

University of Southern Maine is rich in diversity

Meet Veronica from “The University of Everyone”

SUBMITTED BY USM

The University of Southern Maine (USM) prides itself on its rich mix of students. It's why we are called the University of Everyone. We are the university of high achievers, the first-in-the family to attend college, the New Mainer, the working adult and those who have served our nation.

We're also the university of the creative and talented, whether it is on the athletic fields — or in the performance hall and the classroom, as it has been for Veronica, one of several USM students and graduates who recently came forward to share their experience at USM.

Veronica hails from Standish, a graduate of Bonny Eagle High School. She is now entering her senior year at USM as a double major in Mathematics and Computer Science.

“As long as I can remember, I've always been academically inclined, a giant nerd really,” Veronica said.

“When it was time to choose a college, I selected USM for several reasons: their academics, their cost, their location and because their attitude towards me felt right.

“The other schools I was accepted at, it felt kind of like ‘what can you do for us?’ But at USM, it was, ‘what can we do for you?’ Everyone was so welcoming and nice.”

First semester

“In my very first semester at USM, I had the good fortune of being put into Professor Silvia Valdes’ calculus class. It was the first class that I had ever taken where it was important not only to know how, but also why.

“Professor Valdes’ passion and enthusiasm hooked me on mathematics. She became my advisor and mentor, and has really shaped my experience at USM.”

Math made fun

“Almost every Sunday,” says Veronica, “a handful of students in my major meet up with Professor Valdes to discuss and practice math. It's not a tutoring session, it's just people who are interested in math and have fun working together. It sounds nerdy, but it's so great to be able to have a personal relationship with my professor and learn from her and my classmates.”

Last spring, Veronica and Professor Valdes collaborated on an independent research project on projective geometry, which Veronica got to present to faculty, her peers and community members during the USM's Thinking Matters exposition, held every April as an opportunity for students to showcase their research.

“The other schools I was accepted at, it felt kind of like ‘what can you do for us?’ But at USM, it was, ‘what can we do for you?’ Everyone was so welcoming and nice.”

VERONICA, USM STUDENT



Dancing made a perfect fit

Beyond the outstanding academics, there are other reasons USM is such a perfect fit for Veronica. One reason is USM's location in Portland. Veronica, you see is a serious and accomplished dancer.

A dancer since she was 4 years old, Veronica, at age 16, was invited to join the Maine State Ballet's performance company. She was named a soloist in 2013 and principal soloist in 2015.

Like many other USM students, being in Portland provides for opportunities a student can't get anywhere else in northern New England. For Veronica, Portland enabled her to continue her dancing passion and live out her dream.

“By attending USM, I have been given opportunities that are seldom found at big universities. I have been able to work one-on-one with a world-class professor on my own research project and, at the same time, I have been able to pursue my passion for dance on the professional level.”

Pioneers Program

And finally, the reason that clinched Veronica's decision to attend USM was the university's Pioneers Program, a full scholarship program for students planning to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) fields.

In addition to receiving the four-year scholarship, students participate in exciting opportunities for undergraduate research and internships.

“I want everyone to know that USM is a school full of hardworking, intelligent people who have made a smart financial decision and still receive a high quality education,” Veronica said.

Every USM student story, like Veronica's, is both unique and their own, but there are several themes you see run through all of them.

