

## Which courses are English and American students choosing?

- ③ In English secondary schools, it's compulsory for 11–14-year-olds to study one foreign language. But at 14, many pupils drop foreign languages when they choose the subjects they want to study for their GCSE exams. In the USA, foreign languages are not compulsory in most states.
- ③ Some English pupils go to mixed schools and some to single-sex schools but all pupils, boys and girls study Design and Technology (DT) which includes cookery, sewing and woodwork. Many American high school students also learn accounting, car mechanics and even how to drive!
- ③ Drama, media and film studies are becoming popular subjects in English and American schools. In England, many pupils choose these courses for their A-levels\*\*. Perhaps that's because 22% of English 16- to 19-year-olds want to be actors, pop stars or models! Only 8% are planning to become doctors, engineers or lawyers. But ... the most popular courses at English universities are: 1 Law 2 Design Studies 3 Psychology 4 Medicine 5 Management Studies

\* General Certificate of Secondary Education. Pupils take these exams at 16.  
 \*\* They need to pass these exams to go to university.

