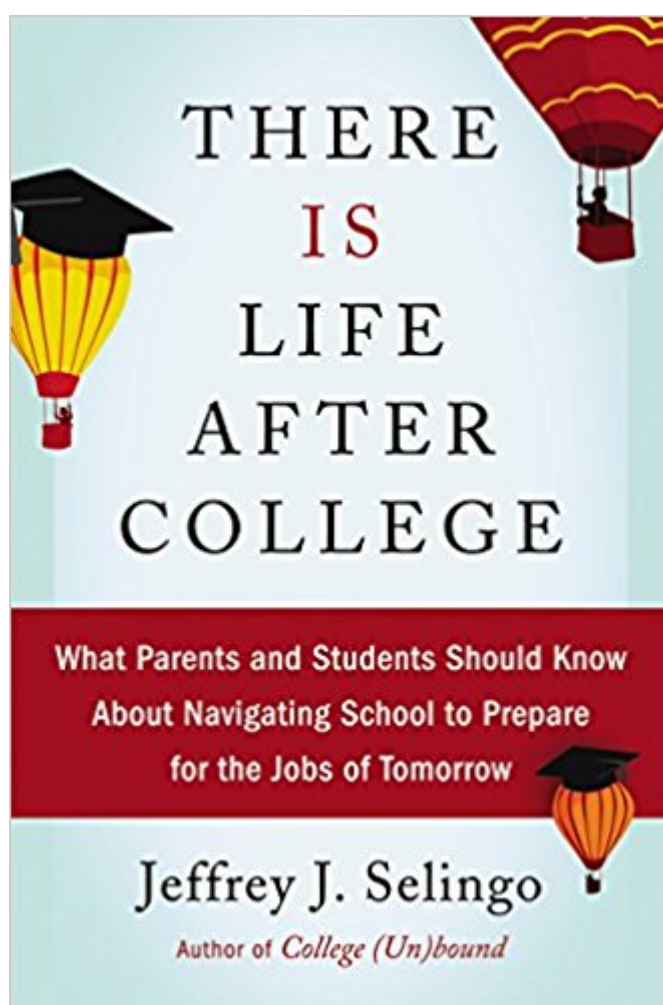


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# There Is Life After College: What Parents And Students Should Know About Navigating School To Prepare For The Jobs Of Tomorrow



## Synopsis

New York Times Bestseller From the bestselling author of *College Unbound* comes a hopeful, inspiring blueprint to help alleviate parents' anxiety and prepare their college-educated child to successfully land a good job after graduation. Saddled with thousands of dollars of debt, today's college students are graduating into an uncertain job market that is leaving them financially dependent on their parents for years to come—a reality that has left moms and dads wondering: What did I pay all that money for? *There Is Life After College* offers students, parents, and even recent graduates the practical advice and insight they need to jumpstart their careers. Education expert Jeffrey Selinger answers key questions: Why is the transition to post-college life so difficult for many recent graduates? How can graduates market themselves to employers that are reluctant to provide on-the-job training? What can institutions and individuals do to end the current educational and economic stalemate?—and offers a practical step-by-step plan every young professional can follow. From the end of high school through college graduation, he lays out exactly what students need to do to acquire the skills companies want. Full of tips, advice, and insight, this wise, practical guide will help every student, no matter their major or degree, find real employment—and give their parents some peace of mind.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Features many valuable stories from his interviews with students who figure out how to thrive in various career trajectories.” (The Atlantic) “An eye-opening exploration of

what the future holds for college grads. It's an essential read for students -- and their parents -- to prepare for launching careers in a radically different job market. (Adam Grant, Wharton professor and New York Times bestselling author of Give and Take and Originals)

"Selingo provides an important road map for navigating the world of higher education. This is an essential guide for learning what to expect from college, and how to prepare for productive employment afterwards. That the book is written in clear, understandable language only adds to its value. (Janet Napolitano, president of the University of California, former secretary of Homeland Security, and former governor of Arizona)

"Jeffrey Selingo's book belongs on the desk of every career counselor, on the shelf of every parent, and in the hands of every young person planning his or her future. There Is Life After College is essential reading for navigating the new workplace terrain. (Daniel H. Pink, author of To Sell Is Human and Drive)

"Selingo identifies the question we should be worried about: what comes after college? ... An invaluable guide for students who want to make the most of their college years. (Paul Tough, New York Times bestselling author of How Children Succeed)

"Terrific. ... Covers a wide range of pressing issues in higher education from the perspective and for the benefit of students. (Forbes)

"Selingo provides valuable information about what kids really need to know to not just be employable, but to be in a position to know what they want, know how to get there, and succeed once they've arrived. I will be planting this book in my teenager's bookshelf. (Jessica Lahey, New York Times bestselling author of The Gift of Failure)

