

Module -1 : Understanding the Global University Trends

A very warm welcome to all our students and parents who have decided to partner with Pro Map for planning out their career journey. We assure you that you are in safe hands when it comes to preparing for Top Colleges and our success is directly dependent on your success.

As a starter, let us take you on a global journey to help you understand the university trends.

We would be covering universities across:



- USA
- Canada
- UK, and
- India

So do not forget your Boarding Pass and get ready for a global adventure!

Let us first jet set to USA, which is home to a large number of the world's leading universities, be it the Ivy League, MIT, Stanford, Arizona State, etc.



But one question that bugs me is that why do so many students choose USA for their higher education?

Well, there are a number of factors which makes USA one of the top education destinations in the world:

1. **Academic Excellence:** The higher education system is one of the finest in the States with excellent programs across all disciplines be it traditional choices like engineering to the more specific ones like nanotechnology.
2. **Resources:** You gain access to the best of technology, academia, experts, research studies, almost anything that you can think of when it comes to education.
3. **Opportunities galore:** Be it the option to become an undergraduate researcher or to appear for placements at top global firms, leading universities in USA give you that edge when it comes to exposure and opportunities.

What leads to such an 'in-demand' education system? Well experts say that this is attributed to a number of factors like:

1. **Academic Flexibility:** Universities in the US provide critical exposure to many generic programs and offers a wide range of flexibility when it comes to choosing majors.

2. **Liberal Approach:** Students are exposed to a number of generic courses to broaden their educational horizons. These could include subjects from english, social sciences, maths, natural sciences and so on.

But how is the higher education system in USA like?

It can be summed in the following points to give you a broader idea:

1. **Duration of the program:** A majority of the undergraduate courses are of a 4 year duration vis-a-vis when compared to their 3 year long European counterparts.
2. **Majors and Minors:** Students are expected to choose their majors when they are a year or two down in their coursework to select their specific course of studies in the form of major and minor specializations.
3. **Program Structure:** There are basically two types of programs offered during undergraduation, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.). B.S., engineering, management programs are more tightly structured as compared to their B.A. counterparts.

We hope we were able to bring in some clarity related to USA's higher education system. This will be elaborated upon further in the upcoming modules 2 and 3.

Now let us move to USA's northern neighbour, Canada which has been growing as one of the leading higher education destinations in the world.



What makes this land of maple syrup so attractive to International students? I think it's the climate, forests, diversity, eh there's more to that!

1. **Quality of education:** Canadian Universities like the University at Toronto, British Columbia, McGill, etc. are known for their academic rigour and their diverse approach towards education. Undergraduate programs are known to be driven by innovation and research oriented minds, which makes Canadian courses one of the most sought after in the world!
2. **Accessible education:** Universities across Canada have tuition costs much lower than their US counterparts. This when coupled with the ease of application process makes it a red hot study destination.
3. **Social connect:** Canada has turned out to be an inclusive and progressive nation under the leadership of its current Prime Minister, Mr. Justin Trudeau. A number of student friendly policies has worked wonders for Canada's international appeal.

But there's more than just these 3 factors which have contributed to Canada's education prowess. The backbone of Canada's higher education system are the following three pillars:

1. **Unique Administration Setup:** Canadian universities high degree of autonomy and academic freedom which enables them to carry out their processes without any interference from the government.
2. **Student oriented:** With friendly policies like student-centered service ecosystem to guide the new joiners, innovative teaching mechanisms and its flexible teaching process be it elective selection, course design, Canada has it all!
3. **Multicultural dimension:** Right from hiring faculty members from across the globe to bringing in the multicultural angle in recruiting students, Canadian universities are mini-world representations on campus.

The Canadian education structure can be summed in the following points:

1. **Duration of the program:** Undergraduate programs are divided into diplomas and degrees across community and undergraduate colleges respectively. Each of these vary from a 2 to a 3 year coursework.
2. **Degree outlook:** The principle behind the degree structure is a la carte under which students can choose subjects from a range of disciplines and work in alignment with the credit system.
3. **Diversity among regions:** Quebec has a range of difference in connotations associated with higher education. College is usually seen as a pre-university program which could be 2 to 3 years long which would lead to a bachelor's degree. Elsewhere in Canada, college denotes a community college or a technical school where student gets a certificate, diploma or an associate's degree.

