



Your Future

A Guide to College Counselling at Beau Soleil



Beau Soleil
Collège Alpin International



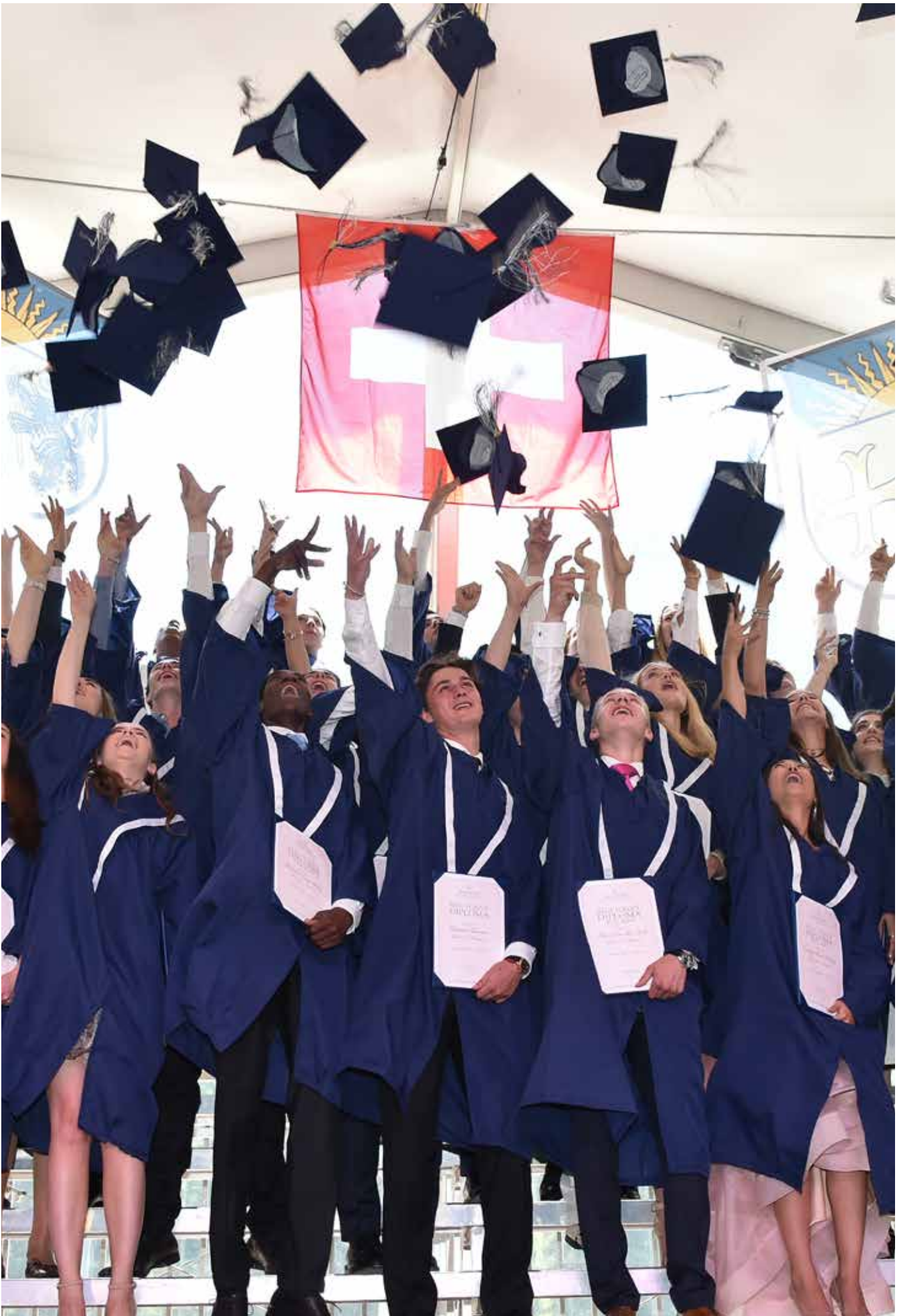


Beau Soleil
Collège Alpin International

At Beau Soleil,
we believe it's
what you do that
counts

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Embracing the future

An introduction for parents



Leaving school, starting employment, taking a gap year or going to university can be exciting, scary and life changing for all involved. At Beau Soleil, through our College Counselling programme, we guide all our students, parents and families through these processes so that, with the full support of their loved ones, our students can make the best next step for them.

This guide is written for students as they begin the adventure of applying to university or considering other options for their future. The aim is to raise questions that will lead to conversations with you, their teachers, friends and the College Counselling team at Beau Soleil. Open discussions help students to define their goals and expectations and ensure that we can best support them to flourish, whatever the pathway they may choose.

As Director of College Counselling here at Beau Soleil, I am at the centre of a support network with every teacher, tutor and member of the house team playing a vital role. Our holistic approach ensures that every student understands their strengths, using these to find the right fit for them in what they do next.

Collectively, the staff at Beau Soleil have attended over two hundred different universities all around the world and have a wide range of experiences on which to draw, helping to find the best step forward for each and every student.

Talk with us

There is a lot of information contained in this guide but, at its heart, this is not about forms, processes and results: it is about exploring what is best for each and every student at Beau Soleil. This process is a team effort that begins with a conversation and I am looking forward to speaking with you. Please make your appointment using the QR code, or send an email to me at college.counselling@beausoleil.ch

George Casley
Director of College Counselling

Join our events for parents

Every year we host a number of university information sessions for parents, run by experts in their field. I encourage you to join these sessions, which are listed below and our student focussed workshops, for which you will find the full 2020/21 programme on pages 12 and 13.

February 2021	
Thursday 4	Supporting your child with their Common App application Catherine Chariton from Rutgers University
Thursday 11	Supporting your child with their UCAS application Mish Dattani from Dundee University
Thursday 18	Supporting your child with their Francophone application Jérémy Esposito et Delphine Wojciechowski, Beau Soleil
Thursday 25	Supporting your child with a Gap Year Abby Lindsay of Global Citizen Year



The best next step for you

We are here to help

At Beau Soleil we are here to support and guide you, along with your parents as you look towards your future and the vast range of options that are available around the world. These are exciting times with lots of questions to answer and choices to make. Should I go directly to University;

if so, which one? Should I find a job and study later? Should I take a gap year? Mr Casley, Director of College Counselling, along with your teachers, tutor and house staff are all here to support you as you analyse your strengths and find the right fit for what you will do next.

Aim of this guide

This guide aims to raise questions that can lead to conversations between you, your parents, teachers and support network and in turn help you to find what will be the best next step for you.

Consider these as a starting point to conversations with your family and the Beau Soleil team and use them to find the right reasons that inform your conclusions.

As you read through this guide, reflect on the following questions;

Do not under-estimate the time and emotional energy that this process will take. It may be tough for you, your parents and your friends, so look after yourself and those you care for. Remember, the more that you invest in this process, the better the outcome will be, and your future depends on it.

- What are the criteria I should use when making decisions?
- What does success look like to me?
- What is the best next step for me?

“Every option is right for someone, no option is right for everyone.”

George Casley,
Director of College Counselling

Talk to us

Remember that we are all here to help you on your journey and amongst the team here at Beau Soleil, there is a vast range of experience on which you can draw. Did you know that collectively, our staff have attended more than 200 different

universities across the world? Start a conversation with your tutor, teacher, your house team, or make an appointment with Mr Casley to discuss your plans.







College Counselling at Beau Soleil

College Counselling Activities and Events

What happens in College Counselling at Beau Soleil?

Our priority is finding out what is best for you and helping you to find the path that will allow you to flourish. Ongoing conversations with the College Counselling team, you and your parents will help you to ask the critical questions about your future and to match your expectations with your strengths.

Research Activities

- Support with personal research and reflection
- Unifrog training and support
- On campus University Fairs
- Opportunities to meet current university students, including Beau Soleil alumni
- Guest speakers and interviews with industry leaders
- Visits to universities

Preparation for Assessments

- UCAT, University Clinical Aptitude Test, BMAT, the Bio-Medical Admissions Test, LNAT, the Law National Aptitude Test, and other UK test classes in school
- SAT, Scholastic Aptitude Test, and ACT, American College Test, (if they continue) preparation classes
- TOEFL, Test of English as a Foreign Language, and IELTS, International English Language Testing System, preparation and testing opportunities
- Interview practice for university entrance

Application Workshops and Support

- UCAS – the UK's university application platform for all UK universities
- Common App – the application platform used by over 1000 US universities
- Francophone university applications
- Support around all university applications worldwide

Ongoing Support

- Reference letters and certificates
- Recommendation letters
- References
- Advice and support

We also provide;

- The opportunity to drop in or make an appointment to see a College Counsellor between 07.30 and 22.00 from Monday to Thursday and 10.00 to 18.00 most weekends
- Access to a plethora of online and printed materials to help decision making
- Fruit, drinks and chocolates, as well as a weekly puzzle

University Information Sessions 2020/21

The experts come to Beau Soleil in a series of online workshops designed to allow you to learn more about your

university choices and how you can ensure your application shines.

