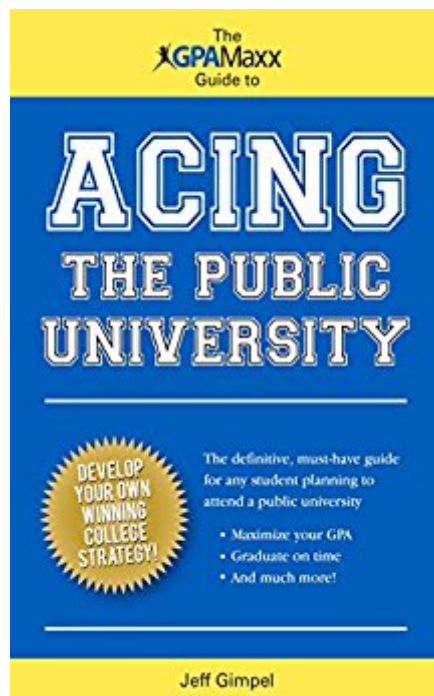




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# The GPAMaxx Guide To Acing The Public University



## Synopsis

In this first-of-its-kind strategy guide for current high school students and anyone else who plans to attend a public university, students get the know-how they need to tackle college the smart way—before they even set foot on campus. With the ratio of students to academic advisors at public universities averaging around 300:1, new college students can't expect much help on campus with academic planning. It's critical for them to arrive for their first semester with the know-how they need to navigate college successfully on their own. But they usually don't. Numerous resources exist to help students gain admission to college, but managing the transition from high school to college is a different story. Until now, it's been largely up to students to figure out the rules of college academics through trial and error after college begins. As a result, many students make serious mistakes in their academic decisions that hurt their GPAs, prevent them from graduating on time, increase college costs, and limit their opportunities during and after college. *Acing the Public University* tackles head-on the crisis of inadequate academic advising for students at public colleges. It shows public-university-bound students in a do-it-yourself, paint-by-numbers manner how to be their own academic advisors. First, students get the background knowledge they need to navigate college academics successfully by themselves. They learn the ins and outs of college-level grading, degree plans, fulfilling degree requirements, "professor shopping," and much more. The book then sets out step-by-step, easy-to-follow strategies that students can use on their own to develop a custom-tailored college completion game plan and select courses. In the course of *Acing the Public University's* 250+ pages, students get the tools they need to make smart academic planning decisions on their own. After acting on what they learn in the book, they can start college with a game plan and on track to:

- Maximize their GPAs
- Graduate on time
- Complete college more cost-effectively
- Use college as the springboard to the future they want

With more than half of all college graduates under 25 jobless or underemployed, and with education costs at record highs, it's more important than ever to do college right. Use *Acing the Public University* to get the edge for success in college—and beyond!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I ordered *Acing the Public University* after reading the glowing 5-Star review of the book by the San Francisco Book Review. Having now read it, I'm very glad that I did so. I will be working closely with my daughter to make sure she heads off for her first semester of college with a college completion game plan in hand, thanks to this book. It's no secret that most of us parents are focused on getting our kids admitted into a college. There are hundreds of books which we can choose from to help us with the college admissions process. There are, however, precious few books that help students with the next step once they get admitted to a college: successfully transitioning from high school to college. To the best of my knowledge, there are none designed with students in mind who will be attending a state university. Until this book, that is! Given that state support for state universities has declined by more than 25 percent over the last three decades, students today cannot assume that they will get quality academic advising on campus. On most state school campuses, there are hundreds of students for each academic advisor. As a result, students need to make sure they arrive for their first semester able to be their own academic advisors and make well-informed and strategic academic planning decisions independently. As parents, we therefore owe it to our children to ensure that they have this ability before they head off to college. Fortunately, *Acing the Public University* gives students the tools and acumen that they need to advise themselves and make strategic academic planning decisions on their own. It shows

students in an easy to read and systemic fashion how to develop a comprehensive college completion plan. It lays out exactly how students need to go about doing this (Step 1, Step 2, etc.). It provides, in short, a blueprint for college success. If you expect your son or daughter will be attending a state university after high school, this book can help you help your child. A great investment in your child's future!

Like too many of my classmates I drank away my freshman year, and when I recovered from my year long hangover I learned that my GPA was in the toilet, I was in danger of losing my scholarship, and my parents were threatening to pull their remaining support. I decided I needed to get my act together...and do it quick. I read some good reviews of this book (and learned that the author graduated from UT where I go to school \m/) so I decided to check it out. The advice in the book is bang-on. No BS, just straight to the point. Biggest thing I learned from it was how to balance everything. I'm back on track now, and I'm managing my time well enough to still have fun. I tried reading a few other books along the same lines, but I couldn't get through them. Mostly they were just too boring. This one kept me interested to the end. If you are like me, I recommend "Acing the Public University".

I rarely write actual reviews (preferring instead to just pick the right number of stars and move on), but this book is such a great resource that I had to spread the word with actual words! This book provides a fresh (and refreshing) perspective on what it takes to achieve success in college, and spells out an effective way to get there. Although expressly written for public universities, the main lessons and strategies for achievement could be applied to just about any institution of higher learning. The basic premise is that most students not only don't know how to strategize their college career for maximum effectiveness at the lowest cost, but also don't even realize they need to have such a strategy. This book provides a solid introduction to the problem as well as a step-by-step guide to crafting an individualized solution. To me, it made perfect sense and could be boiled down to (a) know the requirements, (b) know \*all\* the options for meeting the requirements, including transfer credits from other schools (that perhaps have smaller classes or a looser curve), and (c) know yourself and how you learn best. The book contains excellent information about how to identify these 3 things, as well as how to gather any additional information that is necessary to optimize your chances for success. My only real complaint about the book is that it wasn't around when I was making my way through college! In addition to being a practical, problem-solving guide to getting the most out of college, this book provides a great introduction to (and largely

de-mystifies) the academic and bureaucratic side of the college experience. Most highly recommended!

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