Now, it's time to board your ship across the Atlantic. The UK awaits your presence!



Home to legacy institutions like the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge (collectively called as Oxbridge), UK is known for its strong academic focus.

What makes the UK so attractive to International students?

1. **Quality education:** Higher education in the UK has long been resonated with high quality and world class facilities. Beyond Oxbridge, colleges across the UK carry forward this legacy, thus giving student more options to choose from.
2. **Economical:** Yes! UK is indeed less expensive when it comes to tuition costs as compared to USA.
3. **Work opportunities:** There is an allowance to work around 20 hours per week for students along with their coursework thus giving them an opportunity to earn while studying.

How is the higher education structure like in the UK?

Well, we'll take you through this one as well.

1. **Program Duration:** Majority of the degree programs in the UK are of 3 years. In addition, the 4 year courses have been increasing in popularity over the years.
2. **College vs University:** College is viewed as a Further Education Institution which prepares students to earn a degree whereas a University is viewed a Higher Education institution at the end of which students gain degrees.
3. **English language requirements:** Exams like TOEFL, UCLES, and IELTS are to be taken to be able to apply for higher education courses in the UK.

Now it's time for India!

Well, there are a number of factors which makes India an upcoming higher education destination:



1. **Government initiative:** The Study in India initiative by the Government of India, aims to make India as one of the leading nations in the region for higher education. Through seat reservation for international students to recognizing institutions of Eminence (IoEs), the government is leaving no stone unturned to make India as one of the leading destinations in education.
2. **Upcoming institutions:** IISc, IITs, IIMs, etc., have been featuring in a number of reputed rankings like QS, THE and Forbes, thus making it an upcoming leader in the field of higher education.

But, how is the education structure in India like? Let's have a look:

1. **Academic Focus:** Indian institutions are known for their research output and the specialized courses being offered. Institutes like IISc, IITs, IIMs, IIITs, JNU, DU are known for their academic rigour.
2. **Centralized Accountability:** The University Grants Commission (UGC) oversees the higher education in India through 15 autonomous institutions established under it.
3. **Course Duration:** There are 4 year courses with engineering topping the list as well as 3 year courses like in Commerce and Humanities.
4. **Affiliate College System:** There are a number of colleges within a State University, which makes it one of the most intriguing elements of the Indian higher education ecosystem.

Now let us understand more about the range of factors which you should be looking at while selecting colleges in:



- USA
- Canada
- UK, and
- India

If you are looking at USA for pursuing your higher education, then you need to consider the following factors:

- Institution Type
- Institution Reputation

Let us take these one-by-one in greater detail so that you have more clarity.

Institution Types

There are 7 categories of colleges within the US, namely:

1. Specialized Colleges
2. Interdisciplinary Colleges
3. Research Universities
4. Liberal Arts Institutes
5. Public vs Private
6. Community Colleges
7. Need Blind and Need Aware Institutes

Let's have a detailed look at them one-by-one,

1. Specialized Colleges are those which focus on a specific interest or a student population. These include the following sub-types:
 - a. Arts Colleges
 - b. Single-sex colleges
 - c. Religiously affiliated colleges
 - d. Specialized-mission colleges

Colleges like Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Rhode Island School of Design and Berklee College of Music would classify as Specialized colleges.



Did you know?

Berklee College of Music has a dynamic application process for its undergraduate B.M. program. Applicants can choose from a range of audition sites and dates to record their live audition and interview.

2. Interdisciplinary Colleges or Universities

Universities like Carnegie Mellon offer a variety of majors and degree options, be it bachelor's, master's or doctoral. Usually universities consist of a number of constituent colleges which could be focussing on liberal arts, healthcare or sciences.



3. Research Universities

Research Universities are institutions where major focus lies on conducting research oriented activities followed by regular teaching. The courses and degrees on offer are more specialized and diverse in nature.

Universities like those forming a part of the coveted Ivy League like Yale and Cornell, New York University and Duke University are prominent Research Universities.