February 2021

Monday 1	How to apply to a UK university with Holly Smith from the University of Sussex
Tuesday 9	How to apply to US universities with Catherine Charlton of Rutgers University
Wednesday 17	How to apply to world class universities with Anna Henley from UCL
Friday 19	The Oxbridge Brain? Applying to Oxford and Cambridge and the Ivy League
Tuesday 23	How to apply to Canadian Universities with Tom Whittaker of the University of British Columbia
Wednesday 24	How to prepare your American University application with Jeffrey Schiffman of Tulane University

March 2021

Thursday 4	How to write your UCAS Personal Statement with Rebecca Denmark of the University of Surrey and contributions from the University of Warwick and University of Southampton
Thursday 11	Support from Beau Soleil alumni for all Grade 11s
Friday 12	Writing your US application essay with Lisa Marie Raney of Syracuse University
Monday 15	Applying to a European University with Barbara Prevosti of Bocconi University

April 2021

Wednesday 14	Applying for Business courses with Ainsley McIntosh of City University
Monday 19	How to choose an American university with Andre Kostousov of Northeastern University
Thursday 22	Applying for Medicine with Valia Tsiakala of University of Nicosia Medical School
Tuesday 27	Writing your Common App essay with Ronn Beck of Salve Regina University
Friday 30	Applying for creative subjects with Migele Katinaite of Cambridge School of Visual and Performing Arts

May 2021

Monday 3	Applying for hospitality courses with Marion Monestel of École hôtelière de Lausanne
Thursday 6	Writing your Common App essay with Joe Giacalone of Marist College
Thursday 6	How to sell yourself to US universities with Refugia Acosta of University of California, Santa Barbara
Tuesday 11	Applying for the Social Sciences with Emma Weeks of the University of Bristol
Thursday 13	Filling in your Common Application form with Jeffrey Schiffman of Tulane University
Wednesday 19	Applying for STEAM subjects with Annie Pham of the University of Bradford



My College Counselling Journey at Beau Soleil

Every student is different and your pathway will be unique to you. In general, the following timelines give an outline of what you can expect and the preparations and questions you can be asking at each step of your educational journey. There are also a selection of questions that can help your parents to assist you as you move through the process of applying to universities.

On campus the College Counseling Centre has a great selection of resources for inspiration. You are encouraged you make use of these throughout the school year. Drop in and explore the options that exist around the world for your future

Grades 6 - 9

As a student: What should I be doing?

- Enjoying life to the full
- Discovering what makes you feel fully alive
- Participating in university visits

As a parent: What questions can I be asking?

- What are you best at? How can you be better at it?
- How do you learn best?



Grade 10

As a student: What should I be doing?

As a parent: What questions can I be asking?

September

- Identify and articulate your strengths
- Talk to older students about the subjects they chose for their diploma
- Ask your teachers which diploma choices will help you to achieve your best

- What are you best at?

November

- Attend Higher Education launch workshop
- Receive your copy of The Beau Soleil University Guide and discuss this with your parents

- What sort of university system do you think is right for you? The UK or the US? A hybrid? Other places?
- What are your criteria for choosing the right university for you?

January

- Choose the best subject combination for you

- What subjects are you choosing? Do these choices play to your strengths?
- Are you choosing subjects which enable you to get the highest point scores?

February

- Decide if you are going to apply for US universities using SATs or ACTs
- Decide if you want to apply to elite academic universities, e.g. Ivy League or Russell Group. Attend the sessions offered to support these applications (running until the December of Grade 12)
- Attend three HE sessions in school that are relevant to your plans

- Is an American university right for you?
- Do you need to prepare for ACTs or SATs?
- Are you attending the extra support sessions to support elite applications? What have you found interesting at these sessions?

March

- Attend SAT | ACT course in school if necessary

- What other support do you need to do well in your standardised US tests?

June

- Organise visits to universities on your long list, if possible

- How can we help you arrange the visit? (Where possible young people should visit unaccompanied.)

Summer Break

- Visit universities
- Ensure Beau Soleil has all your school transcripts,
- If applying to US style universities, start putting your resume and list of successes together
- If you are considering applying for medicine, veterinary science or hospitality courses volunteering or work experience may be pertinent

- How has visiting universities changed your criteria as to what is the "best fit" university for you?



Grade 11

As a student: What should I be doing?

As a parent: What questions can I be asking?

September | October | November

- Make a great start on your High School diploma courses and generate great GPA scores
- If intending applying to highly competitive Ivy and Russell Group universities attend the support group
- Retake SATs | ACTs (if necessary)

- What are you doing best at?
- How can you build on your successes?

December

- Review your progress and attend Higher Education events online and in school

- Given your start to your diploma course what is a set of realistic choices for you?

January

- If applying to the US, decide on your shortlist of nine US universities and make good links with them
- Finalise the list of countries that you wish to apply to
- Decide on whether you are going to take a gap year

- How are you building relationships with the US universities that you are applying to?

January | February

- Retake SATs | ACTs if necessary
- Attend university events in school as appropriate
- Remind your teachers, tutor and house parent of all of your successes so that they can mention these in your references and recommendation letters

- What university events have you attended in school?
- What has been useful in helping you decide on the best fit university for you?

March | April

- Formulate your application plan, drawing together all the school and university deadlines. Be clear about what you want to achieve
- Take English language proficiency tests where necessary

- Have you reduced your short list to (maximum) nine universities in the US or 5 in the UK?
- Can I have a copy of your action plan so that we can put the dates in the family diary?

May | June

- Review your GPAs and reports with your teachers, house parents and tutors
- Attend university events in schools with your parents when you can

- Do you have the grades and reports you need for your applications?
- Do you now need to change your choices?

Summer Break

- Visit any universities that you are going to apply to that you have not already visited
- Write and review your applications

- Can I hear what you are saying in your application?
- That sounds like you because...

Grade 12

As a student: What should I be doing?

As a parent: What questions can I be asking?

September

- Finalise all applications that can be completed at this point

- Have you finished your university applications?

October 1

- Deadline for completing all university applications that you can - October 1

- Congratulations!

November

- Organise your gap year if you are taking one
- Retake language proficiency test if necessary

- How can your gap year be as stimulating as possible?

December

- Start to receive offers

- Celebrate with your son or daughter when they receive offers!

January

- Review offers and academic progress. Are you on track?

- Are you on track to achieve the results that you need?

February | March

- Review all offers and finalise decisions, communicating these with the College Counselling team
- Make additional applications if necessary

- Where are you planning on going to university next year?
- Are you on track for this?

April | May | June

- Concentrate on enjoying your last few months at Beau Soleil and gaining the GPAs that you need
- Enjoy your final Beau Soleil activities and graduation

- How can I support you in celebrating your time at Beau Soleil and with your exams?

July

- Get your results
- Review your choices and offers
- Make new applications if necessary

July

- Have you met your offers?
- Do you know where you can access support if you need?
- Congratulations!

When the time feels right....

Get in touch with our Alumni team and let us know how you are doing. alumni@beausoleil.ch





The best next
step for me

When you leave Beau Soleil, you begin a new chapter in your life and the first decision to make is what will this step be?

Will you go straight to university? Will you take a gap year, or is the step into the workforce what will be right for you?

Go to university...

Read for a Degree is an English expression which implies that you are an undergraduate and expresses the reality of much of Higher Education. Heading to university is a goal for many and can open the door to many interesting and rewarding opportunities. We encourage you to start reading now if

you are interested in pursuing a university education. Read around your subject of interest and prepare yourself not only for what lies ahead, but also for your university application. You will find some suggested readings on the following pages.

Sciences

Biology and Medicine	Richard Dawkins Richard Dawkins Rebecca Skloot	An Ancestor's Tale The Sefish Gene The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
Environment Sciences	Naomi Klein Jared Diamond Ruth Ozeki	This Changes Everthing Guns, Germs and Steel My Year of Meats
Mathematics and Physics	Stephen Hawking Cathy O'Neil Brian Christian & Tom Griffiths	A Brief History of Time or, Brief Answers to the Big Questions Weapons of Math Destruction Algorithms to live by: The Computer Science of Human Decisions

World Languages

Russian	Mikhail Bulgakov Dostoevsky Tchekhov	The Master and Margarita Crime and Punishment Cherry Garden
Italian	Sibilla Aleramo Niccolo' Machiavelli Pirandello	Una donna Il Principe Il Fu Mattia Pascal
German	Florian Henckel von Donnersmark Chrisian Nürnberger Jan Hofer	Das Leben der Anderen Mutige Menschen Was haben Sie gemacht, als die Mauer fiel?
French	Françoise Sagan Victor Hugo Fatou Diome	Bonjour Tristesse Le dernier jour d'un condamnés La préférence nationale
Spanish	Pablo Neruda Carmen Martín Gaité Rosa Montero	Veinte poemas de amor y una canción desesp El cuarto de atrás La loca de la casa

English

English	Virginia Woolf Margaret Atwood Donna Tarrt	To the Lighthouse The Handmaid's Tale The Goldfinch
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The Arts

