

# The 10 Best Books for College Students Hungry for Knowledge

by Dalphyne Peterz | Dec 5, 2019 | [dormchampion.com](#), Transfer Complete | 0 comments

If you're in college, finding the best books for college students is probably the last thing on your mind. Chances are you're knee-deep in coursework material, and if anything, you'd jump at any opportunity to ease your load. We get it. We've all been there.

But here's the thing. Unlike coursework material, the best books for college students teach you practical life skills. You get to learn how to deal with diversity, live your life to your fullest potential, and even how to balance school life so that you're never missing out on the fun trying to be a star student. And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

## Reading: The Gift That Keeps on Giving

College is a magical stage in life. You get to test your independence, make new friends, party, and make some terrible decisions you'll probably enjoy telling your grandchildren. So why miss out on all the fun to read? Let's find out.

## Join the success club

If you're keen on self-improvement and you strive to be a high achiever in life, it only makes sense to do what successful people do. As they say, success leaves clues.

Hundreds of successful people credit their success to reading and learning new things always.

Take [Warren Buffet](#), for instance, at the beginning of his career he read 600 to 1,000 pages a day. And today, he dedicates 80 percent of his time to reading. With such a wealth of knowledge, it's no wonder he's so successful.

## Satisfaction, peace, and contentment with the turn of a page

Reading one book a week can seem daunting. How do you even get the time to do it when you're busy trying to get your assignments in on time and catch up with your coursework?

Well, you can borrow a leaf from [Stephanie Houston](#). She challenged herself to read 50 books a year despite her busy schedule, and it worked. From reading during her commute and flipping pages in bed, she discovered she could make time for it. And according to her, the mere act of reading gave her increased satisfaction, peace, and improved sleep.

## Enjoy a long life

According to a [study](#) on the association of reading and longevity, reading books may also earn you more days on the planet. The study found that people older than 50 who read books at least 30 minutes a day lived longer than those who did not.

The study showed that reading leads to cognitive engagement that improves your concentration, learning skills, vocabulary, empathy, social perception, and emotional intelligence, among other things. The combination of these benefits makes you live longer.

## Be more open-minded

Another reason you should strive to read the best books for college students is the fact that it gives you a different outlook on life.

A study showed that individuals who read short story fiction have less “[cognitive closure](#)” compared to nonreaders and those who read nonfiction essays.

According to the researchers, although nonfiction reading allows you to understand and learn the subject matter, it doesn't help you think about it. As a result, you may end up an expert in your field, but that won't prevent you from freezing when presented with challenges you didn't anticipate.

## Entertainment on a budget

Stocking your IKEA shelf with the best books for college students will also come in handy when you're bored and too broke to go to a party or go out of town. By the turn of a page, you can travel the universe and experience things that are not within your reach.

Not to mention, you get a glimpse into people's lives and learn from their experiences without leaving your room.

## How We Reviewed

With so many books on the market, identifying the best books for college students can be a tall order. But don't fret. We did the heavy lifting for you and identified the must-read books of 2020.

We considered [recommendations](#) by successful people and analyzed the options to find out what would be befitting for a college student. Also, we took into account readers' opinions of each of the books to narrow down to the best.

## The Best Books for College Students: Our Top 10 Picks

After extensive research, we managed to come up with a list of 10 of the best motivational books for college students.

Whether you're looking for inspiration on how to deal with this stage of your life or for an excellent read that will leave your mind blown, this list will leave you spoilt for choice. So without further ado, let's get this show on the road.

### 1. The Defining Decade: Why Your Twenties Matter–And How to Make the Most of Them Now

There's a common misconception that the 20s are the time to live wild and do whatever you want because you have no responsibilities. After all, life begins at 30, right?

In the [Defining Decade](#), Meg Jay tries to get you out of the hype and misinformation by explaining why your 20s are the most important stage of your life. The author explains why investing in yourself, your life, relationships, and career in your 20s could make all the difference.

### 2. Excellent Sheep: The Miseducation of the American Elite and the Way to a Meaningful Life

If you're overly concerned about your grades, [Excellent Sheep](#) should be among the best books for college students you get.

William Deresiewicz brilliantly illustrates how top-performing students are mere high-performing sheep jumping through the hoops of their teachers, parents, and peers and cannot think on their own.

If you're thinking, "This isn't me. I get good grades, and I think for myself," you need to read this one.

