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WAYS OF KNOWING

IB CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS 2014

WASHINGTON, DC • 10–13 JULY



International Baccalaureate®
Baccalaureat International
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How to Apply to Canada, the UK and Europe



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Session Panelists

- **Pam Joos**, University Counselor, Washington International School
- **Andrew Arida**, Associate Registrar, Undergraduate Admissions, The University of British Columbia
- **Teresa Smiley**, Senior International Marketing Officer, USA & Study Abroad, King's College London



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Why should IB students look abroad?

- Education in a diverse community
- continued international education
- Cost
- academically focused right away
- More straightforward application process
- They love the IB!



Studying in Canada

- International Experience
- World Class Education
- Incomparable Value

10 provinces and 3 territories
Population of 34 million
Largest cities: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver
Shares a 9,000 km border with the US
Multicultural, bilingual
90+ universities
Primarily public system
Range of sizes: 2,000 - 40,000+
International students: 200,000 full-time; 7500+ from US
Universities differ from colleges





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Big Destination for IB students

- University of Toronto (1st)
- University of British Columbia (2nd)
- McGill University (5th)
- University of Alberta (6th)
- University of Waterloo (7th)
- University of Western Ontario (8th)
- Simon Fraser University (10th)

Fourteen Canadian universities are in the *Times Higher Education* ranking of the **250 best research universities in the world** (3 in top 50)

McGill University
Montreal



70+ public universities - Strong financial support from gov'n't

University of Toronto





Diverse and flexible academic curricula; **breadth, selection and interdisciplinary**

Mount Allison University
Sackville, New Brunswick

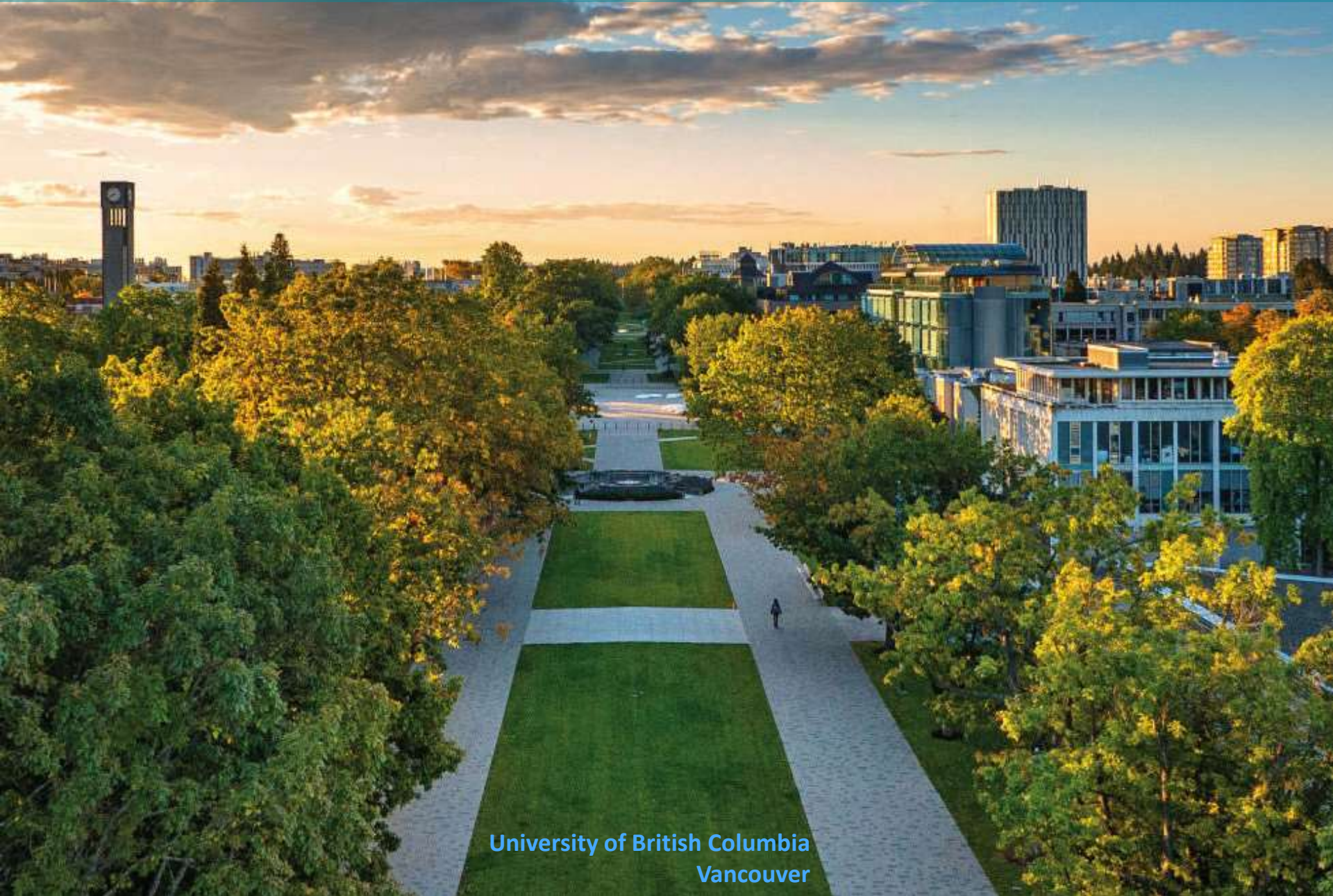
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Undergrad experience: *paid* internships, research positions, study abroad, and three-year work permit in Canada after graduation



