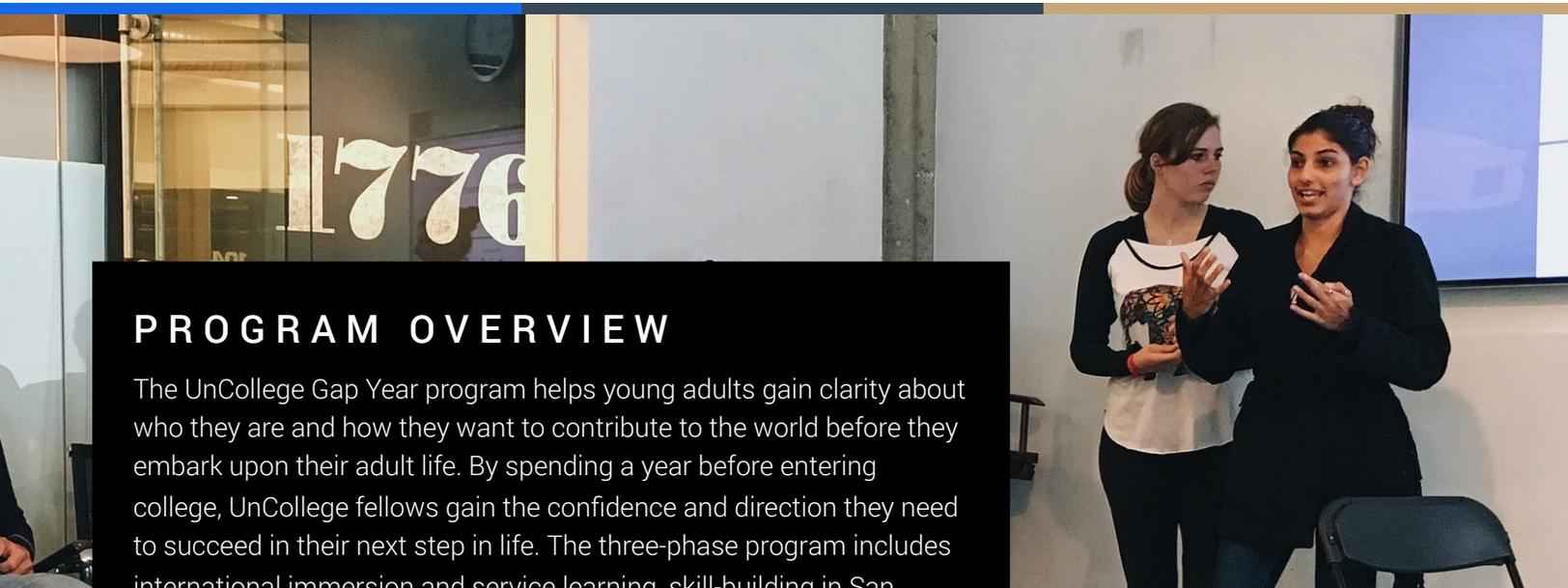


UNCOLLEGE

GAP YEAR PROGRAM



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The UnCollege Gap Year program helps young adults gain clarity about who they are and how they want to contribute to the world before they embark upon their adult life. By spending a year before entering college, UnCollege fellows gain the confidence and direction they need to succeed in their next step in life. The three-phase program includes international immersion and service learning, skill-building in San Francisco, and a real-world internship. All of this is woven together by a dedicated coach and mentors who work with fellows throughout the program to identify and set personal and professional goals. The result is expedited growth on both levels.

PHILOSOPHY

UnCollege is built around the core principle that people should be empowered to take control of their own learning.

Research shows that almost everyone can benefit from taking concentrated time to focus on their learning, discover their talents, and develop their professional acumen. Our experience-based program teaches young adults the practical skills they miss in most conventional classroom settings through a blended approach of self-directed learning, applied problem solving, mentorship, and deliberate practice. This method equips participants with the essential cognitive skills, confidence, and professional aptitudes they can utilize in all future endeavors.

THE PROGRAM

VOYAGE 10 WEEKS TRAVEL. VOLUNTEER.

Begin your Gap Year living abroad and volunteering in one of four exciting countries: Bali, India, Mexico, or Tanzania.

Immerse yourself in a new culture and environment. Participate in a service learning project and have a meaningful impact on a community in need.

LAUNCH 10 WEEKS LEARN. CREATE. NETWORK.

Live with your peers in San Francisco while learning new skills, networking, & clarifying your goals. Fellows are challenged to exceed their own expectations through deliberate

- Coaching
- Workshops
- Work Sprints
- Networking

INTERNSHIP 12 WEEKS GAIN REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE.

Gain real world experience through an internship or project. This can be a conventional internship, an entrepreneurial project, an apprenticeship — all supported by continuous coaching. The goal is to use the skills you've learned in the Launch phase and apply your learning in the real world.

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THE CURRICULUM

Our experiential curriculum focuses on the most important skills of the modern economy; what we call Power Skills. Previously called “soft skills”, these include a growth mindset, self-advocacy, grit, communication and entrepreneurship. Through collaborative projects, fellows solve real-world problems, explore their interests and develop a foundation of self-directed skills and behaviors.

COACHING

Coaching is the backbone of the UnCollege Gap Year program and consists of three key functions: goal-setting/ accountability, perspective, and connecting. The coach acts as a personal trainer for each fellow’s personal and professional development. Coaching actively disrupts the idea of “finding your passion” by ensuring that goals are process-oriented, which means fellows are focused on the habits and systems for getting results rather than the results themselves.

WORK SPRINTS

During Work Sprints, fellows have 48 hours to bring something new into the world. That could be a new business venture, an art installation, a video, or a stand-up comedy routine. Through Work Sprints, fellows learn what it means to have a bias towards action, to push through challenges and to create something that they can feel proud of. By actively engaging in projects and Work Sprints, fellows begin to create a portfolio of work.

MENTORSHIP

Throughout the program, mentors guide and support fellows with field-specialized and industry-specific knowledge. UnCollege mentors help fellows understand how to best acquire in their field, advise fellows on a strategic path to enter their industry, connect fellows to relevant resources, and give feedback on progress.

WORKSHOPS

Daily workshops build upon our self-directed learning process of Curiosity, Creation and Self-Advocacy. We focus on building competency in three areas:

NON-COGNITIVE SKILLS

- Productivity habits
- Growth mindset
- Emotional intelligence
- Interpersonal communication
- Grit

SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING SKILLS

- Goal setting
- Learning strategies
- Skill building
- Networking + cold emailing
- Interviewing + professional skills

APPLIED PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

- Design thinking
- Problem solving
- Creativity
- Experimentation
- Collaboration

OUTCOMES

Graduates of the Gap Year program go on to succeed across a number of different pathways. Fellows have started their own businesses, moved into permanent professional positions, gained admission into bootcamps, and continued to pursue their undergraduate studies at schools such as UC Berkeley, Temple University, Penn State, Emory University, and Northeastern University.