

#### **Contents**

Page 5: Word of welcome by UStudy director Marina Meijer

Page 6: Junior College? College? University?

Page 9: Is it cheaper to study in North America?

Page 12: Why study in Canada?

Page 17: A Gap Year

Page 21: How can UStudy help you?

Page 22: Thornton Academy

Page 25: Student Story: Casper Koopman

Page 26: Student story: Kiki van Essen

Page 28: Student story: Anouk de Graauw







#### **Dear Visitors,**

UStudy is honored to welcome you to our annual Education Fair, which is celebrating its 7th anniversary this year! The Fair is once again focusing on educational opportunities in both the US and Canada. We are sure that this fair will leave students, parents and school officials well informed about the many study opportunities in North America.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Gemeentelijk Gymnasium Hilversum and Rodenborch College for opening their doors to us and co-hosting the 2019 Go Global Education Fair.

UStudy's aim is to provide expert and personalized advice on the US education system via our unique placement service packet and to support our clients during each step on the path to fulfilling their North American dream. Studying in the US and Canada is available to anyone, regardless of age and school level. For a short or long time!

UStudy has been going through exciting times this year: we opened a branch in Malta and have intensified operations in our office in Vancouver, BC in Canada.

To help orient yourself today, we offer you this booklet which contains information about studying in the US and Canada, our test preparation workshops and provides you with information on this year's fair exhibitors.

If you are interested in combining a study program with high school or college-level sports, we kindly refer you to our partner organization: Go USA Talent in Sports (GUTS). Information for student-athletes can be found at the back of this booklet.



We sincerely hope that you enjoy the 2019 Go Global Education Fair. Please drop by the UStudy table to meet the team. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Warm regards,

Marina Meijer UStudy Director & GUTS Academic Director

#### **Junior College**

A Junior College (or Community College) is a twoyear school that offers affordable education. Junior Colleges form a unique category of colleges in the US.

Junior Colleges grant associate degrees which are a great step-up to a bachelor degree: after graduating, students can choose to transfer to a four-year college or university to obtain a bachelor's degree. With an Associate Degree from a junior college, only 2 years of study are needed to obtain a bachelor degree.

This transfer path is very attractive to students who are looking to keep the cost of studying in the US low while getting a degree from a college or university. UStudy has even had clients who started at a Junior College and transferred to an lvy League school!

However, it is important to research whether all your credits transfer to your new school. Each institution determines which credits are transferable and which are not. Your UStudy study advisor can help you figure this out and make your transition as smooth as possible!

# College? Junior College? University? THE DIFFERENCE

# College & University

Colleges and universities both offer undergraduate (bachelor's) programs. Contrary to i.e. the Dutch education system, the most significant difference between a college and a university is the level of programs the institution offers:

- **College**: Undergraduate programs

(Associate and Bachelor);

- **University**: Undergrad. **and** 

graduate programs

(Master and PhD degrees)

as well as research

opportunities.

While a college usually offers degrees in a specific field (such as arts, or engineering), universities often offer programs in multiple disciplines.

With UStudy's help, the opportunities are endless! From Ivy League schools to community colleges, from an active city-life to a quiet school campus. Your dream can become reality! Get in touch with our Study Advisor now and schedule an appointment.

#### FAQ: What does Liberal Arts mean?

Liberal Arts covers a broad range of degrees, such as **humanities** (i.e. arts, languages, literature), **social sciences** (i.e. history, psychology, politics), **natural sciences** (biology, chemistry, physics) and **formal sciences** (i.e. math, statistics).



Which institution am I eligible for with my educational background?

Every institution has their own set of rules when it comes to student eligibility. Your study adviser at UStudy is happy to find out which schools match your situation and wishes. Call us Doctor Love and let us work our magic as we find the most suitable school for you!

To give you a general idea of your study options, based on your educational background, we have added some information to your student guide. The degrees in bold represent the degree you would like to obtain in the US. along with the type of institution that offers such degrees. The information in italics show the educational background that is usually required by such an institution.

