



**Press Clippings
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Title: 10 Online Bachelor's Programs With the Most Minority Students

Author: Devon Haynie

Link: <http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/the-short-list-online-programs/articles/2015/06/16/10-online-bachelors-programs-with-the-most-minority-students>

Date: June 16, 2015



The U.S. News Short List, separate from our overall rankings, is a regular series that magnifies individual data points in hopes of providing students and parents a way to find which undergraduate or graduate programs excel or have room to grow in specific areas. Be sure to explore [The Short List: College](#), [The Short List: Grad School](#) and [The Short List: Online Programs](#) to find data that matter

to you in your college or graduate school search.

In a virtual classroom, students don't always get the chance to see their fellow classmates. But if they had the chance to peek, they'd likely see a lot of white faces.

Despite being 63 percent of the population, white students were an even larger presence in online courses. They made up nearly 70 percent of online students in 2014, according to a recent [study](#) by Aslanian Market Research and the Learning House, a company that helps colleges and universities develop and deliver online degree programs.

Yet there are some programs where whites are not the majority.

[Explore why [online programs attract fewer minority undergrads](#).]

At the 10 [online bachelor's programs](#) with the highest percentages of minority students, 57 percent of students or more identified as black, Asian or part of another minority group in 2013-2014, according to data reported to U.S. News by 217 ranked schools in an annual survey.

Peirce College, the school with the largest percentage of minority students, enrolled 849 black students and 84 Hispanic students among the 1,280 studying for online bachelor's degrees in 2013-

2014. The private, Philadelphia-based school focuses on giving working adults access to higher education.

Hispanic students made up more than half the enrollment in the online bachelor's program at Florida International University, which had the second-highest percentage of minority students. At the Miami-based school, 75 percent of online bachelor's students were minorities. New York had three online bachelor's programs that cracked the top 10 list of programs with the most minority students: Monroe College, St. John's University and Mercy College.

[Weigh the benefits of [online education as a minority student](#).]

Overall, minority students made up an average of 27 percent of the student body at the online bachelor's programs that reported the data to U.S. News. West Virginia-based [Wheeling Jesuit University](#) and Michigan's [Madonna University](#) were the only programs that reported having no minority students in their online bachelor's programs.

Below are the 10 ranked online bachelor's programs with the highest percentages of minority students enrolled in 2013-2014. Percentages are calculated using the total student body and the number of Hispanic, black, indigenous, Asian, Polynesian and multiracial students each program reported.

Unranked schools, which did not meet certain criteria required by U.S. News to be numerically ranked, were not considered for this report. Keiser University was labeled RNP, or [Rank Not Published](#), which means it fell in the bottom one-fourth of its ranking category. U.S. News calculates numerical ranks for RNP schools, but does not publish them.

School name (state)	Total students in 2013-2014	Percentage of minority students in 2013-2014	U.S. News rank
Peirce College (PA)	1,280	76%	72 (tie)
Florida International University	1,059	75%	98 (tie)
North Carolina A&T State University	429	75%	119 (tie)
Monroe College (NY)	583	75%	142 (tie)

Faulkner University (AL)	50	74%	167 (tie)
St. John's University (NY)	41	68%	34 (tie)
California State University— Dominguez Hills	785	67%	140 (tie)
Mercy College (NY)	1,436	64%	207 (tie)
University of the Incarnate Word (TX)	2,594	59%	50 (tie)
Keiser University (FL)	1,509	57%	RNP

School officials can access historical data and rankings, including of peer institutions, via [U.S. News Academic Insights](#).

U.S. News surveyed 296 public, private and for-profit schools for our 2015 Best Online Bachelor's Programs rankings. Schools reported myriad data regarding their academic programs and the makeup of their student body, among other areas, making U.S. News' data the most accurate and detailed collection of college facts and figures of its kind. While U.S. News uses much of these survey data to rank schools for our annual [Best Online Bachelor's Programs](#) rankings, the data can also be useful when examined on a smaller scale. U.S. News will now produce lists of data, separate from the overall rankings, meant to provide students and parents a means to find which schools excel, or have room to grow, in specific areas that are important to them. These data are specific to schools' online bachelor's degree program offerings and have no influence over U.S. News' Best Colleges rankings assessing traditional bachelor's programs. The demographic data above are correct as of June 16, 2015.

