THE UNCOLLEGE BLOG

CHOOSE A CATEGORY

HACKADEMICS! GAP YEAR COLLEGE RESOURCES HOW TO

Capstone Recaps: Nick and Finding Your Path through a Gap Year

By Emma Stiefel

December 5, 2018



Capstone Recaps: Josh and Learning to be Your True Self during a Gap Year

By Emma Stiefel

November 19, 2018

"Hi. I'm Josh Goodman. And I am a nerd."

GAP YEAR, UNCOLLEGE, CAPSTONES

Capstone Recaps: Madelyn and How Gap Years Teach You to Embrace Uncertainty

By Emma Stiefel

November 16, 2018



GAP YEAR, UNCOLLEGE, CAPSTONES

Capstone Recaps: Allison and Learning to Embrace Discomfort during a Gap Year

By Emma Stiefel

November 15, 2018



GAP YEAR, UNCOLLEGE, CAPSTONES

Capstone Recaps: Emily and Discovering Your Inner Self During a Gap Year

By Emma Stiefel

October 19, 2018



GAP YEAR, UNCOLLEGE, CAPSTONES

Capstone Recap: Charlie and How a Gap Year Challenges You to Expand **Your Perspective**

By Emma Stiefel

October 17, 2018



GAP YEAR, UNCOLLEGE, CAPSTONES

Capstone Recap: Ben and How to Rediscover Joy During a Gap Year

By Emma Stiefel

October 16, 2018



GAP YEAR, UNCOLLEGE, CAPSTONES

What Is UnCollege Anyway?

By Morgan Ostrowsky

August 1, 2018



PARENTS, GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!, INTERVIEWS

Talking to Parents About Your Gap Year

By **Jean**

July 31, 2018

By Ilana Sawyer



GAP YEAR. HOW TO

How to Network Before Graduation

By **Drew Evans**

July 31, 2018

While in school, many college students focus on grades and enjoying the social advantages that



© COLLEGE RESOURCES, HOW TO, CAREER ADVICE

Can You Hack an Education in AI & Nanotechnology?

By **Jean**

July 31, 2018

By Jean Fan



Need to Nail an Interview? Here's How.

By Morgan Ostrowsky

May 22, 2018



GAP YEAR, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!, THE GOOD STUFF, CAREER ADVICE, INTERVIEWS

What's Something You Know Now That You Didn't When You Dropped Out?

By **Rainesford**

May 13, 2018

When people ask about my time out of school, I give them an honest answer:



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!, ASK A DROPOUT

The Essential College Drop Out Reading List

By Rainesford

May 9, 2018

As a former college drop out, I'll admit that one of the things missing from my life the most was..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!

Scheduling, Balancing, and Juggling: Hacking Your Schedule When You're Way Too Busy

By Corey Orndorff

April 2, 2018

Today you have to work out, study, attend class, catch some sleep, take a test, go to your job,...



3 Ways to Be a Leader

By **Jean**

April 1, 2018

By Nelson David Bassey



I Dropped Out of College...Here's What Happened.

By Taylor F

March 13, 2018

My name is Taylor and the last year and a half has been a roller coaster. I started a blog that...



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!

Be The House: How to Stack The Odds of Life in Your Favor

By **Jean**

February 5, 2018

This is a guest post from Jay Cross, founder of The DIY Degree. In 2011, Jay used a strategy known..



HOW TO, OPINION

8 Ways to Motivate Your Teen in the New Year

By Morgan Ostrowsky

November 26, 2017



PARENTS, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!

Why Your Teens Matter (And How to Make the Most of Them)

By Rainesford

November 16, 2017

While teenage life is undoubtedly erratic and emotionally-loaded, it doesn't give adults the right...



HACKADEMICS!, OPINION

How to Learn Anything

By Mohnish

November 1, 2017

How to Write a Personal Learning Plan



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!

Do Parents Today Have the Courage to Raise Adults?

