





Jornada de análisis sobre acceso y admisión de estudiantes internacionales a Grado



# Access and admission models: Spain from abroad Dr. Cristina Grasset

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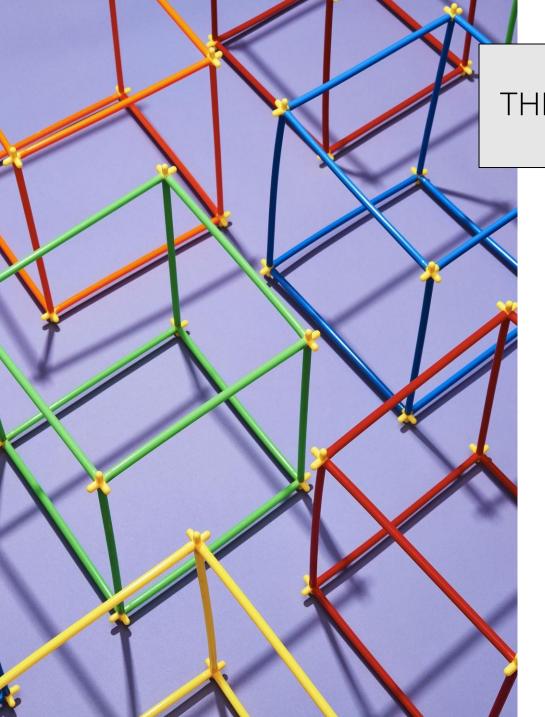






# BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN OUR CLASSROOMS & COMPETING DESTINATIONS

- 1. International students bring both social and economic benefits to our institutions of higher education and our communities
- 2. Countries throughout the world acknowledge these benefits and are actively recruiting students worldwide [Comparativa Sistemas de Acceso Internacionales, CRUE 2023]
- 3. There is one best match for each international student, and it has become increasingly complex to find it.



THEORY AND REALITY OF ACCESS & ADMISSION

Our **theories** on access (fairness, equal opportunities, talent attraction, etc.) are universal, BUT the **realities of admission** are very specific.

To be successful, admissions models need to acknowledge and align with the timelines, needs, and expectations of international candidates.



## WHO ARE OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS?



ATTENDING AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL WITH INSTRUCTION IN ENGLISH



STUDYING SPANISH AS A SECOND OR THIRD LANGUAGE



THEY AND/OR THEIR
PARENTS HAVE LIVED IN
MORE THAN ONE
COUNTRY



SEEK AN
INTERNATIONAL
BILINGUAL DEGREE
THAT WILL LEAD TO A
GLOBAL CAREER

## THE REALITY OF ACCESS: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' TIMELINE

## Studying in English & Learning Spanish

- Starts considering college options
- Discusses broadly with counselor or a teacher

YEAR 10

# Narrowing down options

- Looks at options in other countries
- Preparing for application/language tests
- Explores costs and admission requirements

YEAR 11

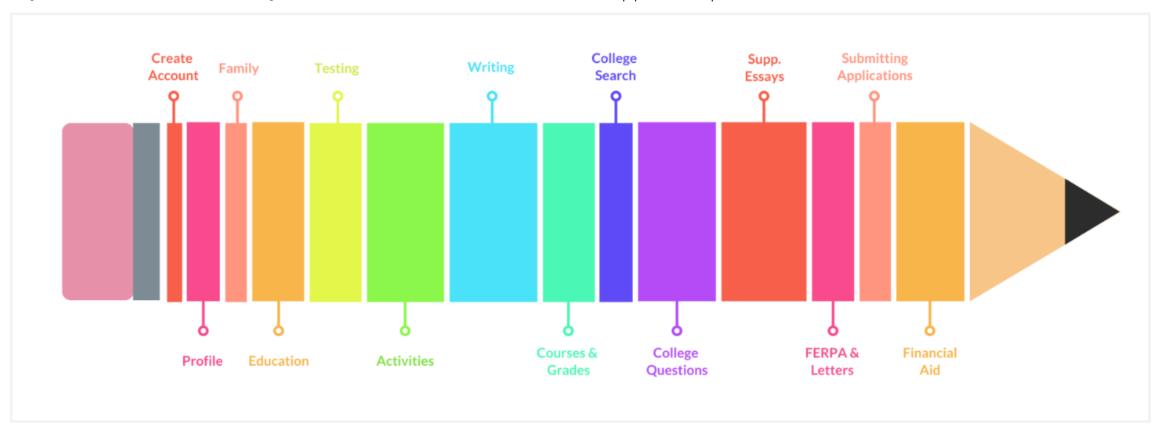
# Applies to potential destinations

- Takes tests
- Completes application process (November)
- Makes final decision between March and May

YEAR 12

# EXAMPLES FOR SPECIFIC HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMS THE AXS & COMMON APP

**Topics covered in the AXS Companion videos:** Based on the Common Application process



#### WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

Spain is a preferred destination but not for undergraduate students, WHY?

- International candidates seek bilingual degrees
- Finding a bilingual degree for a specific major was a problem. We have addressed that through <a href="https://spaincollegedegrees.com">https://spaincollegedegrees.com</a>
- Admissions processes are often not aligned with students' realities
- Confusion over administrative processes can often deter applicants



## THE EXPECTATIONS AND ABILITIES OF NEW GENERATIONS

- Expect direct/clear information in seconds
- Have minimal resistance to frustration
- Have problems planning for the non-immediate future
- Know what they want here and now
- Will immediately discard options that seem complex and/or those that seem unreasonable (lack resilience)
- Care for sustainable approaches/environments
- Diversity is an asset
- They expect to get a job doing something they love

#### CONCLUSIONS: PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' ACCESS



In the current global market of higher education, universities must:

- Have/project a differentiating factor that will help them attract their 'perfect-match' candidates
- Understand the needs of those candidates and adapt admissions processes to their realities (timelines and expectations)
- Have the freedom to address the two key points above



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