Penn



COLUMBIA



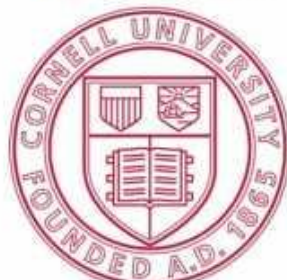
HARVARD



Dartmouth



Yale



Cornell



BROWN



PRINCETON



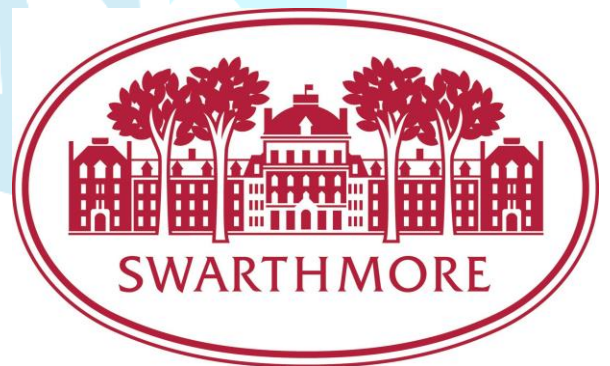
Did you know?

Cornell University looks for an applicant's involvement. It gauges this through:

- Extracurricular activities,
- Community involvement,
- Workplace experience, and
- Leadership

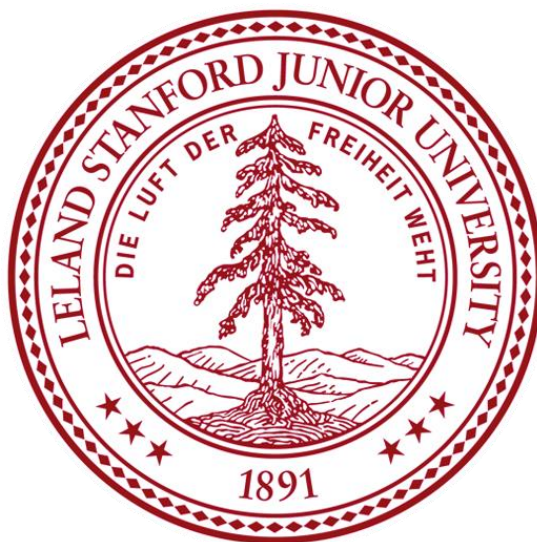
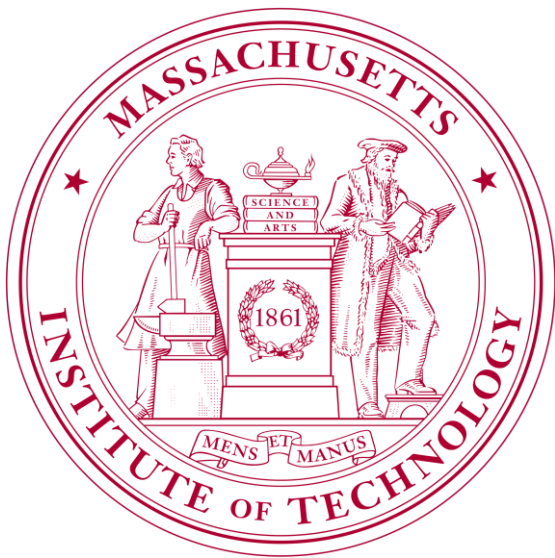
4. Liberal Arts Institutions

Colleges like Swarthmore offer undergraduate level courses in liberal arts and sciences. These institutes have smaller enrollments and class sizes and students have to choose their majors while choosing electives from a broader range of choices.



5. Public and Private Institutions

Private institutions like MIT and Stanford are funded by tuition fees, private sources like through alumni donations, etc.



Public institutions like University of California and Penn State University are funded by local and state governments. Usually fees at such universities are lower than their private counterparts.



Did you know?

Penn State looks at a student's profile in a holistic manner which includes the academic records along with an audition, a portfolio review, cultural background, personal statement and the activities list. The admissions committee take a real close look at the roles that an individual has

been playing, be it that of a son or a daughter, student, employee, sibling or of a volunteer's to understand the applicant better.

