



Lesson 2.3 Introduction to Canadian universities and university programs

Discussion:

- ▶ What is the difference between a college and university?
- ▶ How to choose an ideal Canadian university?
- ▶ How to select your dream program in universities?

In Canada, the difference between college and university will typically come down to the credentials that you earn.

In college, you will typically earn a one or two year diploma or certificate while in university you'll typically earn a three or four year bachelor's degree.

<https://www.idp.com/middleeast/faqs/what-is-the-difference-between-college-and-university-in-canada/aV89CweLRSAt8Jo5vEQfi/?lang=en>

How to choose an ideal Canadian university/college?

Think about the university/ college:

- ▶ Look into overall rankings, considering factors like academic reputation, faculty quality, international student ratio, and rankings specific to your desired course. Also, seek out any exceptional accreditations and accolades the university has earned in terms of the program you are interested in.

Think about yourself and other factors:

- ▶ What is your GPA? Is it good enough to apply for your dream university/ program?
- ▶ The place you will be staying in – academic atmosphere, peer motivation; is the city an ideal city for a young person to develop and thrive?
- ▶ Your average monthly expenditure.
- ▶ The climate of the city you will be residing at.

- ▶ **Canada's Best Universities by Reputation: Rankings 2024**

- ▶ <https://education.macleans.ca/feature/canadas-best-universities-by-reputation-rankings-2024/>

How to select your dream program in universities?

- ▶ Explore your interests.
- ▶ Test-drive potential careers.
- ▶ Talk to people.
- ▶ Start putting the pieces together.
- ▶ <https://uwaterloo.ca/future-students/start-here/use-interests-find-program>

- ▶ **Be optimistic!**

- ▶ Whether your interest in health is physical (Biology), mental or emotional (Social Work), spiritual (Religious Studies), technical innovation (Biomedical Engineering) or the health of the community at large (Public Health)—you're sure to find a program that will prepare you for your dream job.

- ▶ [Search Programs - SchoolFinder.com!](https://www.schoolfinder.com/)

- ▶ **It's a marathon, not a sprint!**

- ▶ If you're in Grade 12, it may seem like you have to decide your whole life right now (eek!), but keep in mind that choosing a university program doesn't lock you in. Often you can change programs if you find the one you chose really isn't for you.