- No age limit -

#### Master (University)

Min. entry requirement:

#### **Bachelor**

(University/Four-Year College) Min. entry requirement: GED,

IB, vocational (MBO 4), high school (Havo or Vwo)

- Ages 16 and up -

#### Associate (Junior/Community/ Two-Year College)

Min. entry requirement: GED, IB, vocational (MBO 1-4), high school (Havo or Vwo)

- Ages 16 and up -

#### High school / IB (High school/Prep school)

Min. entry requirement: IB, vocational (MBO 1 - 4), high school (VMBO, Havo or Vwo)

- Ages 15 through 19 -

BOARDING AND DAY, GRADES 6-12

# Thornton Academy

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SCHOLARSHIP FOR FAIR PARTICIPANTS Over 200 classes, including 28 AP courses and 7 foreign languages

Saco, Maine (90 minutes from Boston)

Top 1% of high schools in the US for athletics

Modern dormitories







#### STUDYING IN NORTH AMERICA CHEAPER THAN STUDYING IN THE NETHERLANDS?

IT REALLY IS POSSIBLE: STUDYING AT SOME US COLLEGES CAN COST LESS THAN STUDYING IN THE NETHERLANDS. HOW? LET US EXPLAIN.

#### **HOW MUCH DOES STUDYING COST?**

Do you know how much studying in the Netherlands really costs you per year? Often, students do not realize what they spend on a room, tuition, books, insurance and food. The Dutch National Institute for Family Finance Information (Nibud.nl) did research on the average expenses of a student (who does not live with their parents) in the Netherlands. We compared these figures with one of the cheapest options to study and live in the US. We didn't even use any scholarships in this example!

#### **STUDENT EXPENSES 2018**

COUNTRY	UNITED STATES*	THE NETHERLANDS
Tuition	€ 2,245	€ 2,060
Books and school supplies	€ 1,220	€ 696
Room and board	€ 5,365 All-in	Room: € 5.004 Food: € 2,172
Personal expenses	€ 1,462	€ 2,628
TOTAL	€ 10,292	€ 12,560

<sup>\*</sup> Based on the USD-EUR exchange rate of April 23, 2018.



#### WAIT, WHAT?

IN THIS EXAMPLE, A STUDENT SPENDS MORE ON STUDYING IN THE NETHERLANDS THAN IN THE US, HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

Factors that make studying in the US or Canadian affordable:

#### Location of the school

The location of a school affects the cost of living in North America. Your rent, groceries and entertainment is cheaper in certain regions and places compared to other. Do you want to go for the most economical options? Look at schools in the less well-known, and in the sparsely populated states. Stay away from the big cities!

Other factors that have not been included in this example, but which do help make your study in North America more affordable:

#### Your Dutch DUO loan

Did you know that, in most cases, you can take your DUO loan with you, if you want to obtain a higher education diploma in the US or Canada? Also, you can get a reimbursement for your student travel product (studentenreisproduct), which gets you almost an additional 100 euros per month. A great way to finance your study abroad!

#### Apply for American or Canadian scholarships

In the example above, we didn't even included the possibility of an American scholarship. Many American and Canadian schools would love to have a European student on their campus and they can have a budget to help finance it. For example, students with good grades can get one or more academic scholarships. And in the US, talented athletes can finance their college/university's tuition because they recieved a sports scholarship. A large number of colleges give financial support to talented international students, if their financial and personal situation gives reason to do so – in some cases, students can receive up to 100% financing. It is also possible to get a combination of all types of financing from an American school. With a scholarship, tuition fees can be largely or completely paid for. If you would like to know whether you are eligible for a scholarship, please contact us. We help you to qualify for scholarships and help you with the application!

#### Why study in Canada?

Canada is the second-largest country in the world by total area and has been welcoming students, immigrants, refugees, and others into the country since it began establishment in the late 1800s. Since then it has been ranked among the highest in the world for government transparency, quality of life, economic freedom, and, importantly, education. Canada invests heavily in all levels of its education system, spending 6% of GDP on education and investing much of that in post-secondary programs. For all of these reasons and more, Canada was recently named the Most Desirable Destination for international students based on categories such as affordability, quality of education, safety, visa opportunities, and political climate.

Although there are numerous reasons for studying in Canada, we have highlighted three reasons why you should definitely consider it.