6. Community Colleges

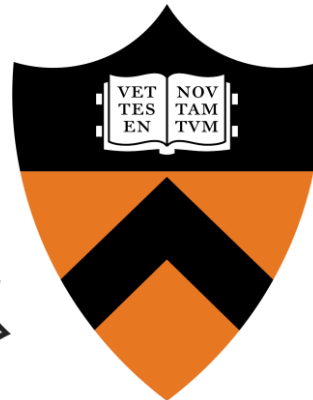
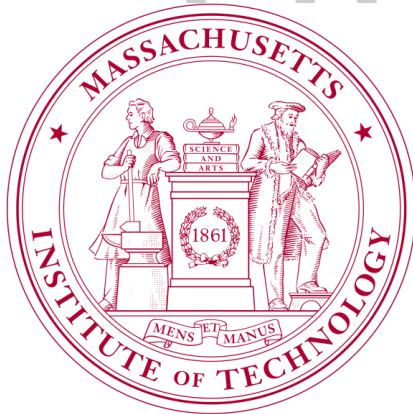
Community colleges are state funded institutions which offer two year courses, also called as Associate's degree, which is an undergraduate-level qualification.

The California Community Colleges System, one of the largest in the US, is the governing body of more than 100 community colleges spread across the state.

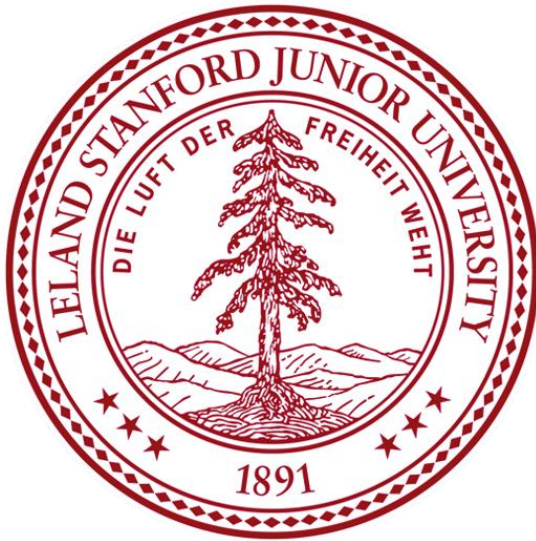


7. Need Blind and Need Aware Institutes

Universities like MIT, Yale and Princeton, do not take into consideration a student's socioeconomic situation while offering admissions. In simpler words, a student's ability to pay is not factored in during the admission process.



Institutes like Stanford and Drexel University are need aware institutions which factor in a student's ability to pay during the admission process.



Next, we look at the college reputation which forms the second criterion to evaluate colleges.

Let us bring in the creme-de-la-creme universities of the US, the Ivy League. These Universities are viewed as some of the most prestigious and top ranked universities in the world.

Find out more in-depth details on how Ivy League Universities fare globally, by visiting here: <https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2019>

Ivy League +

Universities like Stanford, MIT and Duke are known for their academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, innovation and high selectivity on the lines of Ivy League.

Stanford and MIT are known to be ranked higher than a number of Ivy League colleges.

Want to know how Ivy League Plus Universities are placed globally?

Visit: <https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2019>

Middle Tier

Arizona State University(ASU), Michigan State University and Purdue are some of the Middle Tier universities which are known for their academic rigour and excellence in innovation.

As a matter of fact, ASU has emerged as one of the leading centres of innovation in the world, leaving behind Stanford and Harvard.

Want to know more?

Visit: <https://asunow.asu.edu/20170911-asu-news-asu-selected-nations-most-innovative-school-third-straight-year>

Did you know?

Arizona State University has ranked in the 200-250 band range in the World University Rankings since 2016.

Coming up next is Canada, which is turning out to be the most preferred higher education destination among students from across the globe.

Let's have a look at the range of institutions that it provides to students to choose from:

- Public: Prominent Canadian Universities like the University of Toronto, University of British Columbia and McGill University are all public universities. These universities receive funding from the government, have province wide admission requirements and are considerably less expensive than their private counterparts.



Did you know?

The University of British Columbia (UBC) takes a close look at a candidate's Personal Profile which includes an applicant's experiences, academic records, extracurricular achievements and leadership qualities.

- Private: Private Universities are those which do not receive funding from the government, instead rely on alumni donations, faculty research grants and tuition fees for meeting its funding requirements. There are two categories for private institutions, namely:
 - Private Institution (not-for-profit): Institutions like Trinity Western University and Concordia University of Edmonton are examples of this type. These institutions are not established with the motive of distributing profits to employees, directors, owners or shareholders.



