

ProjectMERIT

At Merit, the College Advisor guides students through the process of undertaking their own project—the kind that will build character and dazzle admissions committees.

Throughout this process, students meet with their College Advisor once per week (in person or online) to discuss the project and to learn how to implement the next step.

Not only do the students become independent thinkers and receive public recognition for their projects, they also learn leadership skills that will last for a lifetime.

We start by finding each student's passion and exploring their real interests. Students are encouraged to pursue original projects that involve research and community involvement in business and the community.

WHY PROJECTS?

You've heard stories about high schoolers with 4.0+ GPA's and perfect SAT's being rejected from Harvard or Stanford. Sometimes these students even have long resumes of extracurriculars. If they can't get in, what kind of students are these schools looking for?

What these admissions committees want are students who also excel outside of the high school setting, students who demonstrate true creativity, initiative, and leadership, students who show the potential to become the next Bill Gates or Hillary Clinton.

How can you convince colleges that you have this level of talent and potential? The best way to do it is with an independent project—not just a class project that consists simply of posters and presentations—an original undertaking outside the classroom that reflects the student's vision, initiative, tenacity, and leadership.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Susan Tatsui-D'Arcy, M.A., Merit's College Advisor, has been actively involved in the field of education for over thirty years, with an emphasis on educational alternatives. Her educational background includes a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, a Master's degree in Educational Administration from Santa Clara University, and a California Teaching Credential. She has successfully owned and operated numerous educationally related businesses: Professional Tutoring Programs, R.E.C. Day Camp and Ski Club, and Merit Academy: Education for Excellence. In addition, Tatsui-D'Arcy is a published author and writes books and articles on parenting, time management, and education.



Have you checked out meritworld.com?

Merit Academy's award-winning curriculum framework is now available for home schools and independent schools.

- ✓ Preschool
- ✓ Elementary School
- ✓ Middle School
- ✓ High School

Online College Advisors

- ✓ Full support through the college admissions process
- ✓ ProjectMERIT guidance and support
- ✓ Quick answers from experienced advisors
- ✓ Affordable rates

Books, Planners, and Publications

- ✓ *Beat the College Admissions Game: Do a Project!*
- ✓ *The Working Mother's Guide to FREE Child Care in Your Home!*
- ✓ *The 21st Century Mother's Guide to Managing Time and Taking Control of Your Life!*
- ✓ *Busy Woman's Organizer*
- ✓ *Merit Planner*
- ✓ **And more!**



YOU NEED A COLLEGE ADVISOR!

Today, there are more high school students applying to college than ever before, making colleges more selective. Merit helps students wade through the confusion of the college admissions process and get into the best fit college for them.



Educational Consultants, LLC

One-on-One, Worldwide
Toll-Free: 877.357.5655

meritworld.com
collegeadvisory.org

skype: meriteducationalconsultants

Santa Cruz: 831.462.5655

Cupertino: 408.267.5655

Palo Alto: 650.321.9400



EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS, LLC
info@meritworld.com

MERIT'S COLLEGE ADVISORS

A College Advisor is a coach who guides students toward discovering their interests, building their portfolios, and preparing for the SAT's and ACT's. Additionally, College Advisors counsel students about their grades and help them through the college admissions process. Starting as early as 9th grade, Merit's College Advisors help students understand the steps that need to be taken in order to best prepare for college and to make sure that the colleges recognize each of their accomplishments and their potential.

MERIT PROJECTS AND PORTFOLIOS

When selective universities reject valedictorians, students wonder what kind of applicants colleges are admitting. At Merit, the College Advisor guides students as they find their passions and explore their extracurricular interests. Students are encouraged to start projects that give them the opportunity to delve into research, public outreach, and business. Students at Merit have built hydrogen fuel cells, started successful businesses, published books, and more. Not only do college admissions officers prefer students with portfolios filled with these types of activities, but the students enjoy doing these projects because they're stimulating and challenging.

CAREER EXPLORATION

At 17 years old, most students haven't had the opportunity to explore the many professional careers available to them. Merit College Advisors discuss these options with students to help them find their individual niche. During this process, college-bound students narrow down their interests and research the colleges that specialize in these areas.

INTERNSHIPS

One of the most direct and exciting ways for students to explore careers is to intern with various professionals. Merit College Advisors place students in a variety of professional career internships, so they can really see and experience what the profession is like on a day-to-day basis. By demystifying the stereotyped images of popular careers, the students can make smart decisions about future professions before choosing their colleges.

"With Susan's advising help on everything from keeping track of details to writing essays, I have been admitted to my first-choice college. She is the perfect advisor, and my sister will be attending Merit's College Advisory program soon!"

— Gaby Asmus

"With the help of Susan, my son overcame the pitfall of teenage procrastination by becoming passionate and committed to a project that not only has touched hundreds of lives but has also allowed him to consider top-ranked universities."

— Scott Tucker, Esquire

CHECKLISTS FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit College Advisors guide the students through the college application process. By using Merit's academic planners, the students schedule time to complete each part of the process, so there are no 11th-hour crises. Merit also provides checklists to help students and their parents take control of the many steps involved in completing both college applications and scholarships.

TIME MANAGEMENT

One of the unique benefits of working with a Merit College Advisor is that the students will learn about time management when it is most vital to them. While doing extracurricular projects, homework, and after-school sports, college-bound students need to manage every minute of their time. Merit is famous for its time management and organizational skills education, which helps students squeeze time into their busy schedules to request letters of recommendation, work on projects, and write their personal statements.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS AND COLLEGE APPLICATION ESSAYS

Because college admissions committees read thousands of essays, they can easily spot those written by parents, and they usually get bored of reading the others. At Merit, students brainstorm with College Advisors to select the strongest essay topics that reflect their experiences. Merit College Advisors coach and guide the students to write meaningful essays that represent them. By teaching English grammar and writing mechanics, the students learn the skills they'll need once they're admitted to college.

MERIT OFFERS SINGLE, ACCREDITED COURSES

Need just one class to graduate? No time to fulfill college admissions requirements? Merit Academy has a solution: One-on-one classes just for you!

FULLY-ACCREDITED COURSES

That's right, Merit Academy offers fully accredited classes with your own teacher. With one-on-one classes, you will receive the ideal learning environment with a teacher who is dedicated to teaching just you. Merit schedules your classes around your busy life and you'll complete your class by your deadlines! With a full range of classes to choose from, you can easily satisfy graduation or college requirements.



ONE-ON-ONE CLASSES WITH REAL TEACHERS

Merit Academy's classes are real classes; they aren't online classes where you have to teach yourself and stay organized. Merit's classes are all taught by real teachers who personalize their instruction just for you. You'll receive lectures, have lively class discussions, do homework, and take exams. The only difference is that you're the only student in the class!

NEED TO COMPLETE A CLASS QUICKLY?

With high school graduation and college admissions requirements changing each year, it is often difficult to understand what classes you need to take. Some high schools require students to have a C- or better in academic courses, which can cause delays in graduating. Many colleges give special consideration to students who take specific classes as entering freshmen.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE; MERIT ALWAYS FINDS SOLUTIONS!

Whether you're needing an extra class or retaking a class, Merit Academy is there for you. We work with your high school to ensure that you'll receive all the credits you need for graduation or college entrance requirements. Call us for a free phone consultation.

 **MERIT** EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS, LLC
info@meritworld.com