Art and History of Art	Julian Stallabrass Linda Nochlin Craig Clunas	Contemporary Art: A Very Short Introduction Women, Art, and Power: and Other Essays Art in China
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Music	J. P. E. Harper, Scott & Jim Samson Tia DeNora Sujatha Fernandes	An Introduction to Music Studies Music in Everyday Life Close to the Edge: In Search of the Global Hip Hop Generation
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Film	Richard Dyer, E. Ann Kaplan, Paul Willemsen, John Hill Wheeler Winston Dixon, Gwendolyn Audrey Foster	The Oxford Guide to Film Studies Illustrated Edition A Short History of Film, Third Edition
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Human Sciences

<p>Geography</p>	<p>Andrea Wulf Harari, Yuval Noah Dambisa Moyo</p>	<p>The Invention of Nature: The Adventures of Alexander von Humboldt, the Lost Hero of Science Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind Dead Aid: Why aid is not working and how there is another way for Africa</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>Marc Bloch Joan Scott Robin G. Collingwood</p>	<p>The Historian's Craft Gender and the Politics of History The Idea of History</p>
<p>Economics</p>	<p>Steven D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner Amartya Sen Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson</p>	<p>Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything Development as Freedom Why Nations Fail</p>
<p>Business and Management</p>	<p>Bethany McLean & Peter Elkind Sheryl Sandberg Jim Collins</p>	<p>The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap and Others Don't</p>
<p>Global Politics</p>	<p>Steven Pinker Naomi Klein Edward Said</p>	<p>The Better Angels of Our Nature - Why Violence has Declined This Changes Everything - Capitalism vs the Climate Orientalism</p>

Miss Cobb's Selection



Terry Waite – Solitude

A fantastic read. Terry Waite was kept in captivity for four years in Lebanon. This book takes you on a journey as Terry Waite travels the world exploring the many types of solitude that exist around the world. This includes the Australian outback and an MI5 agent who became a double agent. It gives a real insight into how different people work through solitude.

Jon Krakauer - Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Everest Disaster

A book based on what has been described as the worst 24 hours on Everest, when members of three separate groups were caught in a deadly storm which resulted in record deaths in a season.

The book demonstrates clearly what the affects of altitude can have on people's decision making. It discusses the extent to which people will go to achieve their long life dreams. A great read that gives a real insight into both the dangers that exist on mountains and how humans can respond in challenging situations.

Jeff Connor - Philosophy of Risk

This book reflects on the life of Dougal Haston, a huge name in the world of climbing. The book looks at his life and how he began his career in Scotland becoming more and more obsessed with reaching summits at whatever cost which eventually resulted in his death. Jeff Connor explores the reasons behind the risks Dougal took.

Mr Casley's Selection



Derek Jarman - Chroma

The artist Derek Jarman wrote Chroma as he went blind. Each chapter is an eclectic, witty and creative reflection on a different colour. This book will help you see the world differently and make wondrous links.

Doris Lessing – The Golden Notebook

I remember my mother coming back from lunches with Doris Lessing about midnight wildly excited about the ideas that had been discussed and full of joie de vivre. Lessing's writing excites me in a similar way as it gives me insights into experiences that I have not had in a way that is perceptive and stimulating. Start with The Golden Notebook.

P.G. Wodehouse - Right Ho, Jeeves

For my third choice I want a writer who exemplifies great writing, who can use the English language marvelously. Learning is lost if it cannot be beautifully expressed – you may never have thought about Christian theology but Morna Hooker will have you fascinated in it because she writes so well. Maya Angelou, Maggie Gee are both wonderful users of English, but despite some of the dated attitudes and unfortunate historical connections of the writer, I come back to P.G. Wodehouse, not only are the Jeeves books exquisitely written they are funny. Right Ho, Jeeves.

Mrs White's Selection



Tim Harford - *The Undercover Economist*

This now-classic book takes economic theory out of the lecture hall into the real world and puts it on the spot to explain and enlighten understanding of day to day phenomena. This is Economics without the intellectual snobbery, and blew a blast of fresh air into 'the dismal science' (along with Freakonomics, Naked Economics et al).

It's easy reading and not enough to give you kudos at an Oxbridge Economics interview, even though the questions it asks are a standard part of such interviews these days. Read this first and that will equip you to look at some more challenging stuff – try Doughnut Economics next.

Jostein Gaarder - *Sophie's World*

An absolute gem – a story full of charm that twists and turns its way with incredible

lightness of touch through the entire history of philosophical thought going right back to its origins in ancient Greece, the age when people started looking for a better explanation of natural phenomena than 'the gods did it'. It's so packed with ideas that it's easy to miss some as they go tumbling past. Read this first then grab an idea that you like and read further.

Heraclitus - *Fragments*

A presocratic philosopher/natural scientist whose work 'On nature' is lost apart from 130 fragments of text in Greek which have been taken apart, reconstructed and interpreted to create different versions of a world view that has been subject to much study and debate. 'You can't step into the same river twice' has its origins here. An introduction to scholarly thought – a tiny volume which opens up huge possibilities.

Mr White's Selection



Richard Feynman - *Surely you're joking, Mr Feynman*

Any prospective scientist could do far worse than read the autobiography of one of the greatest scientists of the 20th century, Nobel laureate, Richard Feynman. It may be the quirkiest and funniest book you read about science, and if you can't be interested in the life of a man who – amongst other things – cracked safes, played carnival drums in Brazil, worked on the atom bomb, and won a Nobel prize for explaining the link between light and matter. You don't need a technical background to read it, but it's a great read for any budding scientist too.

Nick Bostrom - *Superintelligence: Paths, Dangers, Strategies*

A tough read, in more ways than one, this book by a philosopher working at the University of Oxford is a scary look at what happens when computer intelligence

surpasses the human brain. Will that be the end of humanity? Or is there some way that we can head this off and avoid being wiped out by a rogue AI? And when might all this happen? Is this something we should be worried about now? Read it and see.

Kate Raworth - *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist*

If we use the same old theories of economics that we have always used, we'll get the results that we have always had: widening gap between rich and poor, ever reducing global resources, and a population spiralling out of control. It's time to reinvent economics. This is a book with a completely new way of looking at what economics should do and how it should work. Read it, and be part of the solution, rather than repeating the mistakes of the past.



Mr Ferguson's Selection



Christopher McDougall - Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen

Full of incredible characters, amazing athletic achievements, cutting-edge science, and, most of all, pure inspiration, *Born to Run* is an epic adventure that began with one simple question: Why does my foot hurt? In search of an answer, Christopher McDougall sets off to find a tribe of the world's greatest distance runners and learn their secrets, and in the process shows us that everything we thought we knew about running is wrong.

Peter Frankopan - The New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World

Following the Silk Roads eastwards, from Europe through to China, by way of Russia and the Middle East, *The New Silk Roads* provides a timely reminder that we live in a world that is profoundly interconnected. In an age of Brexit and Trump, the themes of isolation and fragmentation permeating the Western world stand in sharp contrast to events along the Silk Roads since 2015, where ties have been strengthened and mutual cooperation established.

With brilliant insight, Peter Frankopan takes a fresh look at the network of relationships being formed along the length and breadth of the Silk Roads today, assessing the

global reverberations of these continual shifts in the centre of power - all too often absent from headlines in the West. This important - and ultimately hopeful - book asks us to reassess who we are and where we are in the world, illuminating the themes on which all our lives and livelihood depend.

Richard Dawkins - The Selfish Gene

Inheriting the mantle of revolutionary biologist from Darwin, Watson, and Crick, Richard Dawkins forced an enormous change in the way we see ourselves and the world with the publication of *The Selfish Gene*. Suppose, instead of thinking about organisms using genes to reproduce themselves, as we had since Mendel's work was rediscovered, we turn it around and imagine that "our" genes build and maintain us in order to make more genes. That simple reversal seems to answer many puzzlers which had stumped scientists for years, and we haven't thought of evolution in the same way since. Drawing fascinating examples from every field of biology, he paved the way for a serious re-evaluation of evolution. He also introduced the concept of self-reproducing ideas, or memes, which (seemingly) use humans exclusively for their propagation. If we are puppets, he says, at least we can try to understand our strings.

Join the Workforce...

Not everyone aspires to further study and for a number of you the workforce is where you will flourish. Some of the most successful people in business, like Mary Kay and Richard Branson do not have a degree, and learning on the job

is the right approach for many. At Beau Soleil we have contacts with some of the world's most successful companies and if you are interested in this pathway, you should speak with the Director of College Counselling.

Take a Gap Year...

Some of you may need a break from learning, taking time to decide what you want to do. You may be young for your year and you may need to be 18 to go to university. You may have a passion that you want to explore, or a wish to reapply to a highly competitive university. Taking time out between the end of school and going to University can be a fantastic opportunity but it is good to be aware that:

- Well planned gap years can be life transforming but they need as much planning as a university application – and an application to university still needs to be made.

Remember that you will have at least 3 months between the time you finish school and when university begins. Three months that can be used very effectively if you plan in advance.