- Private Institution (for-profit): Yorkville University and University Canada West are known examples for-profit private institutions. These institutions are established with the motive of distributing profits to employees, directors, owners or shareholders.



Canadian Universities are known for their high selectivity, focus on non-academic profile in addition to academic merit and a research oriented bent of mind.

Topping up the Canadian universities list are the 15 member universities of the U15. These universities are the leaders in research and undertake 80% of Canada's competitive research. Several members of the U15 like the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia feature consistently in the top universities of the world.

To know more, visit: <http://u15.ca/about-us>

Did you know?

7 Canadian Universities rank in the Top 200 in the World University Rankings of 2019. These include:

- University of Toronto
- McGill University
- University of British Columbia
- University of Alberta
- McMaster University
- Universite de Montreal
- University of Waterloo

Now we shift our focus to the Middle Tier Universities of Canada. Some of the prominent Universities like Memorial University of Newfoundland, University of Sherbrooke and Concordia University make up this list. These are a part of the Top 20 institutions in Canada which is majorly dominated by the U15.

Visit <https://www.canadastudynews.com/2016/10/27/top-20-universities-canada-reputation-revealed/> to know more.

Next up is UK, which gives a range of Universities to choose from, be it from an Oxford to any of the popular Russell Group colleges.



Let us guide you on the two factors you need to consider:

- Institution Type
- Institution Reputation

Institution Type

Within UK, there are several classifications that exist while classifying universities. For easier reference, we have combined them in the following manner:

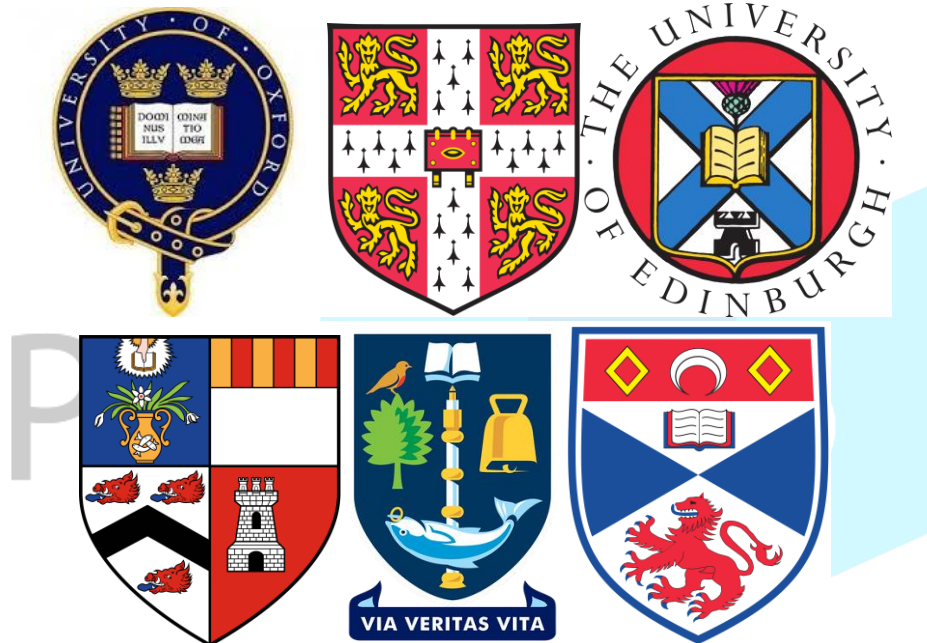
- Ancient Universities
- Civic Universities

- Plate Glass Universities
- New Universities
- University colleges
- Colleges of Higher Education (Music, Art and Drama schools)

Let us take these one-by-one to further your understanding about the range of possibilities that you have in UK.

- Ancient Universities

These are the legendary six medieval universities like those at Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, St Andrews, Glasgow and Cambridge which are still imparting education.



Did you know?

