



40 Alternatives to College

James Altucher

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Kids at 18 have no idea what they want to do in life. The world is a very big place. It's bigger than five classes a day on philosophy or chemical engineering. Most kids at 18 don't relish philosophy but they relish the experience of freedom and being out of their parents' home for the first time in their lives.

Young adults have a lot of energy and should use it. But the problem is that college costs have risen 1000% in the past 30 years while healthcare has risen 700% and inflation has risen "only" 300%. Colleges have made use of the myth that you can't get a job unless you have a college education. But a rose needs space to bloom. Here are 40 alternatives to help that rose bloom. And to help keep innovation, creativity, and youthful energy alive and well.

40 Alternatives to College Details

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From Reader Review 40 Alternatives to College for online ebook

Dmitry Zinkevich says

Very inspirational and thought provoking! It makes you look around and think about the core of life.

The advice given in this book is not to rush blindly where others are forcing you but to make your own decisions. When a person is young it's better to explore life and to learn its laws rather than hide from it within college walls. It is always hard to choose one's way in life and easy to follow paths of parents or friends but it's the most important thing.

But there is always an option. The world is big. One choice may be as rewarding and as another. So don't narrow your mind down to one option. Explore instead what makes you heart beat faster and then you will live a meaningful and interesting life!

"All theory, dear friend, is gray, but the golden tree of life springs ever green."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

David Mattauch says

I wish i had this book years ago. I read it very fast but i agree with the idea that going to college is a very mediocre path these days. You'll learn so much more by doing some of the things recommended in this book.

Heather says

I read this because I follow Mr. Altucher's blog and he mentioned there that he wrote this book in a weekend. I wanted to see what he would produce in that time frame! He offers up some very interesting alternatives to college. I still firmly believe that one needs a college education at the very least in today's society, so I explained to my teenage son, who also read the book on the Kindle, that he could utilize this as "40 things to do the year after I graduate from college".

hanna says

This was really compelling, I agreed with most if not all his points. Half the reason I decided to go abroad for uni (college as you Americans like to call it) was because I wanted the best of both worlds. Experience in a foreign country + an education I knew I wouldn't regret (Medicine). 6 years of my life is a pretty long time but I've been exposed to a completely new way of life I wouldn't have experienced if I took the traditional route (4 yrs pre-med, 4 yrs medical school plus hundreds of thousands in debt). I do not regret my decision, nor do I think I will 15 years from today. I've met people from all parts of the world, I've shared experiences with folk I would have never had the confidence to speak to, let alone befriend if I were still in my first

world sanctuary. This experience has made me streets smart, books smart and economical. What else can a 20 year old gal trying to make it in the world ask for?

Núria Costa says

Amazing read. I'm 22 years old.

I am glad I read this now. Though I'd love to read it before I choose a University to study.

Thanks James for what you're doing. Keep doing it.

Almir says

<http://imeducatingmyself.com/40-alter...>

You can, probably, figure it out from the title of the book what the subject will be. It's talking about 40 alternatives to college. Subject is mainly focused on those who are planning to go on college, but they are constantly asking them self "should I go to college" or "do I need to go to college". James is telling that colleges are getting to expensive, and paying out the student load takes too much time of students lives.

I didn't have opportunity to go to college, and I don't consider myself of someone who could give advice on this subject whether you should, or shouldn't attend college. So, I can't tell nothing about whether James is right or wrong, simply that is not up to me. I do think that education is very important in life. After spending many years working not so great jobs, I finally decided to start educating myself by reading as much as possible. I read books that are related to business, self-help, marketing, entrepreneurship and so on...

And that why I like this book, because it give us alternatives, and show us how we can learn and educate ourselves online for much less money, and still get good education. There are many sites mentioned in this book where good courses can be found, such as Uncollege.org and many others. I will be looking through those sites later to try find something that will be interesting for me. To get rest of the list, I encourage you to go ahead and buy this book.