“I am taking a gap year because I want to see if I can become a world class athlete.”

Beau Soleil Student

- Some universities and some courses do not like students taking gap years and almost none encourage it. You can defer a UK application a year and sometimes having received a US application, you can request a deferral.

Check these websites for inspiration:

A Broader View	abroaderview.org
AFS Suisse	afs.ch
Aquarius Abroad	jobsandinternshipsabroad.com
Best Gap Year	bestgapyear.co.uk
BUNAC	bunac.org
CIEE	ciee.org
Cross Cultural Solutions	crossculturalsolutions.org
Cybelle Planet	cybelle-planete.org
ESL	esl.ch
Gap Year	gapyear.com
Gapforce	gapforce.org
Global Citizen Year	globalcitizenyear.org
Global Cross Road	globalcrossroad.com
Global Leadership Adventures	experiencegla.com
Global Route	globalroutes.org
Go Abroad	goabroad.com
Go Overseas	gooverseas.com
GVI	gvi.co.uk
Helping Abroad	helpingabroad.org
Icye	icye.ch
International Volunteer HQ	volunteerhq.org

Let's Go Abroad
Nouvelle Planète
Project Trust
Projects Abroad
Real Gap Experience
The Leap
United Planet
WEP
Year Out Group

letsgoabroad.info
nouvelle-planete.ch
projecttrust.org.uk
projects-abroad.org
realgap.co.uk
theleap.co.uk
unitedplanet.org
wep-swiss.ch
yearoutgroup.org





HARVARD

EST. 1636





University

Glossary of Terms

There is some important vocabulary to understand when you are applying to university, whether that be in the US, the UK or elsewhere in the world.

As an applicant, you apply to read or study for a degree.

When you have passed your degree you become a graduate.

When you are studying for a degree you are an undergraduate.

The degree you are most likely to be applying for is a Bachelor degree.

Most subject areas either award a Bachelor of Arts, a BA, or a Bachelor of Science, a BSc. A few subjects, e.g. Engineering and Music might award their own Bachelor degree, e.g. a BEng or BMus.

Degrees are graded from first, second, first and second division, known as 2i and 2ii, thirds and ordinary.

If you gain a first, 2i or 2ii (and in some universities a third) you receive your bachelor degree with honours. This will usually be written BA (Hons) or BSc (Hons). If you gain enough academic credits for a third this is called an ordinary degree.

Foundation degrees focus on a particular job or profession. Foundation degrees are ideal if you're unsure about taking a full degree or if you want to study while you work.

A Foundation course is a one year course that if you pass enables you to go on to study for a degree. Like the IB and ASDP foundation courses are level 3 courses and usually people take these foundation courses if they have not gained the required IB or ASDP scores to go to university.

Art Foundation courses are one year pre-Art degree courses taken by nearly everyone wanting to do an art degree as a way to experiment in different media. Sometimes people take an Art Foundation course as part of a GAP year.

In the UK you apply for a course.

In a single honour course you study one subject, e.g. History.

A Joint honours course allows you to study two subjects equally, e.g. Economics and History.

Combined Honours courses contain two or more subjects in different proportions and may be very general, such as Natural Sciences or Liberal Arts.

TOEFL is a standardised test of English language proficiency, most commonly recognized in the US.

IELTS is the standardised English language test used in the UK, although also recognised by an increasing number of US universities.

College or University, what is the difference?

“College” is often used as American for “University.” However, both are sometimes used in the US.

Colleges are often smaller institutions that emphasize undergraduate education in a broad range of academic areas.

Universities are typically larger institutions that offer a variety of both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Many universities are also committed to producing research.

In the UK “college” is mainly used in Higher Education (HE) to describe the constituent parts of Oxford and

Cambridge and some other universities. The term is used more in Further Education (FE) to describe providers of vocational level 3 (pre-university) courses.

In Canada there is a distinction between a university and a college. Universities offer academic degrees at all levels, from bachelors to advanced degrees, whereas, colleges focus on technical training and applied arts, similar to a community college.

Some secondary schools, such as Beau Soleil, call themselves colleges to add to the confusion and in France, Collège refers to the final two years of school.



How do I decide where to study? Which country?

Your success at university depends on you finding the right fit for you. How are you going to decide? Which of the following criteria do you think is most important? Which country? Which course? Which university?

For many of you, the first big choice will be whether to study in the US or the UK. Historically, most Beau Soleil students apply to one or the other and both countries have an enormous range of excellent universities. There are significant academic and cultural differences between the two and for most students it is not sensible to apply to both US and UK

universities – you should have chosen which is right for you before you apply. In part two of this guide we will consider other parts of the world. However, first thinking about whether the US or UK is right for you is a good start as most universities worldwide follow one of these two systems.

Course or University?

In the UK and Europe, you usually apply directly to a course of study, such as Mathematics or Philosophy whilst in the US and Canada, you generally apply to

a university but do not choose a specific course of study until you have completed a general first year.

Length of Undergraduate Study

In the US undergraduate courses are usually four years, while in the UK and other European countries they are three

years. Some UK science courses are four years.

Application Process

The application process to UK universities is much simpler, easier and more transparent than that to US universities. UK universities are generally most interested in your academic abilities whereas many US universities are much more concerned about your values, extracurricular activities and story.

In the UK you complete one application (UCAS) that is sent to a maximum of five universities. In the US you can apply to as many universities as you like and you may need to write a number of different essays. We recommend that you do not apply to more than nine universities.

Entrance Offers

US universities tend to make decisions based on applications that include predicted grades. UK universities make offers on applications including predicted

grades but the place is only guaranteed when the offer is met following diploma results in the summer.

When applying to the US system you should start thinking about where you want to apply. In the UK you should think about what you want to study.



How do I choose the subject I will study at university?

Applying for a degree is not applying for a job, but for an academically rigorous, research-based course. Through reading for a degree you will gain skills that you can apply to any area of life, opening your mind and future options.

In England and Wales, the majority of the undergraduate degree programmes take three years to complete. In Scotland, degree courses are four-year programmes with a system that is multi-disciplinary,

allowing you to study subjects that are different from your main subject area and giving greater flexibility for changing courses.

Choosing Your Subject

When applying to UK universities the first thing you need to decide is what subject do you want to study.

A good starting point is to think about the subject you enjoy most at school. It is important to know that;

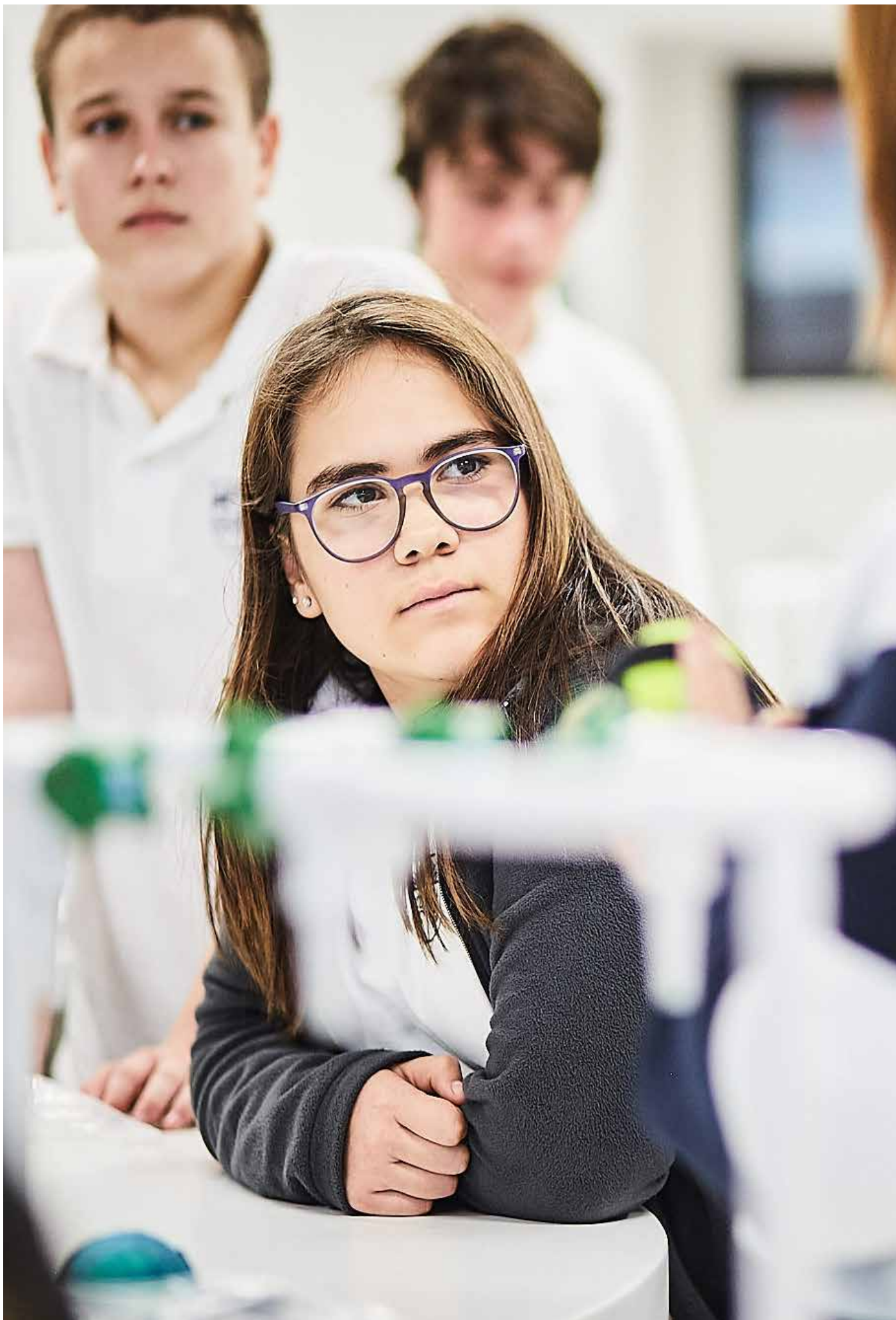
- A subject at university can be very different from a subject with the same name at school, e.g., Mathematics or Modern Foreign Languages
- Courses with the same name at different universities have radically different content and approaches, e.g., Philosophy, Economics or Geography.
- Not all universities offer all subjects. If your heart is set on a particular university, you need to make sure they offer the subjects you are interested in studying.