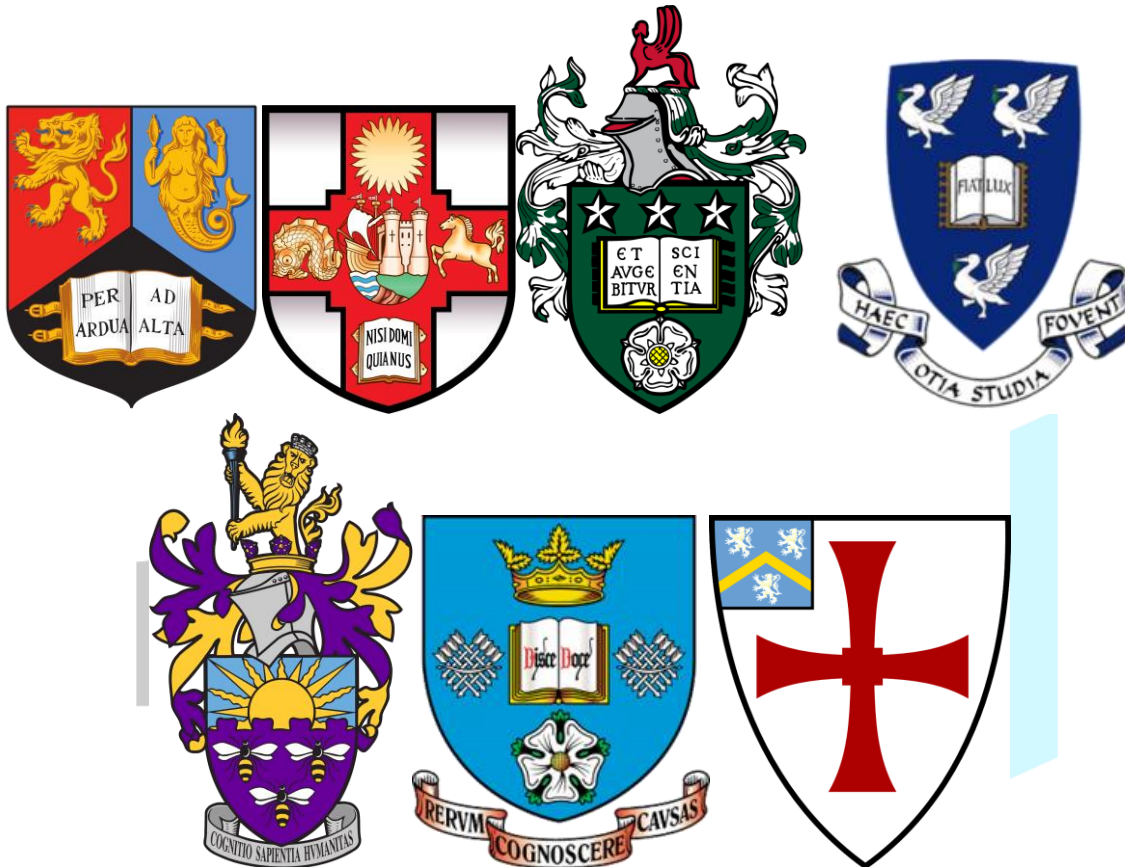
The University of St. Andrews takes into account academics, context, personal statement and references while evaluating undergraduate applicants.

- Civic Universities

These universities were typically founded in the 19th century in industrial cities across UK, to meet the higher education demands of those regions. 7 major universities which form a part of this classification are:

- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- University of Leeds

- University of Liverpool
- University of Manchester
- University of Sheffield
- University of Durham



This term is also used to include the following universities which are offered the charter from 1900 till 1963, like:

- Aberystwyth University
- Bangor University
- Cardiff University
- University of Dundee
- University of Hull
- University of Leicester
- University of Newcastle Upon Tyne
- University of Nottingham
- Queen's University of Belfast

- University of Reading
- University of Southampton
- University of Swansea

Next, we move onto the New Universities. These were awarded the University status during the Education reforms of the 1980s and the 1990s. These were originally Polytechnics, Teacher training colleges or Further Education colleges which were later turned into Universities. Some of the prominent institutions forming a part of this group are:

- University of Bolton
- University of Cumbria
- Leeds Trinity University
- University of Sunderland
- University of Northampton



Next up are the University colleges.

What is a University college? It is an institution which can award degrees but is not recognized as a University. There are 7 such university colleges in the UK, namely:

- University College Birmingham
- Bishop Grosseteste University College, Lincoln
- The Arts University College at Bournemouth
- Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College, High Wycombe & Chalfont St Peter
- University College for the Creative Arts at Canterbury, Epsom, Farnham, Maidstone & Rochester
- Norwich University College of the Arts
- St Marys University College, Twickenham, London



- Hull York Medical School

- Leeds College of Music
- Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts
- Burton College, Staffordshire
- Wirral Metropolitan College



Did you know?