By Lisa Nalbone

October 18, 2017

The standing ovation ended and the audience slowly shuffled to the foyer where Julie..

Gap Year Profile: Newaz Akbar and Being a Rebel

By Amoit

October 10, 2017

Newaz Akbar grew up in Dhaka City, Bangladesh, and, as a self-described rebel, stepped off the..



GAP YEAR, #MEETCOHORT12

Anmol Agrawal: Blazing a Trail to a Dream Career

By Chris Kelly

September 17, 2017

When people ask me who can benefit from the UnCollege Gap Year program, I give them one simple..



GAP YEAR, CAREER ADVICE

Getting A Job Without A Degree

By Rainesford

September 11, 2017

In a 2013 article on jobs without a college degree, Lifehacker summed up the "do I need college to..



CARFER ADVICE

How Dropping Out Can Save Your Life

By Mohnish

September 1, 2017

This post was written by Ryan Holiday, the marketing genius behind American Apparel and Tucker Мах..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!, OPINION

Gap Year Profile: Yzzy Swearingen - Defying Societal Expectations

By **Amoit**

August 24, 2017

Like many high school graduates, Yzzy felt that she was obligated to go to college so as not to...



GAP YEAR, #MEETCOHORT12

Is It Enough to Just Be A Student Anymore?

By Rainesford

August 18, 2017

When thinking about attending college, there are some topics that are commonly explored – is higher...



COLLEGE RESOURCES, OPINION

Should I Take Time Off Before College?

By Drew Evans

August 16, 2017

Applying to college comes with a lot of difficult choices. From choosing the right schools to..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, CAREER ADVICE

Are College Grads Getting The Jobs They Wanted?

By Jim Paterson

August 14, 2017



Gap Year Profile: Gabie Lazareff And Her Spirit Of Adventure

By **Amoit**

August 10, 2017

The beauty of UnCollege comes from the diversity of the fellows. This week in our #MeetCohort12 ..



GAP YEAR, #MEETCOHORT12

Apprenticeships: Benefits and Drawbacks

By **Jean**

August 1, 2017

People who criticize the mass education system often point to the apprenticeship model as an..



Does College Have to Be Four Years?

By Rainesford

July 10, 2017

I never thought it was a coincidence that the box has four walls and college has four years. What...



© COLLEGE RESOURCES

The Best MOOCs for Your Summer

By Corey Orndorff

June 26, 2017

Thinking of summer typically evokes feelings of relaxation and fun, but for me the past few years..



HACKADEMICS!. THE GOOD STUFF

College Consideration Quirks

By Jim Paterson

June 19, 2017

Most of us are familiar with the standard list of college application requirements, but there are..



COLLEGE RESOURCES. GAP YEAR

Making The Most Of Your Summer

By Jamie Stewart

June 7, 2017



But Seriously, Who Is Most Likely to Succeed?

By Jim Paterson

May 16, 2017

Two experts concerned about the future of education have recently suggested that high schools are..



THE GOOD STUFF

Decentralizing Education: How Startups are Dismantling the University

By Mohnish

May 14, 2017

Written by Dale Stephens



PARENTS, HACKADEMICS!, THE GOOD STUFF

How to Be Proactive and Make the Most Out of Freshman Year

By Jennifer Schaffer

April 9, 2017

Not everyone in the UnCollege community is an unschooler, college dropout or some sort of academic...



© COLLEGE RESOURCES

Why I Chose UnCollege Gap Year

By Rainesford

March 8, 2017



Hacking Your Way To A Reading Habit

By Mohnish

February 27, 2017



Starting Your Application? Consider a Gap Year

By Morgan Ostrowsky

January 4, 2017

Applying to colleges is an exhausting process. There's the matter of deciding on the colleges you...



A Guide to Compensation

By Chris Kelly

December 20, 2016

If you are just graduating, chances are you are looking for your first job, and if you're lucky,...