Applying for a degree is not applying for a job, but for an academically rigorous, research-based course. Through reading for a degree you will gain skills that you can apply to any area of life, opening your mind and future options.

As you research courses, you should look at the course content very carefully and ensure that the programme matches your areas of interest.

Most degree courses are not vocational study. A degree will give you transferable skills useful throughout your life. Even most engineering graduates do not become engineers! Veterinary science and medicine are notable exceptions.

Not only do you not need a Business Degree to be a successful business person, business degrees vary enormously. If you do choose to do a degree in business you need to research VERY carefully and ensure that the courses you apply for cover the areas that you want to understand. Use Unifrog meticulously.



How should I choose the universities that I will apply to?

At Beau Soleil, you will have access to Unifrog, a powerful online tool that brings together information on courses and institutions around the world.

Research

Think carefully and be questioning in your approach. Attend the sessions run by universities in school to find out more about each of these institutions. Make a visit and see for yourself if the location and campus are where you want to be.

It is important to remember when you are looking at universities that they are trying to attract you too. They spend millions on clever, targeted marketing to persuade you to choose their location.

Unifrog

Unifrog is a platform that brings together all of the available information from across the world to one single, impartial, user-friendly system. Using the helpful tools to explore options and pathways, Unifrog will help you discover your strengths and

open your horizons. Explore and compare courses and institutions around the world and share your ideas with those who are important to you in helping you make these decisions.

Useful Websites

USA

collegeboard.org
commonapp.org
colleges.com
collegeconfidential.com
collegedata.com
collegeprowler.com
fairtest.org

UK

ucas.com
push.co.uk
thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk

Other Considerations

Be Realistic

Most universities set clear criteria that you will need to meet in order to be offered a place. Do you meet the required criteria? If the information says you will need 40 points and you are predicted 30, is it really worth you applying?

Be especially realistic about English language test requirements which are nearly always non-negotiable and language acquisition takes time.

Be Responsible

University will be three or four years of your life and you need to take responsibility for your choices. Set the criteria that are right for you. Only you can do this and it will take time and energy. Nobody else can do this for you.

I want to be
somewhere with
great food

I want to be the
only Belarussian in
town

I want to be taught
by people who are world
class researchers

I want
somewhere flat
and warm

So long as I can be in
a lab six days a week
I will be happy

I want to be
at the place
with the best
parties

I love libraries -
I just want to be
able to read books

I need to be somewhere
with good English
language support

I am going to find
university tough -
I need to have good
teachers

I don't care
where I am so
long as it is a
great campus

I need to be
somewhere
that my mum
can brag about

League tables - what do they really mean?

Nearly all league tables are massively skewed towards the experience of domestic students. What might work well for a home student is very different from what might work for an international student.

League tables can be useful as a part of your research, but you should be very wary about their content. Virtually every university can find a league table where it is number one – and if they cannot they will create one!

The experience of international students at university is very different from that of domestic students. Nearly all league tables are massively skewed towards the experience of domestic students. What might work well for a home student is very different from what might work for an international student.

Often the Times Higher and QS World rankings are referred to. They only agree on one university and position in their top tens, and 20% of their lists are different. It is important to note that nearly all rankings are aggregating whatever information they use for all students. In the US, Forbes have produced a league table for international students. If you compare this with the popular US league table, Top Universities, they agree on the positioning of two of the top 10 but disagree on 40% of the list.

In the UK there are three popular league tables run by The Guardian, the most respected UK newspaper in education circles, The Times and The Complete University Guide. Only four universities appear, at different positions, in all of their top tens, with Kings College London, the most popular university applied to at Beau Soleil only appearing in The Times's top ten. Kings is ranked 42nd by The Guardian. Further down the league tables the disagreements can be even greater, The Guardian ranks Bolton University 86th and The Times 125th.

Not only do these tables change radically each year, only one university remained at the same position in The Guardian's 2019 and 2020 top ten. They are easy for universities to influence.

Some say that it is best to only look at subject based league tables. However:

- This does not consider the fact that course content can be radically different between courses with the same name at different universities, e.g., Geography at Cambridge (ranked number 1 in the UK by The Guardian in 2021) and Durham (ranked second by The Guardian in 2019, as trumpeted on their website) are two totally different courses.
- Positions can change very quickly, e.g. City fell nine places for Business in the Complete University Guide this year.
- Course choice is an important part of university choice for some people and not all. For those who care about reputation in their home country this can be more important than a different judgement in another country.

As well as league tables, you might want to look at what students say, for example the National Student Survey in the UK. (although not all universities participate in this and it is easy for universities to manipulate their scores). The Teaching Excellence Framework in the UK grades the quality of the teaching at a university as a whole as being Gold, Silver or Bronze level. And whereas only selecting Gold graded institutions might seem sensible, remember that this does not specifically judge the course that you have applied for.

How many universities should I apply to?

Whilst it might seem like a good idea to apply to lots of universities to improve your options, this is not always the best course of action.

In the UK, where applications are made via a centralized system, you can apply to a maximum of five universities. The suggested logic is that you should make two applications that are aspirational (i.e., above your predictions), two applications that are target (i.e. in line with your predictions) and one that is a safety application (i.e. below your predictions).

In the US where you apply to individual colleges, you should apply to no more than nine universities. Choose three which are aspirational, three that you consider to be target and three for safety.

You should really want to attend any university to which you apply and if you are applying to universities in the EU, Switzerland, Canada or other countries, you should try to limit all of your applications to no more than twelve.

UK

2 aspirational
2 target
1 safety

USA

3 aspirational
3 target
3 safety



I want to go to Oxford, Cambridge or an Ivy League university. What should I do?

Ask Yourself Some Questions

Is this what you really want? Have you done your research? Are the courses at these universities right for you? Do you understand how learning works at these

institutions? Do you think you will flourish at these universities or on these courses?

Be Realistic

Are you consistently top of your class scoring near full marks? If not, these courses are probably not right for you. Is your idea of a fantastic afternoon curling up with a book and reading about your subject? If not, why would you want to

apply to an intellectually elite university?

Are you an outstanding all-rounder or exceptionally good at something? If not, Ivy League universities are unlikely to be interested in you.

Prepare

If you think that you are academically and personally right for these universities, or wish to test whether you are, make sure you speak to the College Counsellor. Before you do so check what tests you will need to take.

and making links between this and other aspects of your learning.

Keep a journal of everything that you read or do that is pertinent to your proposed course, analysing what you read and do

Have a realistic “plan b” where you also think that you can flourish. Only apply if you know that you can take rejection as these institutions receive huge volumes of applications each year and offer places to only a small number of applicants.

Medicine, Veterinary Science or Law. How do I prepare?

These are some of the most popular and difficult courses in which to obtain entry across the world, so you need to make sure that you are well prepared for your application. Appropriate work experience and volunteering are important elements

that will support your application and you should speak with our College Counsellor to learn more about getting the relevant experience you require.



Predicted Grades, Subject References and Letters of Recommendation.

Your predicted grades, subject references, house and tutor references will be shared with you in June of Grade 11.

Predicted Grades

In June of Grade 11 your teachers will predict the grade that, in their professional judgement, they think that you will achieve the following year. Predicted grades form a part of your school transcript for

university applications and it is important that the prediction is as accurate as possible. Predicted grades are not negotiable and it is equally bad to under predict as it is to over predict.

Subject References

A subject reference is a reference written by your teacher that is a positive, precise and personal assessment of your skills in that subject. Each of your teachers will

write a 100 word subject reference that forms part of your UCAS application or college recommendation.

