taught Business Law in the past or that they would like to teach it in the future.

One of the Ph.D.'s listed is the only Business Law teacher at his school. The other is on a large staff that includes several law degree holders.

Three of the law school seniors reported represented the entire Business Law staff of one member school. Two other schools used one each as part-time instructors.

The small number of law school seniors reported probably represents the low watermark since 1946. Immediately following World War II several of the larger schools employed law school seniors on a part-time basis to teach the extra sections that were necessary to care for the returning veterans. Because of the widely predicted increase in enrollment from the present to 1970, it is very likely that the law school senior will play a much larger role than Table I indicates at the present time.

Since the holder of an LL.B. is terminally qualified under the AACSB standards, it would be expected, as Table I indicates, that the great bulk of teachers would hold only the LL.B. or the J.D. degrees. For the same reason, it would seem unnecessary to hold more than the LL.B. or J.D.

Some of the LL.B.'s are not backed by the bachelors degree. This is accounted for by the fact that most law schools will register students who have earned less than a college degree. A few law schools will still register students who have only two years at the undergraduate level.

Most of the LL.B.'s and all of the J.D.'s are backed by a bachelors degree of some type. In all of the tables the letters B.S. are used to indicate any degree at the bachelors' level.

Thirty-nine teachers hold a law degree plus a non-law degree at the masters level. The tabulation is broken down into M.B.A.'s and M.S.'s. The letters M.S. are used to indicate any degree at the masters level except the M.B.A. Where a teacher holds the M.S. or M.B.A. degree, the degree at the bachelors' level is omitted.

Twenty-eight teachers hold some form of graduate law degree. Of these twenty-eight, six also hold the A.M. Twelve teachers hold both the Ph.D. and a law degree. Two hold the Ph.D. and a graduate law degree.

Special mention should be made of the City College of New York. It accounts for 20 of the teachers in the tabulation. Seven of the eight J.S.D.'s appearing in Table I are from that school. The high degree qualifications of the teachers at this one school might make the

tabulation misleading unless some mention is made of its position.¹

Table II is a tabulation of the degrees held by the Business Law teachers in 66 schools which are organized as separate schools of business under a dean or director but which are not members of the AACSB. A few of these schools were admitted to membership in the AACSB at the 1955 annual meeting. Several others are preparing themselves for membership.

The most significant fact demonstrated by Table II is the relatively large number of teachers who do not hold law degrees. Approximately one out of eight teachers are nonlawyers, as against one out of thirty-two for member schools. In addition, most of the nonlawyer teachers hold only the master's degree.

As in Table I, however, the great bulk of teachers hold the LL.B. or J.D. Also, Table II reports approximately the same percentage with more than the law degree as was reported in Table I.

Tables IIa and IIb are tabulations of the same teachers covered by Table II with a breakdown on the basis of whether or not the teacher was employed full or part time. Practically all of the part-time teachers hold the law degree. The one teacher reported without a law degree is said to have a substantial amount of credit toward a law degree.

Table III shows the results of the study among institutions having a well defined department or division of business, the work of which has not been organized at a college or school level. The chart speaks for itself, although attention is directed to the fact that the percentage of non-law degree teachers increases roughly to one in four.

1. A similar study, covering only the member schools of the AACSB, was made and the results reported to the National Business Law Association in 1929. It was made by a committee composed of Professors Wolaver of Michigan, Isaacs of Harvard, and Reed of Pittsburgh. Of 36 teachers they found ".....26 hold LL.B.'s, 19 in addition to the law degrees have A.B.'s, 8 M.A.'s, 7 J.D.'s, 4 LL.M.'s, 3 Ph.D.'s, and 5 B.S.'s. Five hold only one degree." They concluded, "Thus in over one-half of the cases from six to seven years have been consumed in preparation, and the qualifications of our men are comparable to those teaching in law schools, and also compare well with those teaching other subjects."

TABLE I

MEMBER SCHOOLS -- TOTAL STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

Ph.D.	2
Law School Seniors	5

Law Degrees

LL.B.	31
B.S., LL.B.	87
B.S., J.D.	<u>24</u>
Total Law.	142 142

M.S., LL.B.	14
M.B.A., LL.B.	14
M.S., J.D.	8
M.B.A., J.D.	<u>3</u>
Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A.	39 39

LL.B., LL.M.	11
J.D., LL.M.	1
A.M., LL.B., LL.M.	3
A.M., LL.B., J.D.	2
J.S.D.	2
LL.B., J.S.D.	3
LL.B., S.J.D.	1
J.D., J.S.D.	1
J.D., S.J.D.	1
LL.B., LL.M., S.J.D.	1
A.M., LL.B., J.S.D.	1
Iur. Cand., Iur. Drs.	1

D. Ed., LL.B.	1
Ph.D., LL.B.	8
Ph.D., J.D.	1
Ph.D., LL.B., LL.M.	1
Ph.D., J.S.D.	<u>1</u>
Total with Ph.D. or Law Graduate	40 40

Total with more than Law 79 . . . 79

Total Business Law Teachers--Members Schools 228

TABLE II

NONMEMBER SCHOOLS -- TOTAL STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