#### QUALITY EDUCATION

Well, for one: have you seen these photos? But more importantly: globally, the Canadian education system has an outstanding reputation. In fact, 26 Canadian institutions are counted among the best in the world, according to Times Higher Education's World University Rankings 2018. Three universities in particular are ranked in the Top 50 in the World, a huge feat for a country with such a relatively small population.

#### **AFFORDABLE**

Canada is, globally, among the highest-ranked when it comes to living standards. For international students, school tuition fees are generally lower in Canada than those in the US and the UK. That means that you will be enjoying high-quality education, for a reasonable fee, while residing in one of the most beautiful countries in the world!

#### RESIDENCY OPTIONS

International students who have graduated from a Canadian college or university may be eligible for post-graduation working permits and even permanent residency. Our UStudy Advisor for Canada would be more than happy to provide you with more information on the possibilities for international students. Canada is currently host to nearly half a million international students and recognizes their value to the country beyond their studies. Being employed during or after you program is complete means you can continue to make international connections, grow in your field, and improve your English.





#### **IN CANADA**

#### **UStudy in Canada**

To better cater to our students around the world, we opened our fourth office!
Our address in Canada is:

#### **USTUDY - CANADA**

422 Richards Street 170 Vancouver, BC V6B 2Z4 Canada

T +1778 723 2973 E info@ustudy.world



#### MEET KATELYN

#### Katelyn McGuinty

Study Advisor for Canada



Growing up playing field hockey and later acting as a coach at the high school level, she has an appreciation for the importance of sport in a student's life. She has experience with a variety of application systems from around the globe, and recognizes the value of a strong application for each candidate. She enjoys working with students as they pursue their goal of education in North America.

Katelyn is available to answer all your questions about studying in Canada!

Katelyn**e**UStudy.world





Next to its breathtaking scenery, great food and exciting city-life, Canada is globally-recognized for something else. The Canadian education system has an outstanding reputation! It is no wonder why there is a growing interest among international students to in study in Canada.



#### **STUDENT STORY**

Casper Koopman studied at Foothill College, a community college in California, before he transferred to the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Canada. "Though my intention was to only spend a year in the US, the ambition of the students around me motivated me to get the most out of this experience here." This marks Caspers fifth year of studying in North America. He is en route to graduating from UBC with a degree in Political Science.

From a *HAVO*-graduate to a student at one of the most prestigious universities in the world in just five years' time.. How a gap year at a community college helped him realize his ultimate study dreams. "To this day I have not met any other Dutch person who has had the same experience as I had. It's really unique!"

Casper is a delegate at the Model United Nations (MUN), a member of the student government, and he has a job working on campus.

#### Interested in reading his inspiring story?

Visit our website: www.UStudy.world





### MOCK SAT/ACT QUESTIONS

#### **MATH**

Q1. (x2y - 3y2 + 5xy2) - (-x2y + 3xy2 - 3y2)Which of the following is equivalent to the expression above? A) 4x2y2 B) 8xy2-6y2 C) 2x2y+2xy2 D) 2x2y+8xy2-6y2

**Q2.** 1 decagram = 10 grams 1,000 milligrams = 1 gram A hospital stores one type of medicine in 2-decagram containers.

Based on the information given in the box above, how many 1-milligram doses are there in one 2-decagram container? A) 0.002 B) 200 C) 2,000. D) 20,000

#### WRITING & GRAMMAR

Use the passage below to answer the questions.

[1] Box's research is important because the fires of 2012 may not be a one-time phenomenon. [2] According to scientists, rising Arctic temperatures are making northern latitudes greener and thus more fire prone.[3] The pattern Box observed in 2012 may repeat [Q1]. itself again, with harmful effects on the Arctic ecosystem. [4] Box is currently organizing an expedition to gather this crucial information. [5] The next step for Box and his team is to travel to Greenland to perform direct sampling of the ice in order to determine just how much the soot is contributing to the melting of the ice sheet. [6] Members of the public will be able to track his team's progress—and even help fund the expedition—through a website Box has created. [Q2]

Q1. A) NO CHANGE B) itself, C) itself, with damage and D) itself possibly,

Q2. To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 4 should be placed A) where it is now. B) after sentence 1 C) after sentence 2 D) after sentence 5.

