



## The College Application Summer Camp Syllabus

### Pre-session/Orientation - for parents and students:

#### An Overview of The College Admissions and Application Process

- Setting Expectations: Roles and Responsibilities
- Meeting Important Deadlines: Key dates and submission deadlines
- Learning the 'To-do's': The components of a college application
- Understanding COVID-19's Impact on the Admissions and Financial Aid Requirements and Processes
- Creating The Optimal College List and Admissions Strategy
- Identifying Your "True Cost" For College

**Homework:** Read Bauld book and finish; create a Common/Coalition App account; submit roles/responsibilities; submit Getting to Know U

*Note that the Orientation is for parents and students; the remaining classes are for the student. All classes will be recorded and posted in the members' area of the Your College Concierge website, but live attendance is highly encouraged.*

### Lesson 2: Writing Your Personal Essay

- Section-by-section Overview of The Common Application
- How To Enter Schools
- Set Up Your Common Application Profile
- Review of Essay Prompts, Themes and Recommended Guidelines
- The Two 'Why's' of Writing the Essay
- Do's and Don'ts of essay writing
- The Good, The Bad & The Ugly: Review of Sample Essays and Why they Worked (Or Didn't)
- Writing LAB: Free Writing Exercise

**Homework :** Essay 1st Draft





### Lesson 3: Acting Like An Applicant

- Simple AND effective ways to demonstrate interest
- Interactive Completion of Common App Profile Section
- Writing LAB: Review Your Essay First Drafts – Hot Seat!

*Homework (due by Lesson 4):* Complete Activities List + Description Worksheet; continue revising essay

### Lesson 4: Describing Who You Are and What You Do

- Interactive completion of Common Application Activities section (including listing awards/honors and creating conforming descriptions)
- Interactive completion of an Application Resume
- Writing LAB: review of your current essay drafts – Hot Seat!

*Homework (due by Lesson 5):* Final 1st essay; supplemental essay draft; final resume; Common App complete

### Lesson 5: Finalizing & Submitting Your Completed Common Application

- Requesting Your Transcripts vs. Self Reporting Your Grades (Completing the SSAR)
- Requesting Your Test Scores
- Requesting Recommendations (with Naviance/SCOIR and without)
- Avoiding Common Common App Pitfalls & Landmines
  - What/when to self-report information (e.g., deciding whether to self-report test scores)
- How to handle special circumstances
- Taking Care To Take The Next Steps
  - (Virtual) Campus Visits and Information Sessions
  - (Virtual) Interviews + Interview Tips
  - Summer Planning
- Writing LAB: Resume and Essay Reviews & Final HOT SEAT

