

## **PART 7. THE PRODUCTION PROCESS**

### **7.1 PRODUCTION PATH**

Now your manuscript is finally in production. A Project Manager (PM) is assigned to your project, and he/she will be your main contact throughout the process until your book is in print.

Average production time is 6 to 8 months, depending on the complexity of your text. Most light revisions, where complete manuscript is submitted and with available and responsive authors, go through production relatively easily. First editions, moderate or heavy revisions, or heavily formatted texts can take somewhat longer.

Your book will be assigned to one of the following production paths.

1. Your project may be assigned to a full-service agency. This means that a production agency will handle project management. The Pearson inhouse liaison receives the manuscript from editorial and assesses needs for copyediting, length, permissions, artwork, and design. He/she will monitor the production schedule to ensure that all phases are completed in a timely manner, but he/she won't have hands-on involvement. Your Acquisitions Editor (AE) and PM will decide what level of copyediting your manuscript will receive. The copyeditor's job can range from simply correcting grammar, spelling, or punctuation, to doing a moderate to heavy edit, with some rewriting.

The full-service agency will supervise the copyeditor, compositor, art studio, proofreader, etc., and will coordinate efforts of all suppliers until your book is sent to the printer. You will still receive copyedited manuscript, art proofs, and page proofs to review, but they will be channeled through the PM at the full-service agency.

2. Your project may be assigned as a Central Publishing title. Prior to production, your PM will assist you with the permission process, provide feedback on the art and photo program, and help ensure that a complete and final manuscript is submitted to Pearson on schedule. The PM will also instruct you on the requirements of an all-electronic workflow and provide you with necessary training resources. After the manuscript has been submitted to production, your main contact will be the PM in Central Publishing. Throughout the production process, you will be working in an all-electronic workflow; that is, you will be reviewing copyedited manuscript and page proofs electronically.