Check your answers here: UStudy.world/SAT-ACT

# TEST PREP MISCONCEPTIONS

Stefania Lessen has been a test prep teacher for several years. She explains several of the misconceptions surrounding test prep.

#### 1) "A FEW WEEKS IS ENOUGH TIME TO PREP"

One things she stresses the most is the amount of time students should take to prep for the ACT, SAT, math test, or TOEFL. "Many students email me the week, or even the night before they take the test. It's a real shame! Students in the US start prepping approximately 6 to 12 months in advance."

#### 2) "MY LEVEL OF ENGLISH IS SUFFICIENT"

While Dutch students generally speak English very well, the language used throughout the exam can be difficult. "it is advanced English – even for natives it can be confusing. So especially if it's your second language, you need to start prepping on time!"

#### 3) "I TOOK MATH IN SCHOOL - I SHOULD BE FINE"

Also, students in the Netherlands usually take math A, or math B in high school. "However, if you have never taken trigonometry, then you are not going to learn it in a one-day workshop to either. It takes time to understand it!"

Need help prepping? Sign up for one of the Test Prep Workshops!

NEED HELP PREPARING FOR:



SAT/ACT?

TOEFL?

# ESSAY-WRITING?

**USTUDY & GUTS PREP-WORKSHOP DATES 2019** 

**TOEFL** 

SAT

ACT

26 October 201916 November 2019

16 November 2019 15 December 2019 19 October 2019 09 November 2019 08 December 2019 02 November 201901 December 2019

Visit our website for the exact times and locations.
WE ALSO OFFER PRIVATE TUTORING, IN PERSON AND ON SKYPE!



## **GAP YEAR**

Studying in the US or Canada may be one of the most valuable experiences as a student - and beyond! We have summed up just some of the benefits you will enjoy by spending a gap year in the land of the free. And don't let the name fool you. We also offer Gap Semester options to those who want to spend a shorter period of time in the US. If you don't have enough time to prepare, or if all the administrative work seems a bit overwhelming - don't panic! We can offer you a simple gap year program for a fixed fee, and more often than not: a more flexible application process! Your UStudy Advisor can help you find the school of your dreams!

#### Why a gap year?

Did you know that research conducted by Nuffic (2012), indicated that Dutch students who had participated in a gap year are more confident and certain when choosing a study that suits them? Gap year students are also more likely to complete their higher education studies. A study experience in the US offers you an innumerable number of advantages, and can shape the rest of your life:

- \* Broadening your knowledge across diverse fields of study, or deepening one specific field of study – individual subjects are offered in every conceivable domain – from economics to business, from international relations to sciences or pre-medicine;
- \* Developing skills that are useful for your future studies or professional career, as well as those that help you develop personally. For instance; public speaking, academic writing, acting, research methodology, journalism, and speech writing. You also learn to build relationships with people from various backgrounds and different cultures;
- \* Develop your English language skills

   both written and spoken actively
  and effortlessly;
- \* Build up an international network of student colleagues and lecturers;
- \* Some gap year study programs facilitate a **12-month working permit** for anywhere in the US.



#### **Getting started**

Quality high schools/prep schools, colleges and universities all welcome gap year students! Admission requirements are often more flexible and the costs are lower than for regular first-year applicants.

For instance, you may not have to sit the SAT/ACT or TOEFL test, which saves on preparation time and cost. UStudy can help everyone, including last-minute applicants!

# Step-by-step plan

Dreaming of a fulfilling and fun study experience in the North America? There are countless options; what about an American boarding school? Or a gap year as a visiting student at a Canadian university? Maybe you'd like to complete a four-year degree in research or liberal arts at a world renowned American educational institution? Perhaps you are interested in specializing in your profession and participating in a master's program in the North America!

Whatever you wish to do, UStudy can help!



