

Universal Reasons for University
The Importance of Attending College
by Aaron Yarbrough

With the changing of the seasons, so too do students go through a change, a change from high school to the rest of their lives. High school is a place of relative comfort and safety, yet kids today still have their fair share of worries. One of the biggest worries of students involves the future of their education, in other words, going to college. Having to look for a university they want to go to, getting accepted into it, paying for all the fees like books, boarding, and food, and most of all, making it through their courses and getting a degree are all worries that this year's seniors deal with. It's such a hassle, so many people become apprehensive and shy away from going to university. But college is so much more than just another four years of school, it is a gateway into the real world, and is one of the most important processes in joining the workforce for almost all young adults in the modern world.

Most of more advanced jobs available in the United States require a college degree, such as a bachelor's or a master's, and anyone who has dreams about getting a certain job will most likely have to go to college before they can even think about applying, people with a degree had only a 5.2 percent unemployment rate, while those without had a 10.3 percent unemployment rate, almost double the rate. But nowadays, employers want to see more than just a degree and a high GPA. While this may seem to work against the case of going to college, it is actually in it that one learns the other things that an employer is looking for: a willingness to work, a positive attitude, and connections to reputable people to ensure that they are getting a good deal if they hire someone. All of these things can be found in college, not as a part of the curriculum, but as a part of the people who inhabit these places of higher learning.

The work required in order to succeed increases with each advancement in the educational system, and college is no exception. Even if the free time allotted to each student increases, it is not used leisurely, instead, it is used to study for upcoming exams and completing the homework that a professor assigned. Doing such work is a grueling task, but it is necessary in order to pass the class. While some may be less inclined to do work, they will soon find that it is different from their days in high school. The teachers in college would like for their students to succeed, but if they do not make an effort to learn, then the teacher would have no sympathy for them. After all, they have no time to baby every person too lazy to work on their own time. When in high school, the price of failure was time, ranging from summer school to redoing a year, but the price for failure in college is cold, hard cash. Due to the monetary incentives, people who go to a university develop a dedicated work ethic, something that an employer is looking for.

But college is not only hard work, it is also a lot of fun. It is different from high school, which has rigidly set rules and limitations. The attendees of higher educational institutions are old enough to govern themselves, and are given much more freedom over their activities and interactions. A club can help someone locate others who share the same interests as them, from sports to technology to games, there is most likely a club for it that can suit the needs of an interested party. Also, there are the renowned sorority and fraternity circles, which are both entertaining and destructive in equal measure. Making friends and having fun will help a job seeker be more positive and make a greater impression on their new coworkers and their boss.

Lastly, colleges are developed as a school to create workers, so it is only natural that

places looking for work would spread their roots around here, and a sufficiently savvy student can take full advantage of that. Internships and working opportunities exist in abundance, especially around areas that are specifically geared towards creating workers for that kind of job. These will come in handy, considering if a firm knows the name of their interviewee beforehand, it is much more likely to hire them. The professors can also be a good connection to turn too, as firms are likely to respect the word of the people who train their workers, maybe even themselves.

Not going to university and joining the workforce right after finishing may seem like a good idea, as it saves both time and money, but this is not the case forever. Someone with a degree can earn more money each paycheck, making up for any lost time and also providing a more secure future. College is an important part of life, not only for getting a diploma but also for developing life skills that will stick with someone for the rest of their lives. It may seem daunting, but it is also a fun experience that will help young adults find friends and a purpose. If the price to get into college seems to be too high, look for financial aid and scholarships; they can help pay for a significant portion of its expenses. Universities want people to attend them, it's what gives them their revenue, so they can make it worth it through financial incentives. There are many reasons to go to college, and as summer approaches and seniors graduate, they will not be wrong to make the life altering choice of going to university to develop skills they will use for the rest of their lives.

The Language Age

The importance of communication

by Aaron Yarbrough

As inhabitants of the modern world, people have more interaction with other human beings halfway across the world than ever before. The internet, one of the most outstanding technological marvels of today's world, connects people with similar interests, no matter where they are located geographically. So, with the increased intercommunication, it is becoming more common than ever to speak another language in addition to one's native tongue. As such, it is only appropriate that it become common for each and every citizen of the United States speak a foreign language on top of their own, or at the very least, have enough of an understanding to grasp the basic idea behind the language. Learning to speak a new language has many social and

worldly benefits. Namely, a connection with a large portion of the world, opening up more opportunities to travel or learn from their culture, allowing the development of skills that comes in handy for future occupational opportunities.