Dropping Out of College? Start Planning Before You Make the Leap

By Morgan Ostrowsky

December 7, 2016



How and Why I Dropped Out of the Ivy League -- and Couldn't Be Happier

By Zachary Slayback

December 5, 2016

I was your "textbook" high-achieving student.

I was enrolled at an Ivy League university that I had..



To Degree or To Not Degree: Networking Tips for Everyone

By **Jean**

November 25, 2016

By Porter Gale



The Top 7 Skills Employers Look For From Young Adults

By Jennifer Schaffer

November 21, 2016

So, you've graduated from college—or high school—and you're about to enter the big bad workforce...



If I Drop Out, How Do I Get a Job?

By Rainesford

November 18, 2016

First, there are two things to keep in mind: One is that some career paths require a degree, and if...



COLLEGE RESOURCES. HACKADEMICS!

Is College Outdated? How to Break Away From Institutional Learning

By Jamie Stewart

October 5, 2016



Body Language Tips for Young Professionals

By Chris Kelly

October 2, 2016

We don't spend as much time interacting face-to-face anymore. Email and text messaging are..



Should I Have a Plan When I Drop Out of School?

By Rainesford

September 30, 2016



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!

What's the Biggest Misconception About Being a Dropout?

By Rainesford

September 16, 2016



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!

Why High School Students Need More Academic Freedom, Less Rules

By Corey Orndorff

September 7, 2016

You may have heard the old phrase "creativity thrives in constraint." And often it does: some of...



Is There a Difference Between Needing a Break From School and **Dropping Out?**

By Amber G

September 6, 2016

The following is a post from our Ask a Dropout Series. You can find more posts from the series here.



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!

Hacking your First Year of College

By **Zack**

August 31, 2016

Many of us look at college as a time to play. I did. The grand plan was to meet people, take some..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!, OPINION

Volunteering in Tanzania

By Chris Kelly

August 30, 2016



College or the Road Less-Traveled? Deciding What's Best For You

By **Jean**

August 29, 2016

At UnCollege, our goal is this: to get people to take control of their education in whatever way.



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, OPINION

8 Skills Every Young Professional Should Have

By Jamie Stewart

August 24, 2016

Gap year. College. Job. Internship. There are so many opportunities out there today for young..



CARFER ADVICE

Will Employers Hire Dropouts?

By Rainesford

August 12, 2016



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!

How To Hack Your College Schedule This Fall

By Jamie Stewart

August 10, 2016



COLLEGE RESOURCES

Does Society Look Down on College Dropouts?

By **Amber G**

August 5, 2016



Creating In-Person Study Groups

By Mohnish

July 24, 2016



Should Achievement Be the Point of Education?

By Rainesford

July 18, 2016

In a changing culture of education and work, more students are questioning what it means to be...



Interview Series: Christian Keller, Filmmaker

By Mohnish

July 16, 2016

After Swiss-born Christian Keller dropped out of high school, he quickly became a more efficient..

COLLEGE RESOURCES, HACKADEMICS!, INTERVIEWS

What I Learned By Taking a Gap Year

By Mercy Favrow

July 15, 2016



Ilkin Telli: A Wandering Spirit

By Jamie Stewart

July 8, 2016

Hack Your Summer Reading

By Rainesford

June 22, 2016

One of the best parts of summer? It is the perfect time to dive into the pile of books that's been..



HACKADEMICS!, THE GOOD STUFF

How do I explain my decision to drop out to my friends and family?

By Amber G

June 19, 2016

Conventional advice would tell you that if you plan on dropping out, you need to show people you..



CAREER ADVICE, ASK A DROPOUT

How To Talk To Your Parents About Your Future

By Jamie Stewart

June 15, 2016

Although the world is your oyster, you may need some help prying open the shell. Aside from being..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, HOW TO

Malia & Co.: Political Figures Who Took A Gap Year

By Jamie Stewart

May 31, 2016



Music And Programming Go Hand In Hand For Mentor Edwin Elia

By Jamie Stewart

May 26, 2016

Becoming a software engineer took a lot of hard work and individual drive for Edwin Elia. Drawing..