#### How can UStudy help you?

UStudy's Complete Guidance Plan: Let us hold your hand throughout the entire process! We get to know you, your goals, your budget, your personal wishes and will help you through the entire process. This will include the following:

- Translating your school reports and turning them into an American style transcript which will include your GPA (grade point average)
- Editing and proofreading your personal essay. Essay writing workshops also available
- Creating and editing an American-style academic resume
- Editing English-language personal statements and motivation letters
- Test preparation for SAT/ACT and TOEFL (private and group lessons possible)
- Contacting teachers and giving advice on recommendation letter writing, including translating/editing, and further guidance on uploading of documents on Common Application.
- Working with your school decanen/counselor on their role in your USA dream
- Helping you find the right schools for your level/ambitions/finances. Once decided upon, we will give you detailed guidance on how to apply
- Answering all application questions (Common Application or direct application)
- Give feedback on extra essays/questions (required by most schools/colleges)
- Liaising on your behalf with international admissions staff
- Finding out about scholarship opportunities
- Finding out about housing options
- Admissions interview preparation (if necessary)
- Translating your diploma and final grade list.
- Providing examples of official letter from bank/answering financial questions
- Helping with wait-list and scholarship letters
- Once admitted, we provide information about your visa application, housing, insurance etc.

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For more information contact:

#### Office of International Programs

**Gwynedd Mercy University** P.O. Box 901 Gwynedd Valley, PA 19437 isl@gmercyu.edu 001-215-641-5584









gmercyu.edu



educational, private boarding and day school serving grades 6 through 12. Founded in 1811, Thornton is one of the nation's oldest independent schools. Our historic, 80-acre campus is located in Maine, the #1 safest state in the country. Situated in the vibrant community of Saco on the southern coast of Maine, Thornton is surrounded by some of the finest beaches, snow skiing, scenic areas, and cultural offerings throughout New England. Thornton Academy is 90 minutes from Boston by bus and train. 15 minutes away is Maine's largest city, Portland. Portland is home to award-winning restaurants and was recently named one of American's Most Livable Cities.





### Why study at Thornton Academy

Thornton's diverse and inclusive community is comprised of boarding students from more than 35 countries, and day students from throughout the northeast. The school is known for its high-caliber academics and athletics, large variety of extracurricular opportunities, and award-winning visual and performing arts program. Thornton students are engaged: 72% of students play sports, and Thornton Academy ranks in the top 1% of schools for athletics. Additionally, students can take advantage of a 4-year dance program

Thornton offers an 11:1 student-to-teacher ratio and more than 200 courses, including 28 AP courses, 42 honors courses, and seven foreign languages. Students are challenged and supported by accomplished faculty, and the school consistently achieves a 100-percent acceptance rate for its college-bound seniors.

# What are my options at Thornton Academy

Thornton offers an 11:1 student-to-teacher ratio and more than 200 courses. including 28 AP courses, 42 honors courses, and seven foreign languages. Students are challenged and supported by accomplished faculty, and the school consistently achieves a 100-percent acceptance rate for its college-bound seniors. With a 1:1 iPad program, all students have the technology they need to succeed. Measure the amount of erosion on local beaches. Chat and send videos to your German exchange student. Create a presentation to have your character elected during novel study for Animal Farm. At Thornton Academy, you can become who you want to be.

#### STUDENT STORY

#### Kikki van Essen - Green River College, Washington



Kiki graduates with friends

If you told anyone in September 2012 that I was going to get my AA, BS, and MA in the U.S., you would have been laughed at. Had you told everyone I was going to look at getting my PhD, everyone, including myself, would have declared you crazy.

In my first month at Green River College, I was young, insecure about my English, and terribly lonely. During the first week of orientation, I told the staff at Green River I was going home after the first quarter never to return. This fortunately did not happen. During my first quarter at Green River, I got involved in a lot of activities. I became an International Student Ambassador Apprentice, Marketing Assistant, Peer Mentor, President of the European Club, and participated in countless other

activities. These opportunities Green River provided me were vital to my integration into the US. After 3 months, I was not ready to leave. I had started loving my time at Green River, the staff, and my new friends.