House Team and Tutor References

Your tutor and HM will each write you a recommendation for your university applications. This is a positive, precise and personal piece that, as well as praising your academic skills, praises your interpersonal skills and emphasizes your strength of character and abilities as

demonstrated in all your activities. Your tutor will focus on your intellectual and learning abilities and your HM will provide a summary of all your great personal attributes and extracurricular successes both in and out of Beau Soleil.

Letters of Recommendation

Your three grade 11 higher level subject teachers will each write you a Letter of Recommendation which you can use for US applications. These will be based on

your subject references, tutor and HM and that teacher's knowledge of you. You will be able to see these in September of Grade 12.

How can I make sure my references and recommendation are the best that they can be?

- Make sure that all your teachers are aware of your skills and talents
- Ensure your tutor is aware of your academic successes
- Talk with your house team about your activities and extra-curricular activities. Give them a list of all the successes you have had since you were 11





Worldwide

Universities and Colleges
around the World



Australia

Many international students are choosing to study in Australia because of its friendly, laid-back nature, excellent education system, and high standard of living.

Australian universities attract students from around the world, making the experience incredibly multi-cultural. Whether you choose to study in a large city, or in a regional centre, you will enjoy the diverse natural environment. Relax on golden beaches, venture into the national parks to see unique plants and animals or explore the untamed outback.

Australian universities have two terms per year with the first starting in February, and the second in July. You can begin your course in either term.

You can apply to as many universities as you think will suit you and you should start applying to the universities you would like to attend a year before you wish to start.

www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au



Canada

Canada is currently ranked as the best country for quality of life. (U.S. News & World Report 2020)

Study in Canada, and you will receive an internationally recognised education from some of the top educators and academics in the world.

Universities in Canada each set their own admission requirements and you apply to the faculty that you are interested in. Each university has their own criteria

for recognising international student qualifications and students with the IB Diploma are sometimes accepted into second year study. Undergraduate degrees generally take four years of study.

www.4icu.org/ca/a-z/



China

Chinese universities are increasingly popular and the Chinese government is very keen to support international students studying in the country.

There are general, technical, specialist (such as medical colleges), foreign language and teacher-training universities.

Teaching is in Chinese, although different departments have different requirements.

When applying to top universities in China, such as Peking University, Tsinghua University and Fudan University, admission to degree programmes is limited and extremely competitive. You must be well-informed, well-prepared, and very determined to work hard to gain admission.

www.cucas.edu.cn
www.chinaeducenter.com



Germany

Students value German universities for the quality of education, the hands-on experience they have during their studies and most importantly the safe and friendly environment.

In order to be accepted on to a degree programme, German universities ask international students to have qualifications that are equivalent to their Hochschulzugangsberechtigung along with good German language skills.

Some universities offer courses in English, depending on the subject.

German universities usually have two terms a year – winter term from October until February, and summer term from April/May until July. Most courses begin in the winter term and you should apply a year in advance of your intended start date.

www.internationale-studierende.de



France

France is a good place to study abroad for your degree thanks to its rich culture, gastronomy, architecture, and thriving student life.

Studying in France gives you the opportunity to learn the language and gain cultural perspectives. There are two main streams of higher education in France, the competitive institutes and state universities.

Entry to the Competitive Institutes (Grandes Ecoles) is selective and highly competitive with candidates sitting a series of examinations. Specialisations in engineering, commerce, civil services and teaching are offered in these prestigious institutions and the duration of studies varies from three to five years.

In state universities, any student who has completed the secondary school diploma may qualify.

All general courses are divided into three cycles with each cycle leading to a nationally recognised diploma. The first cycle is of two years for undergraduate studies, the second cycle is of two to three years for graduate studies and the third cycle is of one to three years for post-graduate qualifications.

Our specialist team for francophone applications



Delphine Wojciechowski



Jérémy Esposito



Korea

Studying in South Korea will open up a wide range of employment opportunities for you with graduates from Korean universities highly sought after by employers all over the world. Korea is highly ranked for development of information and communication technology and has a strong history of education in this sector.

International students in Korea report a high level of life satisfaction with the unique culture and food attributing to a fantastic quality of student life.

Each university has its own application process and there are so many variations of the eligibility and admission process. Careful research for each university is necessary.

www.studyinkorea.go.kr



Ireland

Simply put, Ireland has a reputation for being full of friendly, welcoming people, which is why international students get so much out of the Irish experience. Not forgetting the important fact that Ireland has won the Eurovision Song Contest more times than any other any other country!

Entry to Irish universities for most students is through a straight-forward application system, with requirements for courses varying from year to year.

www.educationinireland.com



Japan

Excellent safety, accessibility, and high quality of life standards make Japan a top location for students.

For Japanese native students who have been educated in international schools, many universities have a special intake just for these overseas returnees. To be eligible for these programmes you need to have completed at least two years of high school education including your final year at an international school.

There is a rigorous entrance examination that emphasises essay writing and it is important to note that each university has different dates for their exams.

The requirements for non Japanese students are complex and set by each individual university.

The Japanese academic year starts in April.

www.studyinjapan.go.jp



Mexico

Studying in Mexico offers a unique cultural experience and both Mexico City and Monterrey rate amongst the QS Best Student Cities 2019. The Fantastic culture, food, academic excitement and the bonus of learning in the language of 600 million people all contribute to their place on this list.

Higher education in Mexico follows a similar format to universities in Europe but admissions requirements vary from institution to institution. You may be asked to take an entrance exam, or a test of language proficiency.

Application systems tend to be straightforward and you should apply at the start of Grade 12.

www.embamex.sre.gob.mx



New Zealand

New Zealand is considered to be nature's playground offering a palette of unique opportunities.

The higher education system offers a wide range of degree, diploma and certificate courses in many fields that equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in the global marketplace.

New Zealand universities are internationally recognised, their qualifications are respected, and students studying there benefit from full immersion in English.

The academic year in New Zealand starts from February to November (with a four-week break in June or July). Most universities start accepting applications the August before the academic year begins.

www.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz



The Netherlands

There are over 2500 English language courses taught in the Netherlands. As well as providing an excellent education, studying here can be more affordable than elsewhere, especially if you have an EU passport.

Some of the courses are less difficult to get onto than in France or Germany. However, universities tend to only keep the best students at the end of the first year, sometimes cutting as many as 40% of students from the course.

Most universities offer Dutch language classes as part of their courses.

Applications to Dutch universities are made via a central system, although some institutions accept applications directly from international students.

www.studielink.nl



Spain

With its rich history and culture, Spain offers international students the opportunity to create new attitudes and concepts about life, giving them a fresh perspective on the world around them.

About 2% of places at Spanish universities are reserved for students who come from outside the EU and some universities teach in English as well as Spanish.

To be accepted on to a degree programme you need your Beau Soleil diploma and after you graduate from school you take the Spanish University Access Tests, the Selectividad.

Selection is on academic criteria.

www.educacion.es



Switzerland

There are many different options for international students wanting to study at university in Switzerland, depending on your language ability as well as your academic ability.

There are twelve state universities in Switzerland, comprising ten cantonal universities and two Federal Institutes of Technology.

There are also many private universities in Switzerland who teach in English. Some of these university degrees have limited recognition worldwide. Always check if your degree would be recognised outside the institution that you are applying to. Webster University in Geneva and Franklin College in Lugano are fully accredited.

Switzerland has a world class reputation for the quality of its hotel management colleges. The pre-professional training combined with academic study is demanding and Switzerland's hotel management graduates are highly sought after.

Entry requirements vary by institution. Most Swiss universities have an application deadline of April 30th before admission in the autumn. The Universities of Applied Sciences, private universities and hotel management colleges all have different deadlines and procedures.

www.crus.ch

www.kfh.ch

French

- University of Geneva
- University of Lausanne
- University of Neuchatel
- Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL)

French and | or German

- University of Fribourg

German

- University of Basel
- University of Bern
- University of Lucerne
- University of St Gallen
- University of Zurich
- Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ)

Italian

- University of Lugano

For entry to these universities, you must be proficient in the language in which you are applying (C1 level.)

Entry requirements tend to be very strict with little or no flexibility. A specific combination of IB subjects is normally required and you should be aware of this when choosing your options for Grade 11.

Admission Requirements

EPFL

Admission to the first year without entrance exam if the following requirements are fulfilled:
38 out of 42 points (without bonus points) mathematics, b) one of the following: physics or chemistry and c) 1 language at Higher Level (1 language at A SL can be counted as HL);

3 additional subjects at Standard Level (SL) of the following: physics, biology or chemistry, geography, history, economics, 1 language only, mathematics, computer science.

Otherwise: Reduced Entrance Examination EPFL

ETHZ

Admission without entrance exam if the following requirements are fulfilled:
a) 38 out of 42 points (without bonus points) mathematics, b) one of the following: physics or chemistry and c) 1 language at Higher Level (1 language at A SL can be counted as HL);

3 additional subjects at Standard Level (SL) of the following: physics, biology or chemistry, geography, history, economics, 1 language only, mathematics, computer science.