### 3. Never Eat Alone: And Other Secrets to Success, One Relationship at a Time

At some point in your college life or after, you'll learn that your network is your net worth. You may be looking for an internship, a job opportunity, or even information on something you'd like to explore.

In such cases, having a strong network of the right people can be a real lifesaver. In [Never Eat Alone](#), Keith Ferrazzi, a master networker, teaches you the importance of building a strong network and shares tips on how to go about it.

This book isn't just for college students. It can benefit anyone at any age.

### 4. The 4-Hour Workweek: Escape 9-5, Live Anywhere, and Join the New Rich

The [4-Hour Workweek](#) has been a favorite of mine for close to a decade. Timothy Ferriss gives readers a new perspective on employment. While you're in college, a job seems like a trap. And the 9 to 5 seems like the definition of the end of your youth.

Timothy Ferris shows you that you can build lifestyle businesses, travel the world, and work for yourself. Not to mention, the author breaks down the intimidating walls of entrepreneurship and encourages you to take the road less traveled. Reading this book will set you up for success after college.

## 5. Antifragile: Things That Gain from Disorder

[Antifragile](#) is also among the best books for college students. If you're interested in being in total control of your life, this is the book to read.

Nassim Nicholas Taleb gives you a compact way of thinking about the things around you. You get a new understanding of what's safe, risky, and how to safeguard yourself against breakdowns and setbacks.

## 6. The End of Jobs: Money, Meaning and Freedom Without the 9-to-5

For the longest time, college students have had one clear path — get good grades and land an excellent job at a big company. In [The End of Jobs](#), Taylor Pearson explains why this can be a dangerous way of thinking.

Taylor ditched law school, became a digital marketer, and started supporting himself with his new skills. After interacting with world-traveling entrepreneurs and understanding the future of work, he wrote *The End of Jobs*, which explains why getting a "safe job" may not be the right move in our changing economy.

If you're in college and struggling to decide what career path to take, this book will prove very insightful.

## 7. So Good They Can't Ignore You: Why Skills Trump Passion in the Quest for Work You Love

Most people will tell you to do what you love, and you'll never work a day in your life. But there's a problem with this adage. It doesn't explain how exactly to turn your passion into a satisfying job.

[Cal Newport](#) believes it's not about following your passion but being so good that they can't ignore you. Once you've mastered the skills that align with your interests, it's easy for doors to open in your favor because you can confidently put yourself in situations that get you noticed.

If you've been trying to find your passion, this book should be at the top of your list of best books for college students.

## 8. Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life...And Maybe the World

Admiral William H. McRaven gave a commencement speech at the University of Austin in the year 2014, and it went viral. He put the address in print and dubbed it [Make Your Bed](#) — a book that has quickly become a favorite among college students.

In this book, William shares 10 success principles he learned during Navy Seal training. The author explains that little things make a huge difference in attaining success.

He shares inspirational stories about his life during training and the interactions he had with different people. This book would make an excellent graduation gift.

## 9. Failing Up: How to Take Risks, Aim Higher, and Never Stop Learning

In your search for the best books for college students, you're probably looking for experienced authors. And it's understandable. Older people have more experience and more knowledge.

But you shouldn't ignore **Failing Up** just because the author is quite young. Despite his young age, Leslie Odom has plenty of experience in writing about life experiences and failings.

Before he burst into the limelight in Broadway's "Hamilton," Odom was a struggling actor and singer. And in his book, he narrates the challenges he faced and how he managed to attain success. It's, without a doubt, one of the best inspirational books for college students.

## 10. Love Your Life Not Theirs: 7 Money Habits for Living the Life You Want

Love Your Life Not Theirs is an excellent book for new graduates living on their own and struggling with the "image trap."

**Rachel Cruze** explores one of the most damaging money habits we all have — comparing ourselves to others. In this book, you'll get a new understanding of money and learn new practices on how to save and protect yourself for the future.

Not to mention, the book teaches you how to have money conversations in relationships and how to start giving back. It's not just one of the best pleasure reading books for college students; it's a life changer!

## Begin a New Chapter

There you have it, a list of the best books for college students in 2020. Successful people who've read these books say that they changed their lives. Therefore, we believe these books will have the same effect on you. So pick one and go to bed wiser today!

What do you think about this list of books? Have you read any of them, and which one are you eager to get? Let us know in the comments section below. We love hearing from our readers.

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