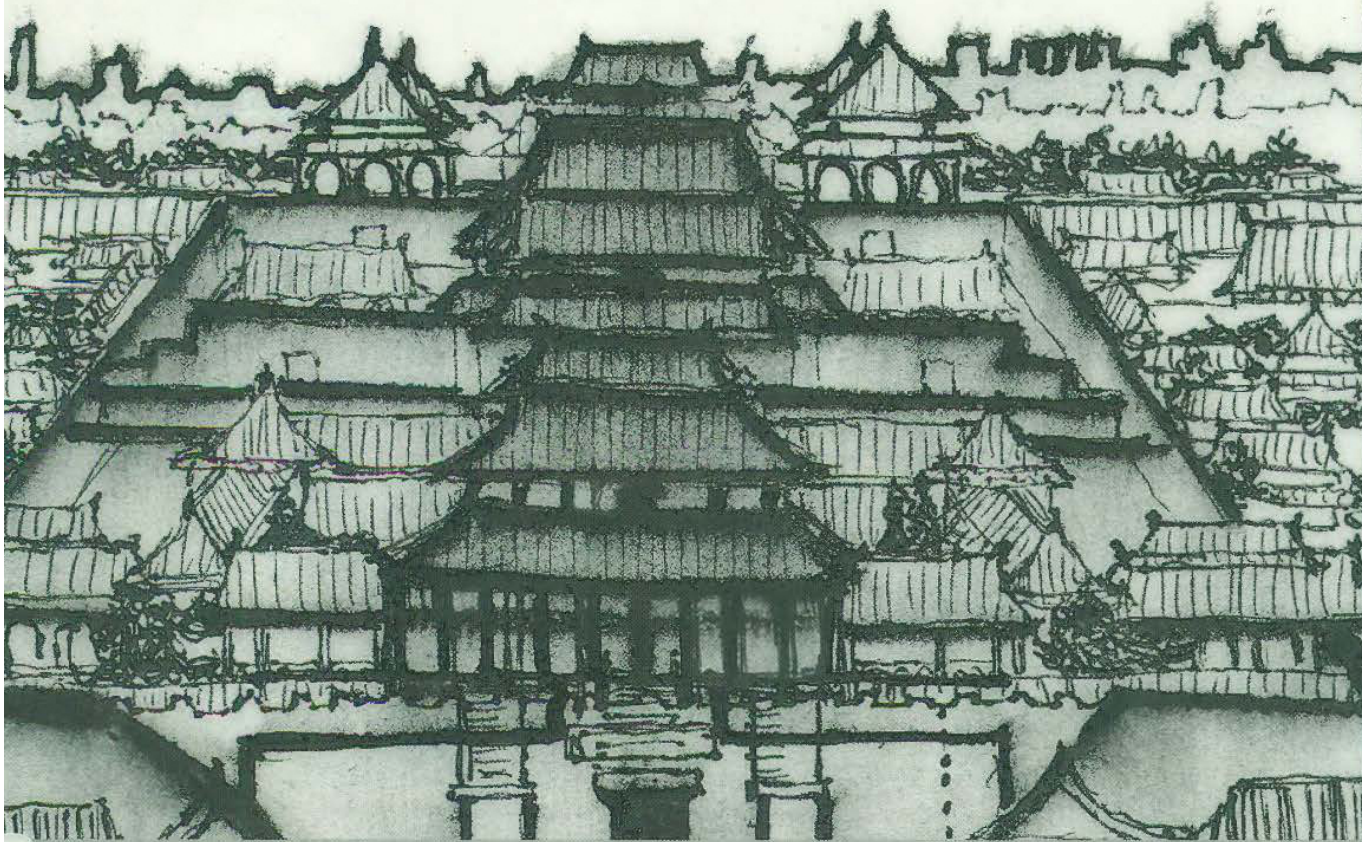


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# open**doors**

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE



INSTITUTE OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION



FIELDS OF STUDY

Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields attract the majority of international students studying in the U.S. (41.6 percent) (Fig. 6D). Engineering is the most popular STEM field, accounting for 18.5 percent of international students. Graduate students (56.3 percent) enroll in STEM fields at higher rates than undergraduates (30.5 percent) (Fig. 7A).