Otherwise: Reduced Entrance Examination ETHZ

University of Basel

Minimum of 32 out of 42 points (not counting bonus points) and including 6 subjects, At least 3 of these subjects must be taken at Higher Level (one of which

must be mathematics or another natural sciences subject)

Universities of Bern, Fribourg, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Neuchatel, Zurich and St Gallen

Minimum of 32 out of 42 points (not counting bonus points) and including 6 subjects. At least 3 of these subjects must be taken at Higher Level (one

must be mathematics or another natural sciences subject) + admission test.

Beau Soleil Graduate Destinations 2015 - 2020



Canada

HEC Montreal
McGill University
University of Toronto

USA

University of California San Diego
University of Miami
New York University
Northeastern University
Art Institute Miami
Babson College
Boston University
Emory University
Fordham University
Loyola Marymount University
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Otis College of Art and Design
Pace University
Parsons School of Design
Santa Clara University
School of Visual Arts, New York
Skidmore University
Southern Methodist University
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
The New School
Trinity University
University of Southern California
University of San Francisco

UK

University of Cambridge
University of Oxford
University College London
University of Edinburgh
Imperial College London
London School of Economics
King's College London
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
Lancaster University
Birkbeck University
City University, London
HULT International Business School
King's College London
Loughborough University
Queen Mary University
Regents University
Royal Holloway University
University of the Arts
University of Westminster
City, University of London
Exeter University
HULT International Business School
Liverpool John Moores University
Queen Mary University
University of Glasgow



Switzerland

- Business School Lausanne
- EHL
- Ecole hôtelière internationale Glion
- EPFL
- International University of Geneva
- University of Geneva
- University of Lausanne
- Webster University

Australia

- University of Sydney
- University of Melbourne

Europe

- The American University of Paris
- Ecole hôtelière internationale Glion
- BIMM
- EU University, Barcelona
- Istituto Marangoni
- IE University
- Instituto de Empresa
- European University Business School

Where are they now?

Tips and insights from Beau Soleil Alumni

Alexis Guiter (2011 - 2015)



Universities attended: City University of London for Bachelors and King's College London for Master

Subject studied: Electronics Engineering

Current job title: Engineer

Current employer: Smart Kinematics (a startup!)

How did you get to where you are now? Dedication, hard work and an eye for opportunities.

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? No, I may have made mistakes, especially in my last 2 years at CABS and first year at university, but mistakes are a part of life and helped me grow.

What do you do now? Helping the startup get a product from idea to production. Learning how to run a business along the way and how to develop a product. In parallel I'm in contact with friends from CABS and we're looking for a Million/Billion dollar idea.

What does that involve? I'm working with the startup from home, so it's more relaxed. It is a team effort, with weekly meetings, lots of testing, some (healthy) arguments, and sometimes, long nights.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role? Stubbornness helped me a lot and not fearing to fail (a "fail fast" mentality).

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? Time management saved my life (that's a huge understatement). The IB in general helped make my first year at uni rather easy, although that backfired in maths (I got overconfident).

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in grade 11? Not yet, but I feel I'm on the right path!

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 | 17? Learn to balance work/study/social life better, don't take your physical health for granted and always aim high.

Regina Riojas (2009 - 2010)



University attended: Tec de Monterrey, Mexico City

Subject studied: Industrial Engineering

Current job title: Investment Banking Analyst

Current employer: Barclays

How did you get to where you are now?: Finished university and interned at UBS in the meantime, changed to investment banking upon graduation.

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? I would have stayed a few more years at Beau Soleil and maybe taken a few more finance courses in university.

What do you do now? Work at Barclays Investment Bank

What does that involve? We provide client advice on potential mergers or acquisitions, debt and capital emissions for large companies in Mexico as well as Latin America

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role? Strong technical skills for valuation, as well as strong socialisation skills for maintaining client relationships.

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? I learned to be more confident and approach people to build relationships, to be very committed to whatever it is that I'm doing and to constantly challenge myself.

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in grade 11? No, I had no idea what I wanted to do in grade 11!

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 | 17? To stop stressing out about the future, instead focus on what it is that you like to do and try to see what paths you can take doing that.

Boris Lovenfosse (2003 - 2006)



University attended: University of Bath (Undergrad, Politics w/ Econ). ESADE Business School and HEC Paris for MSc in International Management (CEMS double program)

Current job title: Chief of Staff (Europe & North America) for Pictet Wealth Management

Current employer: Banque Pictet & Cie SA

How did you get to where you are now? Worked for EY, a consulting company, which allowed me to do a project for my current employer.

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? Travel more when I was younger, understand that proactivity works well.

What do you do now? I look after our EU & North American Private Banking operations, managing the day to day for the CEO.

What does that involve? Setting objectives, running formal (regulated) and informal management committee, solving day to day issues (from commercial to HR to IT). It also involves a lot of listening to people and coaching / preparing them for next successes / steps.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role? You need to be open-minded, analytical, personable, flexible and motivated.

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? Feeling comfortable and chatty in most situations.

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 | 17? Start low, run fast and never look back. Most (if not all) will not build the next Facebook, but there are many incredible career paths out there, think of where you gain skills!

Clara Laviale (2009 - 2015)



University attended: King's College London (2015-2018); SciencesPo Paris (2018-present)

Subject studied: BA War Studies and History; MA International Security, with concentrations in Human Rights and European Studies

Current job title: I volunteer with a think tank based in Paris, called Parti Civil, assisting them in their fundraising efforts.

How did you get to where you are now? I would say hard work and consistency.

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? I would have wanted to go through it all without stressing and worrying as much!

What do you do now? I recently finished a year-long internship at the OECD as part of my gap year. I have just started my final semester at Sciences Po remotely and will be graduating in June.

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? Analytical and communication skills through my different classes, especially history, as well

as time management and organisational skills. I would also say perseverance and motivation through the different challenges and climbing Kilimanjaro in 2013.

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in grade 11? Yes and no. Yes, in the sense that I have stayed in the realm of international affairs. No, because my interests have evolved over the years especially as a result of my professional experiences. I have developed a strong interest in human rights issues, especially gender equality, only after I completed my undergraduate degree. I am planning on doing a final internship following my studies, either at the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights or at the OECD working on gender issues.

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16|17? I think my advice would be this: you don't need to get it perfectly right from the start. For those who are not sure what they want to do, that's okay. I was always obsessed with doing everything right, checking all the right boxes. Everyone's journey is different.

Anastasiya Yevchenko (2013 - 2016)



University attended: I am still studying at New York University, Tisch School of the Arts (2016-present). I studied for two years in New York as part of my acting/directing primary theatre training. I followed with three study abroad programs in Florence and London and have taken time out from study to work. According to my Academic Plan, I most likely will graduate this year. Most people who studied with me during my first two years have already graduated, which worried me at first. Eventually, I created my own plan and schedule deciding that it would be too scary to only start my career after graduation and I therefore shot my first professional short film during the summer of 2019.

Subject studied: Major in BFA Drama (acting, directing), Minor in Film, Minor in Producing.

Current job title | current employer: I am a self-employed freelance artist. I create projects in the theatre and film industries as a screenwriter/playwright, director, and producer.

How did you get to where you are now? I am at the very beginning of my career and at the end of my academic career at NYU (maybe I'll come back for a Masters in Film). I always knew what I wanted to do. Since I was five, I wanted to be an actress. I still love acting, but currently, I am more interested in writing, directing, and producing both in theatre and film.

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? I wouldn't change a thing. I am grateful for all the knowledge and experience I've gained. My knowledge of acting makes me a better director, so I do not regret the fact that I applied to NYU as an actor. That's what I like about the American university system - students are able to change their field of interest multiple times until they find their path.

What do you do now? I am an artist in theatre and Film. I am a writer (screenwriter and playwright), actor, director, and producer. I shot my first professional short film, *If We Had Tomorrow*, in the summer of 2019. The film was selected by 30 international film festivals with 61 nominations and 34 awards/honorable mentions (including "Best Short Film" at Switzerland International Film Festival). I am still working on the film's distribution and simultaneously, I am developing a theatre project that should premiere in October 2021. I have optioned the rights to Salvador Dalí's novel *Hidden Faces* and my play will be based on this book. I plan to create an immersive-interactive surrealist theatrical performance based on

this play. I am also writing two feature film screenplays, have ideas for the next short films and other future projects. These are the plans for the year 2021.

What does that involve? It involves a lot of planning and balancing work and academic life. Theatre and film industries are not just fancy red carpets, premieres, and awards ceremonies. It involves a lot of mental and sometimes even physical exhaustion (when you're on set). You'll face difficulties like funding, income, reception, pressure, lack of confidence. A person can only succeed or even survive in these industries if they are crazily in love with their profession, have passion, and desire to be hardworking. You'll only start winning if you realize that you don't need to prove anything to anyone – you should be doing this job because you LOVE it.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role?

For writing - patience, screenwriting/playwriting and storytelling skills, passion, networking, flexibility, good with deadlines, persistence, hardworking, imagination. Write, rewrite, and then rewrite again!

For directing - leadership, creativity, inspiration, directorial view/vision/voice, understanding of acting, communication, decision making, research/analysis of information, strategic thinking, hardworking, confidence, good at people skills.