HACKADEMICS!, INTERVIEWS

How Will You Get a Job if You Don't Have a Degree?

By **Jean**

May 5, 2016

How will you get a job if you don't have a degree?



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!, CAREER ADVICE

Advice for Acing Your First Job

By James Dong

April 19, 2016

If you're just starting your first corporate career*, you're probably basking in the glow of "I...



CARFER ADVICE

The Benefits Of Remote Jobs

By Jamie Stewart

April 18, 2016

Remote jobs are the newest trend in the business world. But while the word 'remote' might come..



CAREER ADVICE

Volunteering in Mérida, Mexico with UnCollege

By Chris Kelly

March 20, 2016



It's Okay to Take Time to Figure Things Out

By **Admitsee**

January 3, 2016

Is going to college worth it? There is no absolute answer to that question. Sorry.



Meet Jordan Boyd: UnCollege Fellow Turned Marketing Director

By Chris Kelly

December 19, 2015

Just a few years ago, Jordan Boyd was in a state of sure uncertainty. With a new school year.



Wow! Higher Education Has Changed in My Lifetime...

By Danika McClure

December 14, 2015

When the economic downturn struck in 2007, the higher education system was greatly impacted...



The Cost of Being a Perfect Student

By **Jean**

November 25, 2015

By Alex Clifford



How to Set Up a Happy and Productive Gap Year

By **Jean**

November 23, 2015

So you want to take a gap year, and you have lots of ideas for what it could look like. Perhaps..



GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!, OPINION

6 Questions You Need to Ask Yourself Before Taking a Gap Year

By **Jean**

November 11, 2015

When I decided that I was going to take a gap year, I spent endless hour planning (read:..



Why Top Universities Want Students To Take a Gap Year

By **Jean**

October 19, 2015

When I told people I was taking a gap year, they were surprised. But they were often even more..



What are the biggest challenges of dropping out?

By Amber G

October 1, 2015

This post is a part of our ask a dropout series. Find more in our college resources section!



COLLEGE RESOURCES

Micah's Guide to Creating a Personal Website

By **Jean**

September 16, 2015

by Micah Horner



Millennials. Parents and Hard Conversations

By **Jordyn**

July 24, 2015



PARENTS, HACKADEMICS!, INTERVIEWS

How A Teacher Inspired Me to Leave School

By Rainesford

July 19, 2015

Everything is related to everything else, we are not separate from what we love and believe, and..



© COLLEGE RESOURCES

How to Make the World Your Classroom

By Isabelle Rizo

July 13, 2015

So you decided that you want to take a gap year, time off from school, or deepen your educational..



Make Your Certificates Count

By **Jean**

July 12, 2015

By Catherine Stevens



Question Everything: A Gap Year Experience

By **Jean**

July 9, 2015



Design Your Own Learning Bootcamp: A 13-Step Guide

By **Jean**

June 30, 2015

There's been an explosion of school-like learning programs in the past few years. Programming..



Drishti Narang: Focusing On The Big Picture During Gap Year

By Jamie Stewart

June 14, 2015

Drishti Narang is not done with her gap year just yet, but she's learned some pretty insightful...



How Gamification Is Revolutionizing Science Education

By Michael Bodekaer

June 9, 2015

The following is a guest post by the cofounder of Labster, Michael Bodekaer.



Track Your Progress: Try These Online Self-Development Tools!

By Linda Craig

June 4, 2015

When people reconcile with the current state of their personality, thinking that it's impossible to...



The "What You Need to Believe" Framework to Problem Solving

By James Dong

May 28, 2015

A powerful way to frame discussions is to ask, what do you need to believe for XYZ-something to be..



HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!, OPINION

4 Tips for Aspiring Entrepreneurs

By Mohnish

May 25, 2015

Written by R.C. Thornton



HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!, CAREER ADVICE

Public Speaking + Negotiations = My Weaknesses...