James is also talking about his experience and what he didn't learn in college, but the think that those are required skills that person should have in life. Just to list them, and everything is in detail explained about this in book:

How to program a computer (he's mentioning this because he study Computer Science)

How to be betrayed

How to write

Dinner parties

Networking

Politics

Failure

Sales

Negotiation

Moeed says

When I was 9 I wanted to be a pilot, at 11 a painter, at 12 a news caster, at 13 a chef, at 14 an architect, at 15 a banker, at 16 a mathematician, at 17 an engineer and at 19 I was sitting my class of chemical engineering trying to figure out where did it go wrong and what I actually want to be. A year at engineering school had passed and still I found myself searching for what is my true calling and there I found it. I realised I am destined to be a portrait photographer. Another year passed and I realised no I want to be a photojournalist indeed.

Today I am 28 and I am still trying to figure out what the heck I actually want to be. In an attempt to discover my true self and what I want to do in my life I am currently reading as many books as I can possibly read.

I first came to know about the writer James Altucher when I stumbled across a post, a cheat sheet for his book "reinvent yourself" on Pinterest. I really liked the post. It was very articulate. So I decided to read Mr Altucher.

Before reading the book I thought the book was actually about 40 career options that don't require a college degree but it is not. It is about 40 things you can do to explore options and learn more about life when you're young, energetic and not attending college. I see a lot of people telling how the book is misleading and isn't worth reading. But surprisingly I really liked the book. I will give the book a higher rating because I want every 18 year old to read this book before they choose to start their college. Most people will tell you to "go follow your heart" when it comes to choosing a career path but that's not a very practical advice to give to an 18 year old. This is a very fragile age and children at that age are often not very realistic. The best advice you can give to someone at that age is "explore as many options as possible" and then choose. Read as many books as you can and always remember to never let your schooling interfere with your learning.

Byron says

James Altucher is at his absolute best when he's writing about either one of two topics: why only an idiot would send his kids to college, and why only an idiot would buy a house. This book, of course, is all about why only an idiot would send his kids to college. It should be a no-brainer. If Altucher had put any effort into it at all, he may have ended up with a legit bestseller. Instead, all he's done is throw together a few posts from his blog. Some of it may also be repeated from his other books. I rarely check his blog, but I've read all of the other books, and some of this sounded very familiar. 40 Alternatives to College is as unintentionally amusing and strangely riveting as all of the other books, but it's also maddeningly short and lacking in depth. Even for \$.99, you should get the other books and skip this one.

Heidi Pungartnik says

Every single person should read this book. Even those with a college degree, so that they can wipe their tears with the diploma.

Joseph Milton Wills says

Unorthodox

Based on the idea of not going to college, Altucher presents some very compelling arguments to support this unorthodox idea. I'm well passed 18 and can see the benefit of coming across the ideas in this book. I'll definitely will share this book with my wife and kids.

Ng?c V? Th? says

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Brandon Nankivell says

Can't believe this book has a low rating. Well, actually, I can. It was written in 2012 but now it's 2018 and the college debate is no longer a debate. College is a downright scam, and the only thing fueling you is rationalization to justify your own poor decision to waste 5 years of your life and \$250,000 to do something you don't care about.

Boon says

Uncollege evangelist

I am an uncollege evangelist and this book provides a lot of good points for thoughtful discussion. The cost of going to college really far outweighs its benefit.

Allele says

It's direct and to the point.

James Altucher opens the book with a series of compelling arguments against college. Financial debt, no guarantee of a job, and notes on how the college system is not optimized for learning.

After the arguments have been made, he makes a mighty list of what one could do instead of going to college to find what they want and need out of life.

I read this right after reading Choose Yourself, also by James Altucher. Both are captivating reads.

Briana Ford says

I'm actually in the middle of reading Choose Yourself and decided to check this out. Some good alternatives but I wasn't crazy about the formatting or editing. Nevertheless a good gift to give high school juniors and seniors. It even has me reconsidering how much I need my degree, if at all.