"Explores several promising experiments that promise to redefine college as we know it. (USA Today)

"A necessary and thoughtful contribution to the conversation on the role our colleges and universities play in preparing students for young adulthood. Everyone who has an interest in the development of today's college students and tomorrow's leaders should read it. (Dan Porterfield, President of Franklin & Marshall College)

"Why are so many young adults wandering or straggling in the job market? How can parents help their kids thrive out there? Selingo convincingly frames the 21st century job market as a wholly unfamiliar terrain, then provides comprehensive strategies and tactical tips for tackling it. (Julie Lythcott-Haims, author of How to Raise an Adult)

"Jeffrey Selingo demonstrates the radical changes complicating young people's transitions to adulthood; highlights emerging and necessary transformations in the delivery of higher education; and, at the same time, gives students and their parents practical guidance in charting the best course. (Hilary Pennington, Ford Foundation Vice President for Education, Creativity, and Free Expression)

"Levelheaded advice for students and

parents on the best path to take from high school to employment. (Kirkus) “Essential reading for high school and college students and their parents. Selingo doesn’t just provide the answers, he makes sure his readers know the important questions to ask. Students looking for a roadmap to the future should get this book and heed its advice. (Patricia Rose, Director of Career Services, University of Pennsylvania) “In an age when jobs and career paths are likely to shift -- and even evaporate entirely -- at an unprecedented pace, Jeffrey Selingo’s *There Is Life After College* offers a practical road map for graduates faced with navigating a challenging and unpredictable terrain. (Martin Ford, author of *Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future*) “Bursting with fresh ideas and vivid examples. ... The breadth and depth of Selingo’s expertise make him a uniquely good guide to what’s undeniably a complicated topic. (EdSurge) “Jeffrey Selingo digs deep into what frustrated employers have known for quite some time: to fuel the economy with the next generation of leaders and innovators, we need grads who ask questions, have the grit of determination and can make quick, thoughtful decisions in ambiguous situations. A must read. (Edward B. Rust, Jr., Chairman of the Board, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company)

A hopeful, inspiring blueprint to help parents prepare their college-educated children for landing a great job after graduation. Earning a bachelor’s degree used to be a near-guarantee of financial stability and professional opportunity. Employers sought out talented graduates, provided them with additional on-the-job training, and set in motion a promising career path. Today, the paradigm has shifted -- and employers expect experienced workers who are capable of doing the job from day one. But rarely does the college classroom develop that ability, and many young jobseekers have not used their undergraduate years to build the skills they need. As a result, a growing number of grads find themselves adrift, thousands of dollars in debt, and facing an uncertain job market that may leave them financially dependent on their parents for years to come, ultimately leading moms and dads to wonder: Why did I pay all that money? In *There Is Life After College*, Jeffrey J. Selingo, author of *College (Un)bound*, explains why the transition to post-college life has become more difficult and provides a step-by-step plan full of practical advice that every young professional can follow to jumpstart a career. He begins early in the process and helps direct parents and students to the right colleges, in the right locations, while also examining the benefits of detours, such as gap years and work experience before college. Selingo describes the types of courses that will impress employers and shows how they can evolve into the internships that build

an impressive post-graduation résumé made up of in-demand skills and hands-on experience. Full of tips, advice, and insight, *There Is Life After College* is a wise, commonsense guide for the years from the end of high school through college graduation that will help every student—no matter their major or degree—find real employment. Parents will also find some peace of mind that their child's time in college is well spent. “Amid all the anxiety among parents and students about how to get into college and how to pay for it, Jeffrey Selingo identifies the question we should be worried about: What comes after college? This book is an important wake-up call for anyone concerned with the future of our higher-education system, as well as an invaluable guide for students who want to make the most of their college years.”

•Paul Tough, author of the New York Times bestseller *How Children Succeed* “Jeffrey Selingo's book belongs on the desk of every career counselor, on the shelf of every parent, and in the hands of every young person planning his or her future. *There Is Life After College* is essential reading for navigating the new workplace terrain.”

•Daniel H. Pink, New York Times bestselling author of *To Sell Is Human* and *Drive* “Why are so many young adults wandering or straggling in the job market? How can parents help their kids thrive out there? Drawing upon his decades of research and extensive conversations with twentysomethings, educators, and employers, Selingo convincingly frames the twenty-first-century job market as a wholly unfamiliar terrain, then provides comprehensive strategies and tactical tips for tackling it.”

•Julie Lythcott-Haims, author of *How to Raise an Adult* “An eye-opening exploration of what the future holds for college grads. It's a must-read for students—and their parents—to prepare for launching careers in a radically different job market.”

•Adam Grant, New York Times bestselling author of *Give and Take* and *Originals* “Jeffrey Selingo's *There Is Life After College* is essential reading for high school and college students and their parents. Selingo doesn't just provide the answers, he makes sure his readers know the important questions to ask. Students looking for a road map to the future should get this book and heed its advice.”