The amount of people who speak English as their native tongue numbers fairly high at 335 million speakers in around 101 different countries, making it the third most spoken language, but out of 7 billion people, the total world population, 335 million seems to be only a small percentage of all the people in the world. Thus, by learning another language one can open up to a much larger population of people they can interact with. Through the interaction with those of different and varied cultures, someone can become a more culturally enriched person, which will help solve life problems as different ways of thinking can help to resolve troubles. They can also use their experience to make more friends and garner more interest.

On the topic of garnering more interest, speaking more than one language is a very admirable skill as it involves hours of dedicated study and practical application. Therefore, when it comes to job searching, someone who can speak another language is a much more attractive offer to prospective employers. Not only does it give the impression of a dedicated and hard-worker who focuses on the more worldly things in life, it also enables the worker to take in requests for a good or service from a larger range of people, which will lead to an increase in revenue. Since there are so many extra opportunities offered by learning another language, it is a great skill to learn for the security of a stable future.

Many people feel that learning a language is a waste of time, it is harder than it looks and if they are going to live in the same place all their lives, they shouldn't need to bother to learn another language from somewhere halfway around the world. But the problem is, the world isn't so small that the only instance of someone needing to speak another language would be if they travel to another country. People who speak other languages and not the one they know will one day make their way to them for their own reasons. Thus, learning a new language will always in some way come in handy, no matter where the location may be. As for its difficulty, there are many people and classes looking to teach the language, notably, in high school, foreign languages is a mandatory class. So take a greater interest in what the teacher has to tell, for it may help to develop a skill that will come in handy for the rest of someone's life.

Clean Up Your Act
The importance of proper hygiene
by Aaron Yarbrough

Times are much different in the modern world when compared to how things were hundreds of years ago; some changes have been for the better, some for the worse. But, in that same vein, there are some habits from eras past that seemingly have not faded away from the minds of the people. That, of course, is the way that people interact with the world around them, more specifically, how they choose to face the world in such an unhygienic manner. All too often, people feel it to be too bothersome to take the time to wash their hands after dealing with something dirty or using the bathroom. But with all the hygienic advancements that the populace has access to nowadays, avoiding cleaning up is just not convenient and it is not an intelligent or informed decision. The impact cleanliness has had on the lives of today's generation cannot be overstated. Not only does it keep germs and diseases at bay, but it is also the reason for the increased lifespan compared to the past.

While a bathroom may seem innocuous at first glance, that is just what can be seen at face value. The truth behind a bathroom is that it is host to many different colonies of germs and bacteria, many of which are hardy enough to survive even the most regular of cleaning. This goes double for public restrooms that many people use on a daily basis. Everything that can be touched carries with it a possibility of holding several different potential diseases and sicknesses. The worst part is, whenever somebody leaves said bathroom, they are carrying all those deleterious organisms outside to the wider world. People who properly wash their hands or those

with immune system deficiencies all come into contact with these germs simply because someone couldn't have been bothered to wash their hands for five seconds.

We do not make sure that we are clean just to get rid of the germs that inhabit our surroundings. Washing up has several positive benefits as well. For example, the secret to longevity is held within the advancement of hygienic techniques and regular maintenance. In the past, before the invention of convenient technologies that allow for the ease of self-grooming, people lived in their own filth every day. Naturally, they didn't have the expansive lifespans that people are used to today, they were lucky if they lived well into their thirties. With all that this generation has access to, it could almost be considered self-harmful to avoid living clean, as all the exposure to germs will shorten someone's very life.

There are definitely some people that feel that avoiding germs is the coward's way out, that dirt and grime build character. While their opinions should definitely be considered, as completely avoiding germs can lead to weakened immune systems; however, it is still all too obvious that this is not the case in all situations. Not washing your hands after using the bathroom does not give someone some kind of super-immunity system, it only makes them gross, and every time they shake someone's hand or eat food they are getting "bathroom floor" in places it shouldn't be. A clean lifestyle is the basis for a healthy lifestyle, it can hold back disease and lengthen lives, if everyone took efforts to wash their hands, not only will diseases be less likely to spring up, but it will also increase the time we have left on this earth.