

Workshop for graduating high school students:

University: A Quick User Guide

Duration: 90 minutes

Type: Interactive workshop (with quiz, questions, and discussions)

Convenor: Peter Lenco, PhD

The main idea

The workshop helps students understand the potential gap between their expectations of a university education and the long-standing intellectual culture of universities and professors. Students who better understand this gap can think about and perhaps adjust their perceptions and expectations, making it easier for them to deal with the particular challenges of the university environment, beyond the more obvious ones such as class sizes, workload, anonymity, and being away from home.

Key takeaways

- the significance of the professional relationship between professors and students
- the goals of a university education from the perspective of professors
- what professors are really looking for in students
- the importance of proper communication
- student responsibility in learning
- how to succeed academically

Who is it for?

The workshop is really geared towards graduating high school students on their way to university. It does not deal specifically with community colleges or other programmes. However, it raises questions and presents skills that would be useful to all, particularly in regards to entering the workforce. The goal with this workshop is really to explore practical, applicable tips that deal with things such as comportment, communication and interaction. These go above and beyond the typical advice for students available in books, media, and provided by universities themselves.

Contents

- I. Intro – A bit of background, the purpose of the workshop, and even a fun (!) quiz
- II. Universities – Addresses how universities have distinct patterns and norms
- III. Profs – Allows students to see the world through the eyes of a professor
- IV. Students – A brief section on the world students find themselves in today
- V. Practical Tips – Applicable skills dealing with norms, comportment, communication, and digital technologies
- VI. Conclusion – Takeaways and time for questions

Requirements

Fully-dedicated classroom or similarly appropriate space

AV: equipment for a Power Point presentation; a wireless remote control would be appreciated

Writing surface with markers (e.g. flip chart, white board)

Tables or other collaborative seating for the participants (no more than 50 at a time)

Cost

One session: \$400

Extra sessions (same day) \$150 each

Plus travel expenses from Maryvale, Nova Scotia (near Antigonish).

Contact

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