

## DRAW YOUR OWN COLLEGE

**Ideal for:** Students beginning their college search and needing a visual tool to remind them what is important in a college campus. After you finish, encourage students to put in a folder and save through their Senior year. Can be a helpful way to reflect on values/wants/needs in a college when it comes time to commit to a final college.

**Instructions:** Take out a piece of paper. You are now the Dean of your own university. You have unlimited funding and can create your dream school. We will walk through different parts of campus and draw your college like you're seeing an aerial/bird's eye view of your campus.

1. **Choose a center point and draw your student union.** This is the hub of your campus. Where students come to either hang out, get resources, tutoring, etc. Write what amenities are in your hub. For example, writing lab? Math tutoring center, computers, study abroad office, intramural sports, extra tutoring support, pool table, video games, TV, lounging area, food.
2. **Now draw a few classrooms.** Write how many students total each classroom (for example, is it a large lecture hall of 200 or a small discussion based classroom of about 15 or somewhere in the middle) think about if it's a large lecture hall, what extras would you want to help support you throughout that class? Peer-mentors, professor office hours, etc. If you're having trouble thinking of a number that you'd want, think back to a learning experience or a classroom where you really thrived? Was this in a small-group discussion? Or more of a lecture style where you took notes?
3. **Write the subject names of the classes you are taking?** Are all of your classes visual/performing arts spaces and studios? Are they math? Sciences? Labs? Or are they a mix of a few so you can take a sample from some different disciplines?
4. **Now take a walk outside. Let's draw one or two spaces for fun.** This is your extra space. This could be a space where your club meets, or a football field. It could be a library, it could be a museum or an art gallery. A religious space, a grass for studying, etc. Draw your extra spaces now.
5. **Let's draw some scenery.** What type of surroundings do you have? Are you in the middle of a city...if so, draw large buildings around your campus? Let's say you want access to a city, but you don't want to be living in the heart of a city, draw a shuttle bus or metro that will take you to the city on your student pass. If you're more in nature start drawing mountains, trees. Are you by an ocean? Do you have palm trees? Is there snow? Do you have a local coffee shop hang out? Draw your surroundings in a college. Is there a church or temple, or just a space for you to do some homework, reading, playing outside?
6. **Now write anything else important to you:** (I want to be able to grab coffee with a professor, I want to do research, I want an internship, job on campus, living in the dorms, local food, a farmer's market, a strong business program, an entrepreneurial club, culinary, career office, etc.)
7. **Lastly, name your university.**

Take a picture of this. Keep this. Does anyone want to share?