By Chris Kelly

May 21, 2015

The following is a short reflection on a few UnCollege skill-building workshops by current fellow.



GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!

Why a Gap Year is More Than "A Year Off" From School

By Morgan Ostrowsky

May 18, 2015



GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!, TRAVEL

Fundamental Tips for Young Entrepreneurs: An Interview with the Fizzle **Show's Barrett Brooks**

By Chris Kelly

April 10, 2015

There's no shortage of advice on becoming a successful entrepreneur. From in-person seminars to..



HACKADEMICS!, THE GOOD STUFF, CAREER ADVICE, OPINION, INTERVIEWS

Alexander Schnapp: An UnCollege Fellow with a Knack for Hack (and Phone Food)

By Jessica and Jon

March 16, 2015

Alexander Schnapp is an unorthodox, entrepreneurial-spirited beast...or at least that's how others...



The University of Everywhere: Reviewing Kevin Carey's "The End of College"

By Morgan Ostrowsky

March 10, 2015

What will the future of education look like? Is the foundation of our current system stable?



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!

How To Study STEM Outside of School

By Jennifer Schaffer

March 5, 2015

Much has been written about the importance of learning STEM skills at an early age. STEM, the study..



PARENTS, FEATURED, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!

The Harsh Financial Reality of Dropping Out of College

By Chris Kelly

March 3, 2015

If a student drops out of college today, how do parents respond?



PARENTS, COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, FEATURED

Celebrity Gap Years

By **Drew Evans**

March 2, 2015

Slowly but surely, gap years are gaining popularity in the US. Both parents and students alike are..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!

Real World Skills 101: How to Build Your Network of Mentors

By Jennifer Schaffer

February 26, 2015

This post is part of an ongoing series created by UnCollege on the skills young adults need as they.

PARENTS, GAP YEAR, FEATURED, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!, THE GOOD STUFF, CAREER ADVICE

What 4 Years of US College Tuition Could Pay For

By Suchi Rudra

February 17, 2015

The College Board's most recent survey discovered that the average cost for attending one year at...



Think Your Resume is What Sets You Apart? Think Again.

By Michael Thomas

February 3, 2015



Hack Your Local Library

By Morgan Ostrowsky

January 27, 2015



What Schools Don't Teach: Leadership

By **Jean**

January 20, 2015

By Jean Fan



2 Skills Every Gap Year Student Has to Learn

By **Jean**

January 13, 2015



Last Minute Gifts for Self-Directed Learners

By Morgan Ostrowsky

January 12, 2015



PARENTS, COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!, THE GOOD STUFF

Do Teenagers Want or Need to Travel?

By Jim Paterson

December 24, 2014

There are a lot of familiar images and popular heady phrases you'll see describing international...



Ivory Tower: The Truth About the Student Debt Crisis

By Chris Kelly

December 17, 2014



PARENTS, COLLEGE RESOURCES, THE GOOD STUFF

Should I Continue Going to School?

By Jean

December 5, 2014

In school, we spend a lot of time feeling really confused. When I was there, it was definitely the..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, OPINION

Challenge Day

By Morgan Ostrowsky

October 29, 2014



GAP YEAR, CAREER ADVICE, INTERVIEWS

What I Learned About Self-Directed Learning In Tokyo

By Morgan Ostrowsky

October 19, 2014

During my Gap Year with UnCollege, I spent 3 months in Tokyo, Japan teaching English, doing...



GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!

How To Create Your UnCollege Reading List

By Mohnish

October 5, 2014

Written by Dale Stephens



Willpower vs Habits: Why Habits Work

By Morgan Ostrowsky

September 25, 2014

Learning to make effective habits instead of relying on willpower to help you give yourself a..



GAP YEAR, HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!

Fall 2014 Reading List

By Morgan Ostrowsky

August 31, 2014

Here's a peek at what our UnCollege fellows and staff are reading this fall:



GAP YEAR. HACKADEMICS!