Leeds College of Music takes into account auditions, interviews and portfolio submissions depending on the undergraduate course being applied to.

Now let us take into account the reputation of the above mentioned colleges, to understand how this can dictate your college shortlists:

- Oxbridge: Universities at Oxford and Cambridge are legacy institutions which have been consistently ranked as one of the top universities in the world.

In the latest QS rankings for 2019, both these Universities have found a place in the top 10 universities in the world!

Check out this link to know more:

<https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2019>

- Russell Group: This comprises of a group of 24 leading universities in the UK. They are known for their high selectivity, quality of research output and academic rigour.

A number of the Russell group universities, ranked in the Top 100 universities in the world as per the latest QS rankings. Visit <https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2019> to know more.

- Middle Tier

Universities like at Bath, Dundee, Strathclyde and SOAS, University of London are some of the prominent universities in the UK. These are ranked among the top 300 universities in the world by QS.

Visit <https://www.topuniversities.com/> to know more.

Did you know?

SOAS, University of London is ranked at 288 in the World University Rankings for 2019 for its undergraduate courses.

Now let us head on over to India, and know more about the types of colleges and universities in the country.



The following categories exist when it comes to institutional classification in India:

- Business & Management includes disciplines of Finance and Commerce
- Medicine & Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities
- Law
- Specialized Courses like Fashion and Design, Architecture and Journalism, and
- Engineering

First up is Business Management which includes the domains of Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) and Bachelor of Business Management (BBM). These includes subjects of trade, management, finance, commerce and business studies at an undergraduate level.

Some of the prominent colleges offering these courses include:

- Christ University, Bangalore
- Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies (SSCBS), DU, Delhi
- Shri Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai
- Madras Christian College, Chennai

- Sri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), DU, Delhi



Next up are courses for to-be doctors,

Medicine course for undergraduation is the MBBS course which is Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Science. Some of the top colleges offering these courses are:

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi
- Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore
- King George's Medical University, Lucknow
- Institute of Medical Sciences, BHU, Varanasi
- Kasturba Medical College, Manipal



Did you know?

AIIMS, Delhi ranked at 826th place in the Centre for World University Rankings (CWUR) in 2017.

Now, let us shift our attention to Liberal Arts, which includes the diverse disciplines of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences like History, Geography, Political Science, etc.

Some of the leading colleges offering these courses are:

- Lady Shri Ram (LSR) College for Women, DU, Delhi

- Loyola College, Chennai
- Christ University, Bangalore
- St. Xavier's College, Mumbai
- Hansraj College, DU, Delhi



Now, we move onto Law, which includes the course of LLB i.e. Bachelor of Law. Some of the prominent law colleges in India include:

- National Law School of India University, Bangalore
- The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata
- Symbiosis Law School, Pune
- ILS Law College, Pune
- Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

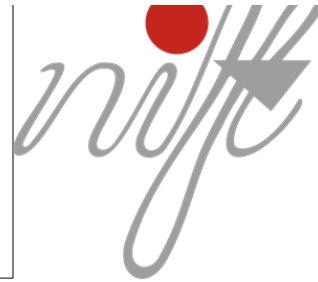


Next up are specialized courses like Fashion, Architecture and Journalism.

Design is emerging as one of the careers of the future with fashion design, industrial design, multimedia, graphic design, etc.

Some of the leading institutes which offer fashion and design courses:

- National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad
- Industrial Design Centre (IDC), IIT Bombay
- National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Delhi



Just like Design, architecture is also a high demand profession with B.Arch. a standard course being offered by top institutes like:

- School of Planning of Architecture (SPA), Delhi
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
- Sir J.J. College of Architecture, Mumbai



The top three institutions for pursuing your journalist dreams are:

- Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Delhi
- Xavier's Institute of Communication (XIC), Mumbai
- MICA, Ahmedabad



Lastly we have engineering, which is by far the most sought after course in India. There are a number of elite institutes offering B.Tech and B.E. courses (including the dual degree ones).

A few of such institutes are:

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)
- National Institute of Technology (NIT)
- Jadavpur University
- Anna University
- Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani