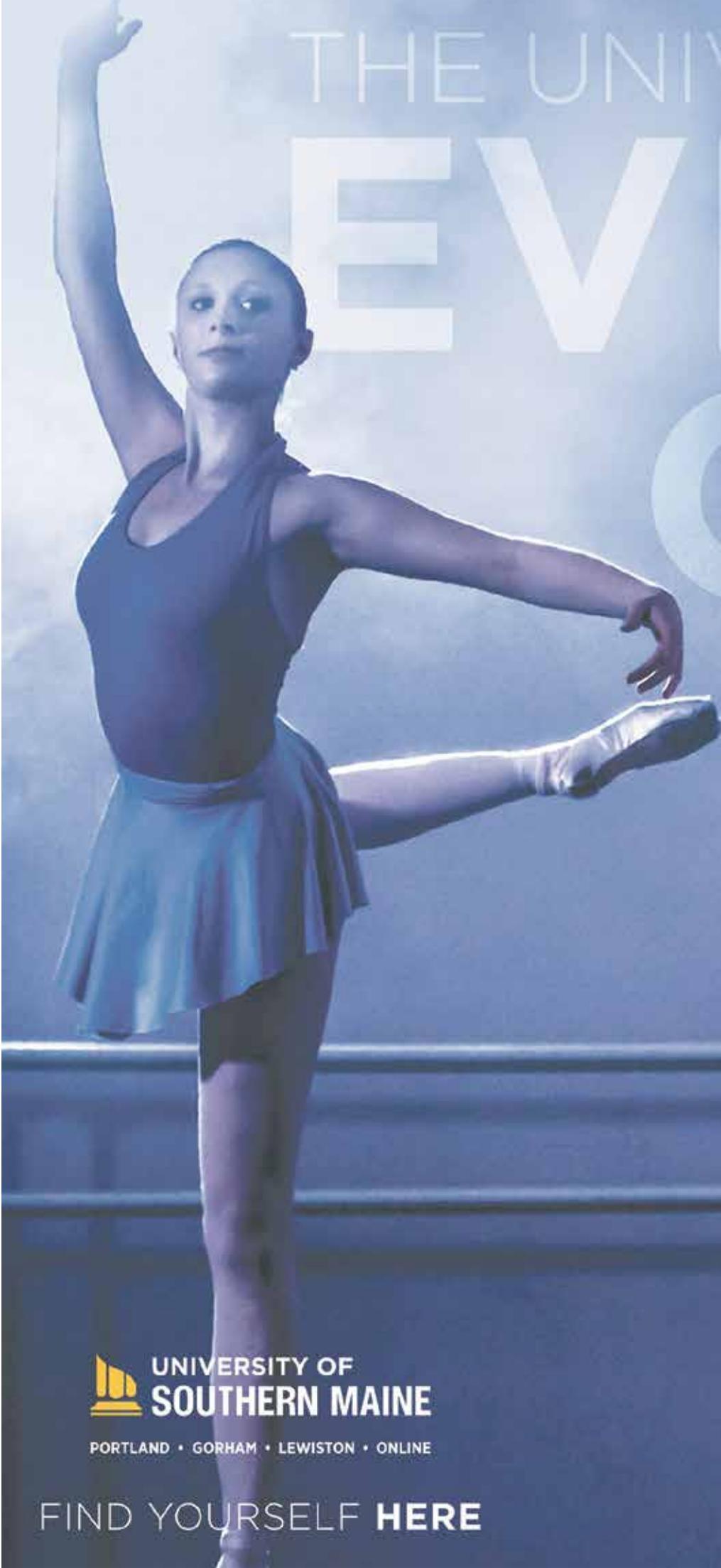
First, the academics are of the highest quality, with faculty combin-

ing their expertise in their respective fields with a true caring for each and every student.

Second, the Greater Portland region is a great place to attend college. Beyond offering so much to do, opportunities abound for internships and hands-on learning that just don't exist in most other locations. And those opportunities give USM students a true leg up in launching their careers.

Third, USM is affordable. Between our low public tuition and outstanding financial aid packages, students receive a terrific education at a far lower cost than most other schools.

And finally, students fit in and all are welcome, regardless of age, background or experience. USM is the most diverse campus in Maine and students benefit from learning with each other and from each other. We are, after all, the University of Everyone.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
EVERY
ONE

*I'M GETTING A
HIGH-LEVEL
EDUCATION
I CAN AFFORD,*

*WHILE PURSUING
MY LOVE OF
DANCE
IN PORTLAND.*

Veronica Druchniale

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UMA and University College offers lucrative careers in a web-connected world

Cybersecurity and IT classes are the new future

SUBMITTED BY UMA

Growing cyber attacks, demand for safe and secure data and other concerns mean that companies need professionals to keep their information safe. Cybersecurity and IT professionals are in high demand in Maine and across the nation.

Cybersecurity professionals report an average salary of \$116,000, or approximately \$55.77 per hour. That's nearly three times the national median income for full-time wage and salary workers, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

From auto mechanics seeking retraining for lucrative high-tech jobs, to people who love to learn new things all the time, this a degree for everyone — offered at University of Maine at Augusta and University College.

Olivia Seibel, CIS graduate from the University of Maine at Augusta who is now a LAN administrator and support specialist at Camden National Bank said the courses worked for her.

"College prepared me for my job in IT because I am always learning ... This was a new field to me at the time, though I did dabble in

some techie stuff," Seibel said. "I worked really hard, but excelled in my classes because of the wonderful (UMA) instructors and students that I was blessed to work with."

Deborah Meehan, Director of University College at Rockland said gender bias has no room in the program.

"Some potential students coming through the door are women who may be fearful of technology and then, all of a sudden, they start taking CIS courses. They love it! Too often we stereotype the CIS student. We hope to encourage more non-traditional students to try it."

With billions of dollars in global losses due to cybersecurity exploits, the need for trained experts is growing at an astonishing rate. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is predicting a 37 percent growth in employment in the cybersecurity field by 2020.

Graduates with a B.S. in Cybersecurity will be prepared to fill these new positions, as well as a predicted gap in Maine's IT workforce, which will significantly improve the statewide prospect for excellence in the computer-based delivery of information security services.

Mark Goodridge, a lecturer at the University of Maine at Augusta with over 20 years of experience working and teaching in the IT field explained.

"In Maine, there are some companies that just can't hire fast enough, and they are creating jobs at maybe five to 10 times the rate that the university system is creating (CIS) graduates," Goodridge said. "We're trying to fill a gallon bucket with an eyedropper."

Both Goodridge and Meehan are clear: people looking for a professional career should consider exploring CIS. In their experience, sometimes it's the unlikely candidates who excel in CIS programs. Those same students then move into highly satisfying careers that pay very well, right here in Maine and in their local communities.

CIS Program details

UMA's CIS program is available statewide through several types of instruction: face to face, interactive television, videoconference and online instruction. These methods allow very convenient scheduling for students. Contact UMA Enrollment Services at 1-877-UMA-1234 for more information.

One other attractive characteristic of the CIS program is the opportunity to enter into a paid internship while pursuing the degree.

"It's like a 90-day job interview and the rate of hiring after an internship is very high," Goodridge said.

Scholarships for first-time students as well as those returning after an absence are available through University College Centers.

University College Centers allow you to learn where you live — bringing the college classroom to you. Study part-time or full-time, onsite or online, even combine onsite and online learning to experience the best of both worlds. You can earn a CIS degree or certificate from UMA at a University College Center as well as more than 100 other degrees and certificates from one of the seven public universities of the University of Maine System.

With eight University College Centers plus 20 more instructional sites throughout Maine, all you need to do is get started.

Find your center. For more information about the University College center near you visit: <http://learn.maine.edu/register-now>.

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KVCC's Liberal Studies program offers transfer options, flexibility

STAFF REPORT

Kennebec Valley Community College's liberal studies program may be the solution to a dilemma facing many high school students: Do I go to college? If so, where? What do I really want to do? How do I prepare for a good-paying job?

Answers to those questions might be found at KVCC in Fairfield, where students can take a "Career Decision-Making" class.

The course aims to help students find out what they like to do and what salaries are available for jobs in different fields, according to Mark Kavanaugh, chairman of the Department of Social Sciences.

"Many high school students may not have an exact idea of what they want to study, but know that college is the route to where they need to end up," he said.

"Getting a degree might be someone's Plan B — for some, a job is a way to fund their lives," Kavanaugh said. "For others, they may have a passion, but realize that they need a skill or education to provide a means to eat. A liberal studies or associate's of arts degree offers that."

Liberal studies programs are somewhat misunderstood — some assume it's a basket for a mix of courses with no real core. But Kavanaugh said the programs are flexible enough so that students can sit through a few courses before determining if there is another program they'd like to enter. There is really no risk, he said, because the majority of the courses would make up core requirements for nearly any major.

Once under the liberal studies umbrella, advisors like Kavanaugh work with students to align course work in such a way as to allow for transfer into another KVCC program, or to work toward completion of the associate's of arts degree, with an eye to then transferring to a four-year college.

Kavanaugh said that KVCC is currently working on a new psychology program, with the plan for availability in the spring 2018 semester. One of the reasons for this offering is that social science is the second most popular major in the U.S. This should come as no surprise, given that psychology plays an integral part of nearly every occupation.

"Even an associate's degree in psychology teaches skills for how to deal with people," Kavanaugh said. "Conflict management and problem-solving skills learned gives one an advantage, no matter what you do in life."

Carrie Hall, co-chair of the Liberal Studies Department, added that there may be several reasons for choosing this route.

"It is a place to do some career exploration," Hall said. "Some students complete the associate of arts and enter the workforce directly — but most use it to transfer into another KVCC program, or four-year school.

"No matter where you go, there are certain general education courses that you need," she added. "This is a great place to get that started, or completed — at a much lower cost. KVCC is approximately one-third the cost of a state university."

In addition, recent changes in state law allow for block transfers at all community colleges and state universities. This means that the university systems accept the entire block of 34-35 general education credits from KVCC, coursework that can generally be completed in one year, with targeted advising.

Hall, a firm believer in community college education, added that many students, once they try KVCC, they find that they enjoy the small class size, degree of instructor interaction, and the entire school setting — and they stay.

Hall recalls a student who came to the school, not having enjoyed his high school experience, and without a large degree of self-confidence. But he flourished with the support that he found at KVCC, she said. This student shared with Hall: "I learned how to learn here."

"I learned how to learn here."

FORMER KVCC STUDENT



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University of Maine Orono supports adult degree completion

SUBMITTED BY UMO

Bachelor of University Studies (B.U.S.) is the University of Maine's adult degree completion program that gives those with past college experience the opportunity to build on their credit hours to earn a degree. The program is available in full-time, part-time, on campus and online formats to accommodate the needs of working adults.

B.U.S. students develop a program of study that encompasses their interests and career goals and makes maximum use of their transfer credits. The program prepares students for a number of opportunities and is intended to complement students' interests and career goals.

In addition to a self-designed track, the B.U.S. program offers these three track options:

- **Labor Studies** focuses on creating dialog among students about the theories, ideologies and beliefs that support the labor movement, and the practical skills involved in running labor organizations and representing employees.

- **Leadership Studies** provides students with in-depth knowledge of leadership theory, ethics, skills and context-based issues, as well as practical training. The track prepares students for diverse, real-life experiences as citizen leaders in local, state, national and global communities.

- **Maine Studies** offers students the opportunity to pursue the study of Maine through courses in history, literature, women's studies and Native-American studies. The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to understanding historical and contemporary issues, such as developing Maine's economy, protecting its environment and appreciating the cultures of the state's diverse population.

Students in the B.U.S. program come from all walks of life: business, military, social services and education, to name a few. Consult with a Bachelor of University Studies advisor who will help create your degree path.

"As a military veteran, a family man and business leader, UMaine's Bachelor of University Studies program, with its flexible schedule and online curriculum, has been essential to my continued educational success," said Chad Caron, a Bangor-area manager with Dead River Company. "This program opens up real possibilities for so many 'nontraditional' students to further their education and open the door to new possibilities to better their lives. The friendly and supportive program staff are there to help you succeed. The curriculum is thought-provoking and engaging."

UMaine, the state's premier public university, provides education from expert faculty and promotes an engaged learning environment. Whether students are on campus or online, dedicated support services are available. For more information about the Bachelor of University Studies, go online or call 207-581-3143.



"As a military veteran, a family man and business leader, UMaine's Bachelor of University Studies program, with its flexible schedule and online curriculum, has been essential to my continued educational success."

**CHAD CARON,
BANGOR-AREA
MANAGER WITH DEAD
RIVER COMPANY**

3 tips for prospective college applicants

Choosing where to apply to college is a big decision that can affect the lives of young students for years to come. The college application process can have more immediate impacts as well. Families can expect to spend several hundred dollars just to apply to colleges.

The rising cost of a college education coupled with a competitive job market only serve to emphasize the importance high school students and their families must place when deciding where to apply. The following are a handful of strategies families can employ to make students' decisions regarding where to apply to college a little easier:

1. **Don't hesitate from applying to a dream school.** The Princeton Review defines dream schools as those colleges or universities where a student's academic credentials fall in the low end or below the school's averages for students accepted the year prior. But even students who meet the academic requirements established by their dream schools may be hesitant to apply to such schools because of the cost of tuition. Students whose academic records fall just short of their dream schools' criteria or whose financial means make attending their dream schools seem

impossible should still apply to those schools. Financial aid might be available, and schools might look at more than just academic performance, particularly for students whose grades fall just short of last years' average accepted applicants.

2. **Don't be deterred by application fees.** Stanford University's application fee for 2017 was \$90, making the school one of the more expensive colleges or universities to apply to. But many schools, including Stanford, waive those fees for certain applicants. Students should not expect each school to waive their application fees, but they also should not let those fees deter them from applying, especially if they meet or exceed the application requirements.

3. **Choose the right safety school.** Safety schools are those colleges or universities where applicants' academic credentials make them a near certainty to gain admission. But when choosing safety schools, students should pick schools that they would enjoy attending. Applying to a school simply because you can get in and not because you want to enroll there can make for an unpleasant college experience should you ultimately end up attending that college.



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The Tower at CMCC at night.

CMCC prepares students for challenging careers

SUBMITTED BY CMMC

Located on the shores of beautiful Lake Auburn, Central Maine Community College (CMCC) boasts a vibrant campus community that is committed to preparing students for challenging careers or to transfer to four-year colleges. We offer 41 associate degree, certificate and advanced certificate programs leading to technical, business, government and health careers. With hands-on programs utilizing cutting edge technology, strong academic resources, on-campus housing, athletics and student organizations, CMCC offers a complete college experience.

In addition to associate degrees and certificates in popular career and technical fields, such as computer technology, criminal justice, medical assisting, automotive, electromechanical and precision machining technology, the College offers associate in arts degrees in general studies or liberal studies, programs designed for transfer to a four-year college or university. We even have a transfer advisor to show you the way.

The CMCC Mustangs participate nationally in the USCAA (United States Collegiate Athletic Association) and locally in the Yankee Small College Conference.

The College offers baseball, basketball, hockey, soccer and cross country for men, and softball, basketball, soccer, volleyball and cross country for women. Plans are underway for new athletic fields on campus to open next year.

At CMCC we believe learning takes place both inside and outside the classroom. The College offers many ways for students to become more involved in our campus community. Join one of our many student organizations, socialize in one of our student lounges, or work out in the fitness center—the choices are many!

The College offers three living options for full-time students: Rancourt Hall, a four-floor residence hall overlooking Lake Auburn; Fortin Hall, which includes a large game room and lounge; and a two-building apartment complex. In addition to the benefits of being close to classes and campus activities, students feel at home on our safe, well-lit campus.

At CMCC, students receive a quality education at affordable prices, one that prepares them for interesting and rewarding work . . . right here in Maine! Want to learn more? Please join us for our fall open house Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m. to noon. Visit our website at www.cmcc.edu or contact us at 755-5273 or enroll@cmcc.edu.



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How to save on college housing costs

College is expensive, and the costs are only rising. Scholarships and grants can help mitigate the costs of higher education, but even students who receive such aid could find themselves scrambling for ways to make college more affordable.

Housing is one of the more expensive costs for college students and their families. According to the College Board, the average cost for room and board during the 2016-2017 school year was \$10,440 at four-year public schools and \$11,890 at private colleges and universities. And those costs typically cover housing for just the school year, which may last anywhere from six to eight months. However, there are ways for students and their families to reduce those costs.

- **Examine your dormitory options.** Many schools assign students to dormitories for their freshman years, giving students little say with regard to where they will live. However, students might have more input in their housing come their sophomore, junior and senior years. Some dorms might be more attractive and offer more amenities than others, but students and families looking to save money on housing costs should opt to live in the most budget-friendly dorms available to them. In addition, choose to live



with a roommate rather than in a single room, as singles tend to cost substantially more than double rooms.

- **Sign up to be a resident advisor.** Resident advisors, or RAs, often receive free housing in exchange for living in

dormitories when they are upperclassmen or graduate students. RAs help newly enrolled or younger students adjust to campus life while also ensuring nothing untoward happens on the floors they're tasked with looking after. Students who may want to apply for RA

positions should first confirm if serving as an RA will affect their overall financial aid package and how great that impact might be.

- **Live with roommates even after leaving the dorms.** Due to limited space, many colleges insist dorm residents live with roommates. Upperclassmen who are moving out of the dorms and into university or off-campus apartments can save money by continuing to live with roommates. This can be especially beneficial to students who will be living in off-campus housing where amenities such as electricity, cable television and water are unlikely to be included in the cost of the rent.

- **Commute to school.** While it might not be ideal, commuting to school can save college students and their families substantial amounts of money. Public university students who did so during the 2016-2017 school year might have saved nearly \$11,000, or \$44,000 in four years. That's money that can be used to pay tuition or finance postgraduate educations. College housing costs can be considerable. But budget-conscious students and families can save on such costs in various ways.

Learning a trade can pave the way to high-paying jobs

Many students believe that the next natural step after graduating from high school is to go off to college. Secondary education has become such a common transition that many parents begin saving for college tuition as soon as their children are born. Although college can be the next chapter in a student's education, many teenagers still choose to attend community college to learn a trade.

Television personality Mike Rowe says the country is in the midst of a skilled labor shortage because workers lack the necessary training to fill the hundreds of thousands of available jobs. Lack of information may drive the notion that trade jobs are nothing more than a backup plan if college doesn't pan out. However, by realizing that trade jobs, along with short-term vocational training, is a smart investment — and eventually a lucrative career choice — attitudes about trade schools and labor-intensive jobs may shift.

A great number of college graduates enter the workforce with degrees that may not help them land jobs. And these students typically carry thousands of dollars in tuition debt. Many college grads are underemployed and working in jobs

that aren't even in their fields of study. Community colleges help students develop specialized skills that make graduates immediately marketable in their chosen fields, and trade salaries can be very competitive.

The following are some of the fastest-growing and highest-paying trade careers to consider, based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Forbes magazine.

- **Construction manager:** Construction professionals with great organizational and communication skills can enjoy high earning potential as construction managers. Expected growth of this career over the next 10 years is 5 percent. The average income of a construction manager is \$87,000. However, with a top-end hourly pay of around \$75 per hour, it's easy for managers to earn into six figures.

- **Elevator installer and repairer:** This career is listed as a top-earner. These employees can earn anywhere from \$74,000 to \$105,000 per year. Elevators are in demand as urban centers increase, so this career has staying potential.

- **Rotary drill operator:** The oil and gas industry relies on rotary drill operators to extract oil or natural gas from



underground sources. Salaries for these jobs can range from \$30 to \$40 per hour.

- **Dental hygienist:** Cleaning teeth and inspecting mouths for disease is an important role. Job growth is still hovering around 20 percent, and hygienists can expect to earn up to \$98,000.

- **Electricians and plumbers:** Electricians and plumbers are continually in

demand. With a short amount of trade school and apprenticeship, it's possible to earn up to \$90,000 per year.

These are just a few of the many skilled professions that vocational schools prepare their students for. Scholarships and funding programs are available to help make vocational training an affordable possibility.

The Landing School

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Lifestyle: The Ultimate In Work-Life Balance

At The Landing School in Arundel, Maine, the skills you learn serve you well Monday through Friday as well as Saturdays and Sundays. You can earn a paycheck while doing the things you love to do. Whether you want to own and maintain your own boat, want to purchase and restore a boat, do woodworking around your home or aspire to build your own fine furniture, the skills you acquire here at The Landing School will follow you home after work and continue to add value to your life.

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The breadth and depth of industry and teaching experience of our faculty is unrivaled. The Landing School faculty are augmented by adjunct faculty consisting of some of the most highly regarded people in the industry. We have well-equipped shops, a fleet of project boats, classrooms for lectures, lounges for relaxing, and the Atlantic Ocean at our doorstep. All of our Program costs include unlimited access to diverse general education courses taught by talented professionals outside of the marine industry.

At The Landing School, not only will you receive unrivaled technical training, you will also have the opportunity to receive mentoring, industry-related guidance, and academic support to aid you in your studies and job search. As a Landing School student (and continuing as an alumnus/alumna) you will have access to our web-based Job Board. The Landing School Job Board allows you to apply for a diversity of yacht design jobs, marine systems jobs, and boat building jobs that we receive and update every week, providing you with unparalleled access to leading employers in the marine industry. As a Landing School graduate, you also benefit from joining a robust network of over 1,500 graduates, many of whom are

in top management or leadership positions with the most respected companies in the marine industry. Each spring The Landing School hosts a job fair where you will have the opportunity to meet potential employers face-to-face.

In 2015, the average employment rate — the rate at which our students found employment in their field of study after graduation — was 92 percent. The employment rate achieved in many years was 100 percent.

Epic Odyssey: Unrivaled Experiences

Students attend The Landing School for a reason: they are passionate about boats. Most of our students live together as small groups in houses, providing them with the opportunity to build lifelong friendships, and support each other in their studies. When alumni speak about their Landing school experience, the most common words are “awesome”, “amazing”, “transformational”, “life-changing”. Your experience here will be challenging. You will be called upon to perform heroic feats, and our remarkable faculty will be there beside you to support you.

Today, each of The Landing School’s 10-month-long programs culminates in a diploma for students who successfully complete their courses within the high standards set by the faculty.

In 2009, the State of Maine Department of Education and The School’s accrediting agency, ACCSC, approved The Landing School as a degree-granting institution. A student who successfully completes two technical programs and the required general education course credits is eligible to receive an Associate’s degree. The Landing School has been recognized by ACCSC as a 2014 ACCSC School of Distinction / ACCSC School of Excellence.

Education from The Landing School reinforces and preserves traditional design and construction methods while advancing the art of boat building, design and maintenance through the integration



Staff photo by Derek Davis

Gresley Langbein of Hermon gets set to launch a 14-foot Maine Coast Peapod he helped build.

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Environmental College offers experiential, science-based educational opportunities

SUBMITTED BY UNITY COLLEGE

Unity College offers 17 environmentally focused majors, each built upon a unique framework of sustainability science. The “transdisciplinary” approach provides students with a distinctive education that meets the demands of an earth and environment in crisis.

For Unity students, learning is not limited to classrooms and labs. A community-based, experiential learning component engages students in service opportunities and civic responsibility, allowing them to apply classroom learning to real-life situations.

Community-Based Learning takes place through courses, clubs, special programs and extracurricular opportunities throughout the year and is an integral part of the Unity learning experience.

Students at Unity College are more likely to realize their academic dreams than some of their friends who attend comparable institutions. According to the latest data available through the National Center for Education Statistics, Unity College students graduate at a rate almost 10 percent higher than their peers. And, according to a recent campus survey, 92 percent of Unity College alumni report getting a job in their field or attending graduate school within one year of graduating.

Throughout a steady five-year advancement in size, the college has retained an impressive 15-to-1 student-faculty ratio and small community feel, benefiting from passionate, dedicated faculty and staff who encourage a high degree of student involvement and assure an individualized, supportive, and hands-on learning experience.

At the same time, the college is reducing its adjunct professorships from 31 percent to 20 percent, investing in a mission to teach its students with established, full-time employees despite national trends that put part-time faculty at approximately 40 percent of the na-

tional academic labor force.

“We believe that learning happens most powerfully when people are deeply involved with the natural world, their communities, and one another,” said Unity College President Dr. Melik Peter Khoury. “Not only are our enrollments growing, our graduation rate continues to climb, which makes it clear that our current students are already benefitting from the work we’re doing to reimagine the first two years of college. The entering class of 2017 is only going to see more benefit as they grow along with us.”

New Major Unites Business, People, and the Environment

As the economic impact of sustainability science continues to increase, Unity College is expanding its efforts to revolutionize how enterprisers interact with businesses, nonprofits, government institutions and the world around them with the introduction of a Sustainable Business Enterprise Bachelor of Science program.

Sustainable Business Enterprise graduates will develop an environmental lens of the world through Unity’s definitive experiential learning processes, and will be able to apply their resulting skills to address the challenges at the intersection of economy, society and environment.

The program capitalizes on the core scientific competency of America’s Environmental College while also aligning current course offerings with existing graduates’ career and graduate school choices.

“Sustainability is a key ingredient in sound business practices,” said President Khoury. “This unique program will prepare innovative business leaders and managers who can effectively steward natural resources and create enterprises that have a positive impact on society while also achieving a solid bottom line.”

“A course or two on the environment is insufficient to truly address the issues at hand — our students are immersed in



sustainability science from Day One, and will be able to recreate and reimagine the processes, products and services of the industries they become involved with. This is not your average business degree.”

This unique new bachelor’s of science features four tracks: International Sustainable Development, Sustainable Energy Management, Sustainable Agriculture, and Sustainable Tourism.

Unlike typical business programs that

may feature a handful of classes—if any—on sustainability, new course options for this major will feature titles such as “Entrepreneurship for a Better World,” “Resolving Environmental Challenges,” “Sustainability, Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility” and “Sustainable Finance.”

Graduates will leave the Sustainable Business Enterprise program completely prepared for employment and innovation in their chosen fields.



UNITY COLLEGE IS LEADING THE WAY

- + Environmentally focused degrees
- + Average class size of just 21
- + 712 students and 40 faculty
- + Weekly labs, class-based projects, and field research
- + A campus surrounded by woodlands, mountains, and Maine’s rocky Atlantic coast
- + Tuition rates 18% below the national average
- + Student-teacher ratio of 15:1

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LIKE US ON

Jobs Program brightens the future for Thomas College graduates

94 percent find work

SUBMITTED BY THOMAS COLLEGE

Sarah Fleming never imagined, at the age of 22, she would be managing marketing for a busy, well-known organization.

But thanks to Thomas College's Career Services and Guaranteed Job Program, she is now the Marketing Specialist for Taconnet Federal Credit Union in Winslow after graduating from Thomas this past May.

The Guaranteed Job Program at Thomas College, the only one of its kind in New England, guarantees its graduates a job in their field after college. Career Services at Thomas works throughout the student's career with proven steps that lead to success in the job search. Thomas guarantees that if a student still doesn't land a job within six months of graduation, the College will pay for their federal student loan payments for up to a year, or let them start a Thomas Master's degree program for free.

Fleming said the program helped seal the deal when choosing Thomas.

"It made me feel more confident that at the end of college I wouldn't have to go back to the same old job I pick up every summer, but that I would land a job in my field and be able to begin my career—which I ended up doing!"

About 94 percent of Thomas College graduates land a job after graduation.

Fleming said the Guaranteed Job Program encourages students to stay on top of all the requirements and to be more active and involved with Career Services during their time at Thomas.

She especially connected with Diane Anderson, assistant director of career services at Thomas.

"I stayed in contact with Diane after graduation and she constantly reached out to give me updates and inform me of job openings," Fleming said. "You could tell she really wanted me to find the start of my career and that she believed in me."

Fleming said her professors were also a great resource for job searching. Her marketing professor, Rick Saucier, was the one who helped her find her current job.

Fleming, a Waterville native, handles all marketing aspects at Taconnet, including advertising, event planning, social media, budgeting and networking.

She said that it is a tough job, but Thomas College definitely prepared her for it.

"Thomas prepared me by showing me all of the different aspects of marketing that I could potentially encounter," Fleming said. "I walked into my new job feeling confident and ready for anything they could throw at me."

Ranks high in jobs

Money Magazine recently ranked Thomas 23rd in the Country for adding the most



Contributed photo

Sarah Flemming, center, and her friends celebrate their graduation.

value to their degrees, and data reported by the New York Times ranks Thomas in the top 15 percent of all colleges and universities in the U.S. for upward mobility of its graduates.

For students like Fleming, an internship can be a critical step toward landing that career job.

Thomas College recently expanded its internship program through the new Harold Alfond Institute for Business Innovation. With the generous contribution of the Harold Alfond Foundation, Thomas will fund up to 150 paid internships for students this academic year.

Career preparation, internships and one-on-one encouragement from faculty: that is the Thomas recipe for success.

"You'll get the one-on-one attention you need and professors are more than willing to work around your own busy schedule to make sure you succeed," Fleming said. "The passion and excitement of the professors like Professor Saucier inspired me to be a marketer and I fully intend on making that my career. I cannot thank him enough!"

To learn more about Thomas College's Guaranteed Job Program, visit www.thomas.edu or contact us at 207-859-1101 or admiss@thomas.edu.





Job after graduation?

Thomas Guarantees It!

For more information on our *Guaranteed Job Program* visit thomas.edu or call Thomas Admissions at 207-859-1101.