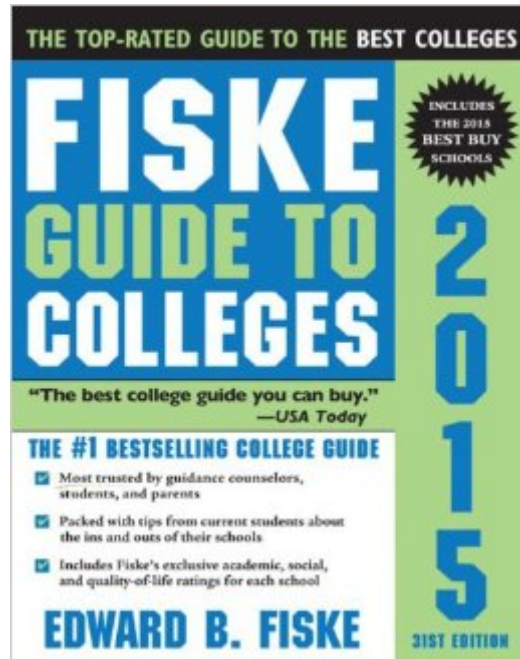


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# Fiske Guide To Colleges 2015



## Synopsis

"The best college guide you can buy."-USA Today This leading guide to more than 300 colleges and universities has been an indispensable source of information for college-bound students and their parents. Hip, honest, and straightforward, The Fiske Guide to Colleges delivers an insider's look at the academic climates and the social and extracurricular scenes at the "best and most interesting" schools in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, and Ireland. Includes: • Fiske's exclusive academic, social, and quality-of-life ratings • Fiske's "Best Buys:" schools that deliver the best education at the most reasonable costs • Lists of each school's strongest majors and programs • Candid comments from each school's current students • A self-quiz to help students understand which college is right for them And more!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Fiske Guide to Colleges 2015" (856 pages) is a curious college-guidance/search book in my opinion. It lists the "best and most interesting" colleges in the country, about 300 out of 2,000+ four year colleges in the US (and even some Canadian and British schools) are written up. According to the introduction, they were selected on the basis of academic quality, geographic diversity, a balance of public and private schools, and schools that are currently popular for certain programs (engineering and technical schools, religious emphasis, etc.). Being from Ohio, I look at the list of 13 schools that "made the cut" and inexplicably Xavier University (a fine Jesuit college here in

Cincinnati) is left out of the book. Huh? While the descriptions give a good flavor of a particular college, there are essentials missing, such as the exact tuition/room/board (there is only a general 1 to 4 star rating on how expensive a college is, and even those are misleading, for example American University is listed merely as "moderately" expensive for a private school, whoa! For the record, AU undergrad tuition is \$41K for 2014-15 and add another \$14-16 for room/board and other miscellaneous fees). Also not helpful in my opinion is that the colleges are presented alphabetically, rather than by state, since most kids look at colleges in a particular state (usually their home state), although there is an index by state. On the other hand, the descriptions of the schools are oftentimes right on point. Check the first sentence on American University (the college of my youngest): "If the odds to enter Georgetown are against you and you can't see yourself on GW's highly urban campus, welcome to American University."

After reading the product description and taking a peek with 'Look Inside', I was not disappointed. It's clear that it only covers 300 schools which is approximately 1/10th of all the colleges and universities in the US. Knowing that going in, and taking a look before I bought the book helped a lot to keep my expectations in check.-----WHY I BOUGHT THIS BOOK There are so many college guides, but this one stood out to me as one I could easily look at with my college bound daughter and discuss the 'feel' of each college. I made sure that the main ones she's interested in attending: Reed, Occidental, Lewis and Clark, Willamette and University of San Francisco, were all in the book (something you can do with the 'Look Inside' option) and knew that anything more was just good for conversation - or maybe a whole new plan. The book was to get our conversation rolling and keep it moving in a positive, proactive direction. She's an excellent student, but if you ask her 'what do you want to study' she says "everything". This makes it tough to choose a major. I like that this book talks about what the students are like on each campus as well as how they look at being at the university. It's certainly subjective, but it helps.-----WHY I THINK YOU MAY LIKE THIS BOOK The Fiske Guide to Colleges for 2015 offers up impressions and insights. When I looked at the Occidental College ("Oxy" they are also called) write up in the book, I got an immediate impression; within the first couple paragraphs, about what my daughter could expect to find on campus as her home and learning community.

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