Business and management continues to be the most popular field of study, enrolling 21.8 percent of students in 2011/12 (Fig. 6D). Undergraduates are more concentrated in business (29.7 percent) than are graduate students (17.0 percent)(Fig. 7A).

As the number of international students continues to grow, enrollment in most fields of study has increased. One notable exception is the health professions, which experienced a decline of 9.2 percent from the prior year (Table 15).

Intensive English programs account for the majority of non-degree students in the U.S. (Fig. 7A). OPT students are concentrated in business and management (20.3 percent), engineering (27.4 percent), and math and computer sciences (15.3 percent), indicating that these fields provide pathways for international students to gain practical work experience in the U.S. and to contribute to the U.S. workforce (Fig. 7A).

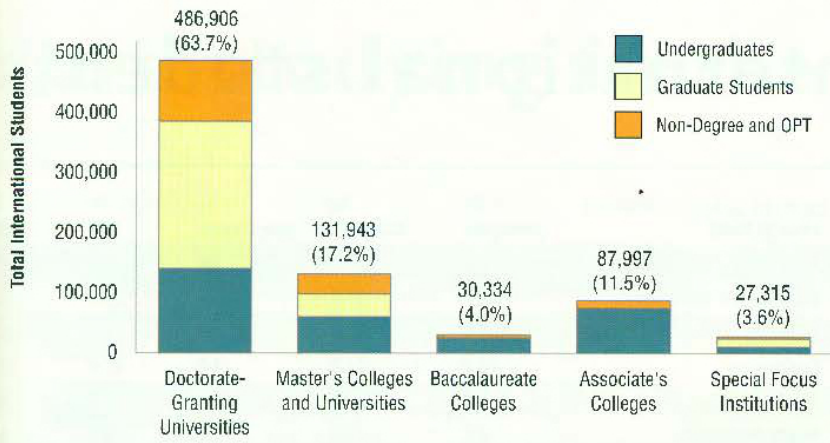


Figure 6B: International Students by Institution Type and Academic Level, 2011/12

	Undergraduate	Graduate	Non-Degree	OPT	Total
<b>Sector</b>					
Public	69.5	59.8	76.2	60.5	65.0
Private Not-for-Profit	28.9	38.9	23.4	38.5	33.5
Private for-Profit	1.6	1.3	0.4	1.0	1.5
<b>Size of Institution</b>					
Small (under 5,000 students)	12.3	6.0	7.1	7.7	11.3
Medium (5,000-9,999 students)	12.6	9.8	10.8	11.6	12.3
Large (over 10,000 students)	75.1	84.2	82.1	80.7	76.4
<b>Total International Students</b>	<b>309,342</b>	<b>300,430</b>	<b>69,566</b>	<b>85,157</b>	<b>764,495</b>

Figure 6C: International Students by Sector and Size of Institution, 2011/12

Field of Study	2010/11 Int'l Students	2011/12 Int'l Students	2011/12 % of Total	% Change
Business and Management	155,769	166,733	21.8	7.0
Engineering	135,592	141,285	18.5	4.2
Math and Computer Science	64,588	71,364	9.3	10.5
Social Sciences	63,347	66,163	8.7	4.4
Physical and Life Sciences	63,471	66,007	8.6	4.0
Fine and Applied Arts	37,237	41,710	5.5	12.0
Intensive English	32,306	38,887	5.1	20.4
Health Professions	32,526	29,535	3.9	-9.2
Education	16,933	17,200	2.2	1.6
Humanities	16,263	16,294	2.1	0.2
Agriculture	9,888	9,750	1.3	-1.4
Other Fields of Study	75,459	77,252	10.1	2.4
Undeclared	19,898	22,315	2.9	12.1
<b>Total International Students</b>	<b>723,277</b>	<b>764,495</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.7</b>

Figure 6D: Fields of Study of International Students, 2010/11 & 2011/12