For acting - creativity/creative insight, confidence, ability to market and network yourself, self-discipline and stamina, teamwork, time management, good diction, good memory, good at accents and dialects, good at improvisation, good voice training, languages, research, punctuality, people skills, maybe singing and dancing, have a business understanding of things, unique traits/skills might help (acting education is not crucial, but recommended. And it is always better to do a theatre acting degree and take acting-on-camera courses).

For producing - a mixture of being creative and organized/business-oriented, problem-solving, funding, multi-tasking, communication, managing skills, budgeting skills, analytical skills, assigning tasks/delegating, time management, flexibility, distribution knowledge.

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? How to be a hardworking student, to set and achieve goals, and properly do research.

Ana Lins (2005 - 2007)



Universities attended: Webster University Geneva; International Culinary Center, New York

Subjects studied: Psychology BA (Minors in Philosophy and Sociology); Culinary Arts, Grand Diploma

Current job title: Baking from home

Current employer: Myself

How did you get to where you are now?

It wasn't a short journey and I have never done anything remotely related to what I majored in at university.

I moved to New York after university. I always wanted to live here, and my younger sister was moving here for university, so I tagged along. The first few months, I didn't know what to do, so I was honestly just living my best life, going to parties, etc.

Eventually, I did get to work. I got an internship in the fashion industry at a prestigious artist management agency where I stayed for a few years and grew a lot. I started as an intern and left with a director title (small company), but I was drained and mostly miserable, so I quit. I took some web design classes, but that didn't do it. I moved to Miami for a few months to spend some time with my mom and to "figure things out". I worked one or 2 more fashion jobs and at an art gallery briefly, but that wasn't it either.

Throughout all this, I always loved to cook, but saw it more as a hobby. All my friends would tell me I should go to culinary school, and I would laugh it off. In 2019 I finally took the plunge and went to culinary school at ICC here in New York, and I loved it. I got a job at a 2 Michelin star restaurant, and it was exhausting and gruelling, but I was finally doing something I was really passionate about.

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? I wish that I hadn't deliberated so much on my decision to attend culinary school. Had I gone a year earlier I'd have had more time and work experience.

What do you do now? Currently, I'm a chef (albeit on an extended break due to COVID).

What does that involve? My job involves 10-12 hour work days, making very little money, constantly being at risk for burning or cutting yourself, and some serious manual labor. It's not for the faint of heart, but if you love what you do, none of that really matters.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role? Honestly, you just have to really love it. If you don't, I think it would be nearly impossible to do it. Other than that, you have to have stamina, determination and and you need to be able to take criticism.

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? There's one small one I still think of everyday: I make my bed every morning rain or shine, and I'm quite tidy. Although, much to the dismay of my houseparents, that skillset didn't kick in until after I left and had to be the one telling myself to tidy up and make my bed.

I also learned so much by being surrounded by different cultures, and after leaving I realized how different (in a good way) that made me from other people.

I don't know if the IB changed a lot since I was there, but I honestly felt it was a great academic curriculum that really prepared you for university.

I also made friends and connections for life. I'm still in touch with so many people I was with at CABS.

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in grade 11?

To be honest, I had no idea what I wanted to do at that age. I think deep down I knew I wasn't cut out for a 9 to 5 desk job or anything like that.

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 |17? If you're going to school, study something you're passionate about regardless of whether it will lead to financial success or what other people say.

Also, if you don't know what you want to do right now, it's ok. Enjoy this moment. Don't stress over it. A liberal arts university is a great place to learn about yourself and your interests. You have 2 years to decide your major (American system), so don't worry about it now.

Michal Burgunder (2007 - 2010)

University attended: Dickinson College, PA, USA

Subject studied: Mathematics & Physics

Current job title: Senior Software Engineer

Current employer: Jacando AG

What did you do first after leaving Beau Soleil?

I took a gap year. I travelled and visited Spain, Jamaica, and Canada, where I took a road trip across the country with my bicycle.

How did you get to where you are now?

A very long string of surprising and unexpected events.

What do you do now?

Apart from my job (building software), I am doing a lot of writing.

What does that involve?

Writing software and writing stories are surprisingly similar in nature: 80% of the time, I sit, think, and write at my keyboard. The other 20%, I either manage other engineers (for my job), which involves a lot of discussion, or I talk to friends and meet new people.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role?

I've come to believe creative types do best in this role. Engineering may sound very boring, but once you understand the basics, it becomes very creative work.

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left?

I've become culturally very sensitive on a global scale, which is something very rare in the world today. It gave international context to what was, and is, happening around the world.

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in Grade 11?

Sadly, and happily, no. I wanted to be a film producer, and make movies. I write screenplays in my spare time now, but working in the film business as a career, proved to be nearly impossible for someone who has many interests.

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 |17?

I don't know. Perhaps this: Life is not defined by day-to-day life, but by a handful of good and bad days, both of which which will come to you, regardless of who you are.

Take photographs of yourself and friends. Record things you think are funny. Keep a diary. And please: Do not drink ANY sodas regularly. It severely affects how you feel.

Joseph Dabbah (2008 - 2011)

University attended: Boston University (undergraduate), Columbia University Masters

Subject studied: Business Administration

Current job title: Real Estate Development

Current employer: Entrepreneur/self

How did you get to where you are now?

Worked through college developing small projects in Boston and worked my way into bigger deals with partners.

What do you do now? Developing film studios in underprivileged communities.

What does that involve? Financial understanding, good relation with film studios and city partnerships for programming.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role?

Being a good listener

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? Perseverance and never giving up

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in Grade 11? Somewhat yes. I was focused on hospitality focused development, this isn't a hotel but not far fetched given the role I play.

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 |17? Be more open to ideas, your path forward is full of detours.

Eleonora Smeriglio (2008 - 2010)



University attended: New York University (one year in Shanghai, two years in NYC and one year in Paris), now Columbia University.

Subject studied: Major: History of Art - Double minor: Philosophy and Politics (at College), now Business Administration and International Affairs (for my Master's)

Current job title: I am currently pursuing a dual Master's degree program at Columbia University (both an MBA at Columbia Business School and a Master's of International Affairs at the School of International and Public Affairs)

What did you do first after leaving Beau Soleil? I took a gap year during which I (i) visited Colleges in the US and prepped the applications, (ii) did two internships (one as an editing assistant to costume journalist Donata Sartorio, based in Milan; the other as a legislative office intern at the Italian Senate in Rome), (iii) climbed Mt Kilimanjaro and spent time at the Huruma orphanage with Beau Soleil, (iv) backpacked around India and Nepal, (v) assisted my godmother (an artist) on a business trip to Colorado and Texas, (vi) moved to Israel where I volunteered for an Israeli NGO called Save a Child's Heart (they sponsor heart surgeries for children from developing countries and the Ghaza strip).

How did you get from that position to where you are now? Prior to Columbia, I worked in politics and philanthropy. I started my career working for the Clintons (first at the Clinton Foundation in NY - where I was a full-time intern in the development team - and then on Hillary Clinton's campaign in 2016 from London - where I was working in the first-ever International office for any US presidential campaign) and then worked for the Royal family in England, where I was managing philanthropic engagements for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. The last job I got was thanks to the very first one!

Is there anything about your journey that you would change if you could? Not at all, I always did what felt right at the time I took the decisions. Maybe I would pursue a major in Philosophy rather than History of Art but I remember back then studying it made me happy.

What do you do now? Dual-degree student @Columbia

What does that involve? Pursuing 2 Masters in 3 years rather than 4 years. It's very competitive as one needs to be accepted in both schools separately to be able to do the dual-degree program.

What sort of personality traits do you feel you need to be successful in that kind of role? Usually they would admit people who display very strong leadership potential, but no specific personality trait - extroverts can make it as much as introverts! (though extroverts may find it easier as a huge part of the MBA experience is networking)

What skills did you learn at Beau Soleil that helped you after you left? Certainly resilience. I also learnt to sit around a table with anyone (which is a huge advantage in an increasingly interdependent and global world!)

Are you doing what you thought you wanted to do when you were in Grade 11? In grade 11 I knew I liked Philosophy and that I wanted to pursue my studies in the US - but that's pretty much it!

Is there any advice that you wish someone had given you when you were 16 |17? Think about what makes you happy and what you're good at, there's so much you can do out there! You shouldn't feel the pressure of living a life you do not like AND the best things that will happen to you will be the result of some effort, but also mostly coincidences!

Final Thoughts...

Communicate

Choosing your next steps can be exciting, terrifying and confusing. Talk with your family, your teachers, houseparents, friends and the College

Counselling team about what is the best fit next for you. No question is too silly and don't be afraid to change your mind.

Be excited by your exploring

Whether you wish to plan your next steps to make the world a better place, make your first billion, or revel in intellectual delights, be excited about

the options that you have. You are fortunate and privileged accept that for the greater good.

It is your life – love living it NOW

Carpe diem! The future is important, but so is living your life to the full right now. Make the most of every

opportunity presented to you and enjoy the unique experience of life as a Beau Soleil student.





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