B.S.	2
M.S.	10
M.B.A.	5
Ed.D.	1
Ph.D.	<u>5</u>

Total Non-Law Degrees. 23 23

Law Degrees

LL.B.	27
B.S., LL.B.	74
B.S., J.D.	<u>69</u>

Total Law. 110 110

M.S., LL.B.	15
M.B.A., LL.B.	8
M.S., J.D.	5
M.B.A., J.D.	<u>1</u>
Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A.	29 29

LL.M.	1
LL.B., LL.M.	7
LL.B., J.D.	1
M.A., LL.B., Certificat en droit Civile.	1
M.B.A., LL.B., LL.M.	1
M.A., LL.B., J.D.	3
J.S.D.	2
LL.B., LL.M., J.S.D.	1
M.S., LL.B., LL.M., D.C.L.	1
M.A., M.B.A., Ed.M., LL.B., J.S.D.	1

Ph.D., LL.B. 1
 Total with Ph.D. or Law Graduate 20 20

Total with more than Law 49 49

Total Business Law teachers -- Nonmember Schools 182

TABLE IIa

NONMEMBER SCHOOLS -- PART TIME STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

B.S. 1

Law Degrees

LL.B. 23

B.S., LL.B. 48

B.S., J.D. 2

Total Law. 73 73

M.S., LL.B. 3

M.B.A., LL.B. 2

M.S., J.D. 1

Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A. 6 6

LL.M. 1

LL.B., LL.M. 4

LL.B., J.D. 1

J.S.D. 2

LL.B., LL.M., J.S.D. 1

M.S., LL.B., LL.M., D.C.L. 1

Total with Ph.D. or Law Graduate 10 . . . 10

Total with more than Law 16. 16

Total Part Time Business Law Teachers. 90

TABLE IIb

NONMEMBER SCHOOLS -- FULL TIME STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

B.S.	1
M.S.	10
M.B.A.	5
Ed.D.	1
Ph.D.	<u>5</u>

Total Non-Law degrees. 22 22

Law Degrees

LL.B.	4
J.D.	1
B.S., LL.B.	26
B.S., J.D.	<u>6</u>

Total Law. 37 37

M.S., LL.B.	12
M.B.A., LL.B.	6
M.S., J.D.	4
M.B.A., J. D.	<u>1</u>

Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A. 23 23

LL.B., LL.M.	3
M.A., LL.B., Certificat en droit Civile.	1
M.B.A., LL.B., LL.M.	1
M.A., LL.B., J.D.	3
M.A., M.B.A., Ed.M., LL.B., J.S.D.	1

Ph.D., LL.B.	<u>1</u>
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Total with Ph.D. or Law Graduate 10 10

Total with more than Law 33. 33

Total Full Time Business Law teachers -- Nonmembers Schools 92

TABLE III

DEPARTMENTS OR DIVISIONS -- TOTAL STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

B.S.	1
M.S.	6
M.B.A.	3
Ph.D.	<u>5</u>

Total Non-Law degrees. 15 15

Law Degrees

LL.B.	8
B.S., LL.B.	21
B.S., J.D.	<u>1</u>

Total Law. 30 30

M.S., LL.B.	6
M.B.A., LL.B.	2
M.S., J.D.	<u>1</u>

Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A. 9 9

LL.B., LL.M.	3
LL.B., S.J.D.	1
J.D., S.J.D.	1
M.A., LL.B., LL.M., S.J.D.	1

Ph.D., LL.B.	<u>2</u>
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Total with Ph.D., or Law Graduate. 8 8

Total with more than Law 17 17

Total Business Law Teachers -- Departments or Divisions. 62

TABLE IIIa

DEPARTMENTS OR DIVISIONS -- PART TIME STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

B.S. 1
Ph.D. 1

Total Non-Law degrees. 2

Law Degrees

LL.B. 6
B.S., LL.B. 16

Total Law. 22 22

M.S., LL.B. 1
M.S., J.D. 1

Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A. 2 2

LL.B., LL.M. 2
LL.B., S.J.D. 1
J.D., S.J.D. 1

Ph.D., LL.B. 2

Total with Ph.D. or Law Graduate 6 6

Total with more than Law 8 8

Total Part Time Business Law teachers -- Depts. or Divisions 32

TABLE IIIb

DEPARTMENTS OR DIVISIONS -- FULL TIME STAFF

Non-Law Degrees

M.S.	6	
M.B.A.	3	
Ph.D.	<u>4</u>	
Total Non-Law degrees.	13	13

Law Degrees

LL.B.	2	
B.S., LL.B.	5	
B.S., J.D.	<u>1</u>	
Total Law.	8	8
M.S., LL.B.	5	
M.B.A., LL.B.	1	
M.S., J.D.	<u>1</u>	
Total Law with M.S. or M.B.A.	7	7
LL.B., LL.M.	1	
M.A., LL.B., LL.M., S.J.D.	<u>1</u>	
Total with Ph.D. or Law Graduate	2	2
Total with more than Law	9	9
Total Full Time Business Law teachers -- Depts. or Divisions		30