During my time at Green River I had a chance to tru a variety of different classes and majors. When I arrived, I was studying Biology, however, after taking a few biology classes, and working on campus. I found that I was much more interested in studuina a business-related field. It wasn't until I took my first Communication Studies course that I found out what mu true passion was. Mu Communication instructors gave me the courage to express my desire to get my PhD in Communication Studies for the first time

After Green River, I worked in Australia for a year and transferred to Minnesota State University-Mankato to study Communication Studies. I finished my B.S. within a year and decided to continue at Minnesota State University to get my M.A. with a Graduate Teaching Assistant position, teaching 2 Fundamentals of Communication classes per semester. The full tuition waiver and stipend that came with

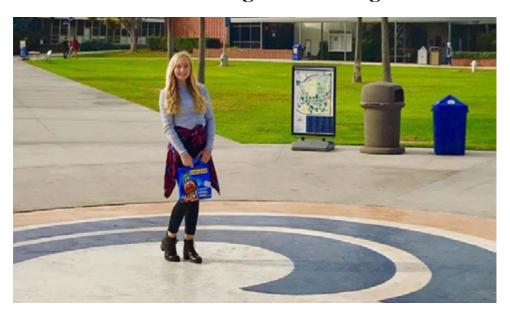


that allowed me to continue studying in the U.S. instead of going back to Europe. During this program, I found that my experience at Green River set me up for my research interest in international students. I have written research papers on belonging for international students and will continue to research on the needs of students studying abroad.

Without my initial challenges, and the help I got at Green River, I would have not gotten where I am at today. Green River gave me a chance to explore who I am, find out my interest, and get confidence in my own ability. At Green River, I have created friendships that will last a lifetime, and reaches across borders and time zones. To me, Green River truly has been a place where the world meets.

#### STUDENT STORY

#### Anouk de Graauw – Orange Coast College, California



After a year of high school in California, Anouk immediately started looking for ways to return to the United States for a longer period of time. During a visit to the GO USA Education Fair in 2016, she discovered the financial benefits of going to a community college. Anouk just started her second year at Orange Coast College in California.

A few years ago, I attended high school in Pasadena, California. I felt at home in Cali so as soon as I got back to the Netherlands, I immediately started looking for reasons to return to the US. At first, I wanted to work as an au pair.

But my parents said: "If you really want to go to the States, then you should go to school. Otherwise, you will just throw away another year." Then, one day, Marina Meijer came to my school to talk about the many study options in the US, and I thought "hey!" That is when I got serious about it.

I do not think I would be here, right now, if it wasn't for UStudy. I wanted to go to the US so badly, but when I saw some of the tuition fees, I thought "ugh...". But at that time I didn't know that community colleges existed! It is a much more affordable option.

My mother encouraged me to go to the Education Fair. After talking to Marina about all the different options, it came down to two places: Seattle or back to California – such a hard decision. I made a list of pros and cons and that is when I knew I had to go to Cali. It is familiar to me, and the weather is much nicer than in Seattle.

For me, the American style of teaching is a much better fit than the Dutch style; It feels more motivatina. In the Netherlands, it is almost like uou aren't allowed to make any mistakes. Here, I feel less pressure. I am also happu with the American education system; it is a lot easier to switch majors here than it is back home. After majoring in Graphic Design last year, I was able to easily switch to Early Childhood Development this uear.

I didn't come here to play sports, but once here, I really wanted to do something. I played a little tennis in high school and Orange Coast College was one person short for their tennis team, so I joined them.

We won the State
Championship that year – and
I had only been playing for 6
months. Ha ha, how cool is that!
In the State Championship,
the best team from Southern
California played against
the best team from Northern
California; It was a close
game – but we won! It was
an awesome experience. And,
because I had a 4.0 GPA, I also
won a scholarship for being the
best international student!

I am really enjoying my time here. I have a tight group of friends; we go to Disneyland so frequently that I ended up getting an annual pass. We also hang out at the beach all the time. Everything is so close by! I do miss home sometimes, but with today's technology, it makes it a lot easier to stay in touch with everyone. But it's not the same, though, you can't hold them. I did meet my boyfriend here, in the library, and his family have become like family to me; They take great care of me, and they really include me in everything. After graduating, I would really like to stay in California. My dream is to open my own preschool here!

## Take a Gap Year at Green River College

**66** I didn't know what I wanted to study yet, so I decided to take a gap year between high school and university. Green River absolutely helped me to decide what I wanted to do for the rest of my life."

> LISA VESSIES THE NETHERLANDS

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