Why Leaving Home Helped Me Discover Who I Am

By Keri Klinges

August 29, 2014

For most of my teenage years, I couldn't wait to get the hell out of the United States. The idea of..



GAP YEAR, FEATURED, HACKADEMICS!, TRAVEL

An Ivy League Student Asks, "Why Haven't You Dropped Out Yet?"

By Chris Kelly

August 21, 2014



How I'm Building My Own Curriculum

By Riley T

August 17, 2014

I graduated from high school in December, 2011. I was, at the time, like most students finishing..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, GAP YEAR, HACKADEMICS!

Why a College Degree Isn't Your Ticket to Financial Security

By **Jean**

July 22, 2014

Many of us have heard of a statistic that's been thrown around over the past decade: college grads..



COLLEGE RESOURCES, CAREER ADVICE

The Joy of Making Things

By Mohnish

June 22, 2014

Adam Lupu is a Learning Architect who is designing and building new structures in education and...



The Power of Listening: An Activity For Parents

By Morgan Ostrowsky

June 16, 2014



PARENTS, HACKADEMICS!, CAREER ADVICE

The Reality of College Statistics

By **Jean**

June 14, 2014

By Ilana Sawyer (2014 Fellow)



GAP YEAR, OPINION

Why It's Dangerous to Compete

By **Jean**

June 1, 2014

By Jean Fan



HACKADEMICS!, OPINION

A Beginner's Guide: Using Twitter for Learning

By **Jean**

May 12, 2014

By Jean Fan



Start Here: Who Are You?

By **Jean**

May 6, 2014

By Jean Fan



What are you doing with your life?

By James Dong

April 23, 2014

A startup friend and I were commiserating about how, after leaving the management consulting..



Accredible: A Platform For Hackademics To Showcase Knowledge

By **Jean**

January 15, 2014

Devavrat Ravetkar, a user of Accredible, introduces the platform to us after reading our piece "How.



5 Takeaways from Benjamin Franklin's Life

By **Jean**

October 19, 2013

By Radhika Morabia



Introducing Our Inaugural Gap Year Fellows!

By **Jean**

September 14, 2013

Saskia Bünte



13 Hacks for Getting and Keeping Great Mentors

By **Jean**

August 17, 2013

Timothy Kenny is the author of "Accelerated Learning for Entrepreneurs" and blogs about accelerated..



5 Reasons You Should Blog About Your Learning

By **Jean**

July 27, 2013

By Joshua Kemp

Josh started learning to program out of desperation after getting kicked by a horse..



Are You a Hackademic?

By **Jean**

July 6, 2013

By Jean Fan



Interview: Why a High School Teacher Supports UnCollege

By **Jean**

June 30, 2013

Paul Wegzyn was a high school salutatorian, majored in mathematics and economics in college,...



Advocating For Your Learning And Leadership Styles

By **Jean**

June 9, 2013

By Tiffany Mikell



Don't Try to "Beat" the School System—Transcend It

By **Jean**

June 3, 2013

By Matthew Manning



How to Write a Traditional Resume Without Traditional Credentials

By **Jean**

May 25, 2013

By Tiffany Mikell



Growing Up: My Gap Year Experience

By Michael Krakower

May 22, 2013

I joined Gap Year after a couple years in college, and kept every intention to return to school..

Don't Buy Into the "College Experience"

By **Jean**

May 18, 2013

By Jean Fan



Too Much Teaching, Too Little Learning

By **Jean**

May 1, 2013

By Jean Fan



How I Hacked the Music Industry

By **Jean**

March 28, 2013

By Jordan A. Boyd



HOW TO, INTERVIEWS

How to Be an Effective Learner

By Mohnish

March 23, 2013

7 Steps to Learning Efficiently and Effectively



HOW TO, HACKADEMICS!

Self-Directed Learning: An Inner-City Perspective

By **Jean**

February 11, 2013

By Tiffany Mikell



HACKADEMICS!

A Letter to Parents and Hackademics

By Lisa Nalbone

January 1, 2013

By Lisa Nalbone

