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# Quarterly Newsletter

## Winter 2012

CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR FUTURE

IN THIS ISSUE

## What Type of College is Right for You?

There are many factors to consider when narrowing down the long list of schools available for you to continue your education. You have probably heard your school guidance counselor and/or your parents ask you questions such as: Do you want to go to a big school or small school? Do you want to be in a big city or rural area? Close to home or far away? All of these are good questions to ask, and at [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com), you can use filter through the almost 4,000 to find just the schools that fit you.

If you are uncertain as to what size school or how far away you want to move for school, you can use their step-by-step guided search to help you understand your options.

- [Step-by-Step College Search](#)

Picking a school, applying, selecting a major, and working towards a degree when you are not sure what you will use it for, is an impossible task! Take the time now to figure out what you want to study and what types of schools are the best for that field. This just may save you from realizing in your junior year as

an English major in a liberal arts college that you really want to be an electrical engineer!

The reason for so many changed majors, college transfers, and delayed graduations, is the indecision that results from lack of preparedness. You can read more about this "major dilemma" facing college freshmen [here](#).

Deciding on the occupation you want to have when you graduate can help. Starting with that end goal, you can work your way backwards to a field of study, and find a school with an excellent department for that field. You do not have to know specifically what job title you are after, but an occupation field will greatly focus your search. Or you can use the assessment on our website, [OccupationProfessor.com](http://OccupationProfessor.com), to help you select the occupations that fit you best!



### What Type of College is Right for You?

Some suggestions and resources to help you narrow down the list of schools you should be considering.



### Paying for College and ROI

Consider doing some contract or freelance work as a way to 'get your foot in the door' with some companies.



### OP Major of the Month: History

## Paying for YOUR Education



One of the search parameters for colleges on the College Board site is cost. Education is expensive, so this is a major consideration when selecting a school. There are many factors involved to figuring out your best options for financing your college education (i.e. parent's chipping in, in-state tuition, scholarships, financial aid, etc.) Check out the links below for tips and information on paying for college.

[US News Paying for College](#)

[StudentBank 101 Ways to Pay for College](#)

Both of these sites also include helpful ways to save on books, housing, etc. - not just tuition cost!

If you decided to take out loans to pay for tuition, educate yourself first. A recent survey found that 2/3 of students that took out private student loans did so without understanding all their options or the terms of their loan. Find out more about the study and what you should know before taking out a loan [here](#).

Also, here is the link to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid - [FAFSA](#).

## Return on Investment

Once you've figured out how you are going to pay for college, make sure you are getting the most out of it; think of it as an investment. With any investment you want to make sure you are going to get a good return, and you certainly do not want to wait forever to get it.

*BusinessWeek* and many other publications have made a study out of what schools and/or majors have the best return on investment (ROI). Your education is a major asset for your future, and will give you an advantage when applying for jobs, moving ahead in your career, and thus translates into your earning potential. So, if you are a bottom line kind of thinker, click [here](#) and see how your investment is doing.



Also, check out these [Colleges Worth Your Investment](#).

PayScale.com has ranked the top schools according to their research on ROI.

## Occupation Professor's Major of the Month

# H I S T O R Y

### What can I do with a History major?

A general History major can lead to a very broad range of occupations including Public Policy, Research, Political Advising, Law Enforcement, etc. As a student, you will want to clearly define your goals and seek the experience and skills necessary to reach those goals. For more information and specific strategies, click [here](#).

### What are some of the top ranking schools for a History major?

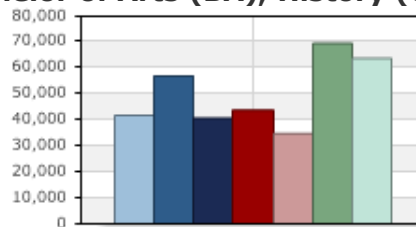
Earning a degree in history involves analysis, research, and presentations. Below are some of the top colleges for an undergraduate history degree:

- Princeton University
- University of California – Los Angeles
- University of Pennsylvania

You can also check out schools based on a variety of other rankings through [US News](#) and [The Princeton Review](#).

### How much money can I make?

#### Median Salary by Job – Degree: Bachelor of Arts (BA), History (United States)



High School Teacher (67)	\$41,805
Operations Manager (52)	\$57,101
Paralegal (49)	\$40,822
Executive Assistant (46)	\$43,880
Administrative Assistant (38)	\$34,874
Attorney / Lawyer (37)	\$69,634
General / Operations Manager (35)	\$63,864

Cur: USD | Updated: 13 Aug 13 | Ind. Reporting: 3,274

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Is your target job title not listed? Visit [www.payscale.com](http://www.payscale.com) to enter your own search.

Still trying to decide your major? At [Occupationprofessor.com](http://Occupationprofessor.com) you can take the WPI, a personality assessment, and receive a custom list of occupations suited for you based on your answers to the questions. This will include the field(s) of study or major(s) that will provide you with the necessary educational foundation for your future career.