University of Calgary

Canadian university degrees will take you **anywhere you want to go**



University of British Columbia
Vancouver



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Undergraduate Admissions Process

- Focused on academic performance in secondary school
- Straightforward application process
- IB students: admission and scholarships based solely on anticipated IB Diploma scores
- Up to a full year of credit for IB coursework
- US secondary school
 - Focus on academics : “Senior level” grades
 - Supplementary info & SATs may also be required



Benefits of studying in England

Academic

- UK education highly regarded worldwide
- New viewpoints and perspectives with global focus

Financial

- Shorter completion time = lower tuition cost
- Work permission
- NHS health coverage
- FAFSA accepted

Career

- US employers value UK degrees and international experience
- Tier 2 Work visa (exempt from Labour market test)



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Differences

- Suitability for program based on academic background
- Independent study
- Greater subject knowledge
- Law & Medicine UG programmes



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How to research universities

- British Council (www.britishcouncil.org/usa.htm)
- UCAS (www.ucas.com)
- University rankings (QS World University rankings)
- University websites - Start with your international student section and your country page
- Contact universities with specific questions



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UG Study

- Three Years (except Medicine)
- Subject focused
- Possible to study double major
- No summer study
- Lectures and seminars



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Undergraduate Applications

- Online application – UCAS or Common App
- Up to 5 choices
- 15th January deadline
(15th October for Medicine, Dentistry)
- Personal information, academic background, choices, reference
- Personal statement
- Conditional & unconditional
- Firm & Insurance (UCAS)



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Applying to highly selective universities

- Predicted grades – IB, SAT, AP, French Bac
- Proven academic record
- Additional tests where applicable - BMAT, UKCAT, LNAT, MAT
- Reference
- Personal Statement – the right balance and focus
- Interviews where applicable



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FAQ

- I have a British passport do I qualify for home tuition?
- Will my UK degree be recognised in the US?
- Can I transfer?



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Why study in Europe?

- **Quality**
 - Excellence - Quality assured - Value for money - Lasting legacy
- **Diversity**
 - Choice - Tradition and innovation - Multicultural
- **Opportunity**
 - World-renowned - Opening doors - Portable skills - Springboard for your travels
- **Global Focus**



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European Higher Education

- 4,000 higher education institutions
- over 19 million students
- 1.5 million staff



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Characteristics European higher education

- Long tradition in education
- Intellectually exciting learning environment
- 3- or 4-year Bachelor's programmes
- 1- or 2-year Master's
- Research (classical) Universities ↔ Universities of Applied Sciences
- European experience well beyond classroom to incorporate campus life and activities.
- Many variations in schools from location to size to academic format



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Applying in Europe

- Many more programs taught in English – increasing every year
- Varied curricular offering – some very focused universities and some more like a US model where students take lots of subjects
- Can be useful to have SAT scores on top of the IB
- Use IB high school in the country of interest as a resource
- IBO website has recognition policies, general info on IB requirements by country



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Admission requirements

- Admission requirements may differ per institution
- In most cases: proof of academic qualifications and language proficiency. IELTS and TOEFL commonly accepted
- Most countries have their own education website



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Interesting websites

- Study in Europe: www.study-in-europe.org
- European University Association: <http://www.eua.be/>
- Bologna process:
<http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs/bologna/>