•Patricia Rose, director of career services, University of Pennsylvania

“Our twentieth-century education system is woefully out of sync with this twenty-first century economy that demands highly knowledgeable and flexible workers.” This quote from the introduction of *Life After College* perfectly sums up the entire book. To simplify this quote, education is woefully out of sync. When I graduated college Myspace was the reigning champion in social media. Facebook, at the time, was a hobby or diversion for a few college

students. Today, Myspace is a memory and Facebook dominates not just social media but our entire online experience. Rapid technological innovations and global market change everything we know almost constantly. Businesses and organizations cannot keep up. Education, from kindergarten to graduate schools, lag behind even farther. Life After College is really about promoting education outside of college. Selingo introduces the reader to the importance of gap years, bridge programs, on-the-job training, internships, geographic advantages and so forth. College is not the final straw anymore. It may be a very important straw, but it is not the final one. Gone are the days when simply getting a college degree guarantees you economic stability. With a growing number on college graduates and competition from people around the world, a college graduate needs to show up with more than a fancy diploma. “What you do in college is more important than where you go to college” (215). I enjoyed this book a lot. Selingo knows his stuff and his writing is impeccable. I am not a fan of gap years and bridge programs. I think these programs only highlight the change needed in higher education. Additionally, I am not a supporter of gap years because I know without a doubt that a gap year would have been detrimental for me. Delaying formal education would have been a bad idea for me. Even though I changed my major three times in college and my career goals a dozen times, college still gave me the structure and space I needed to succeed. My favorite piece in the book is the chapter on employers. Usually we hear about how employers are frustrated at their new hirers, so it was great to hear how employers are also lost and unprepared. I am always disappointed when I read about students choosing a college or a career and there is very little discussion about passion or higher calling. Finding a job that pays well is important, but finding a job that employs your strengths, empowers your soul, and inspires your passion is absolutely vital. That’s why I really enjoyed the last chapter of the book describing your career story. This is a great book with amazing information.

College is one of the biggest lifetime expenses and longest commitments of dedicated time many people ever make. The cost of college continues to rise and news outlets regularly report the high rates of underemployment and unemployment among recent college graduates. As a result, some families question whether a college education offers sufficient return on investment. Others are plowing ahead without thought and collecting six-digit debt burdens. Jeffrey

Selingo’s recent book, *There is Life After College: What Parents and Students Should Know about Navigating School to Prepare for the Jobs of Tomorrow*, tackles the topic of the value of college, particularly with respect to employability. Selingo covers a lot of ground in the

book, but together he paints a fair picture, warns of some common pitfalls, and offers some recommendations for current and future college students. The most significant value of this volume is that it answers questions vital to student success, efficient investment of tuition money and time, and successful navigation of the sometimes-confusing marketplace of colleges and universities. This is an accessible book that has important information for our time. Surprisingly, Selingo's book points to the enduring value of a liberal arts degree. There is certainly a need for technical specialization in certain fields, but being a well-developed human is just as important, and perhaps more so, than purely technical proficiency. At worst, a strong liberal arts core, which is at the heart of a lot of Christian higher education, appears to be an asset rather than a liability in the marketplace. Certainly, this book is not a guaranteed method to be successful in life. In fact, Selingo simply assumes that success is being well-placed, well-compensated, and reasonably happy in one's job. Whether the reader agrees with his end or not, he provides some helpful guidelines to get there. Even for those more interested in other careers, Selingo's assurances of the value of liberal arts and meaningful experiences before and during college make this an engaging and valuable read. NOTE: I received a gratis copy of this volume with no expectation of a positive review. This is an edited version of a review posted at Ethics and Culture.

This is a practical and thorough handbook for students who are applying to college--or already in college, though it offer its greatest benefits to those who are still in the dizzying, fearful stages of figuring out where they want to apply. Selingo is smart, informed, and measured, avoiding alarmist warnings and unfeasible prescriptions in favor of lucid facts and thoughtful reasoning. If you are a parent who wants a state-of-the-art assessment of the best strategies for how to approach college that takes into account the importance of cultivating your child's individuality as well as the best opportunities for career development, then you can't do better than Selingo's clear-eyed account.

Excellent book, with practical advice for parents and for students going to college or in college. Definite good read. I am recommending to all of my friends with college age children, and asking my kids and their friends to read it.

Ex-wife never mentioned how she liked or not liked it. Hard to review something that someone else read.

purchased as a gift for college age grandson. Hopefully he will read it- he said that he will.

A very timely book for the students and parents. A Sprint to the start.

This book is a must read for anyone who is stuck on what route they should take after high school. It doesn't give you a specific answer however it gives options along with real life examples. This book is for parents, college students and motivated high schoolers.

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