



Summary

We can classify professions according to different criteria. In relation to the criterion of expected, required and demanded preparation for professional practice, they can be either technically or academically oriented professions. Technically oriented professions require a high school educational level, usually offered by secondary technical schools. On the other hand, academically oriented professions demand training in university's undergraduate programs. Although physical education professional intervention requires the usage of these three types of knowledge, the social and professional credibility of an academically oriented profession depends on the legitimacy of the academic body of knowledge that supports the professional practice. The legitimacy of the body of knowledge, in its turn, presupposes the existence of a structure to orient and organize the production, systematization, dissemination and application of knowledge, that is, an epistemological basis that can evidence and define the identity of the area. Catherine Beecher, Dio Lewis, Edward Hitchcock, and Dudley Allen Sargent, were the early leaders in physical education. In the profession's early years, between 1855 and 1900, there were several debates, referred to as the Battle of the Systems, regarding which system (American, Swedish, German, or English) could best provide a national physical education program for America. Sport Education in Russia was closely connected with the state demands in the various fields, especially in health protection, military and naval. It developed in accordance with the mainstream of education in Russia attracting the European achievements in this sphere. In modern Russia a great attention is paid to school sport on the governmental level. Different sport competitions for minor and senior students are held with the aim of students' health protection. School physical education in England has evolved out of two traditions: organised games and competitive sports associated with Public Schools and physical training associated initially with military drill and then Swedish therapeutic gymnastics in the Ling tradition in State Elementary Schools from 1871 onwards.