Title: Comparing Shawshank Redemption to NY Prison Escape "Dangerous"

Author: Devon Haynie

Link: <http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/the-short-list-online-programs/articles/2015/06/16/10-online-bachelors-programs-with-the-most-minority-students>

Date: June 16, 2015

The escape of two prisoners from a maximum-security facility in New York has all the makings of a hit movie plot – a seemingly impossible escape, insider help and few concrete leads on the escaped prisoners' current whereabouts.

It didn't take long for the well-planned and executed escape in New York to be likened on Twitter to The Shawshank Redemption, a movie adaptation of Stephen King's novel about an inmate's meticulously planned escape.

In the movie, prisoner Andy Dufresne digs a tunnel with a rock hammer and crawls through the prison's sewage system to his freedom.

Similarly, in New York, two convicted murderers used power tools to cut through walls and pipes beneath the prison, ultimately using a manhole to climb up to the street.

But the comparisons are skin deep and dangerous, according to Robert Brzenchek, a professor of criminal justice at Peirce College in Philadelphia, Pa.

"The comparison to the movie desensitizes the public," Brzenchek says. "People get the perception that this is like a movie, nothing can happen to me. But this is real life. These people will kill you in a minute to get away."

Here is a look at the differences between the sympathetic character and plot in The Shawshank Redemption and that of the cold-blooded killers who escaped from the New York prison on June 6.

USA TODAY

How bad are these escaped killers? Bad.

Cold blooded killers vs. sympathetic fictional movie characters

Movie: Andy Dufresne, the main character from The Shawshank Redemption, was sentenced to life in prison for murdering his wife and her lover. Dufresne is a likable character and throughout the film there is real doubt about whether Dufresne committed the murders. Dufresne is not a threat to the general public. He escapes quietly and makes his way to Mexico where he lives peacefully.

Real life: The two inmates that escaped from a maximum-security prison in New York are cold-blooded killers. David Sweat, 34, was sentenced to life without parole in the slaying of a Broome County sheriff's deputy who had confronted him and others over a suspected burglary in 2002. Richard Matt, 48, was serving a 25-year-to-life sentence for murder, kidnapping and robbery in the slaying and dismemberment of William Rickerson in 1997. Matt worked for Rickerson at a food warehouse but, had recently been fired by the businessman at the time of the murder. Rickerson was later found floating in the Niagara River.

Matt fled to Mexico in 1998 before he could be arrested, and there he stabbed a man outside a bar and was imprisoned for murder. Mexican authorities released him in 2007, and he was extradited to the United States. Matt was convicted by a Niagara County, N.Y., jury in 2008. Authorities have warned that Sweat and Matt are likely desperate and extremely dangerous.

Photos: Other U.S. prison breaks

On April 1, Kamron Taylor escaped from the Jerome Combs

On April 1, Kamron Taylor escaped from the Jerome Combs Detention Center in Illinois and was captured three days later. On May 11, 2015, Kankakee County Circuit Court Judge Kathy Bradshaw-Elliott sentenced Taylor to 107 years in prison for a 2013 murder. Scott Anderson, AP

Fullscreen

On April 1, Kamron Taylor escaped from the Jerome Combs John McCluskey was serving 15 years for attempted second-degree In July 2009, three inmates escaped from a prison in On Aug. 4, 2008, Sarah Jo Pender escaped from Rockville Hugo Selenski escaped from prison on Oct. 10, 2003. Convicted killer Randolph Franklin Dial escaped from Andrew Heim was one of the six inmates who escaped This pair of photos shows Harold Frank Freshwater, In January 1934, John Dillinger escaped from Crown

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Shawshank State Penitentiary vs. Clinton Correctional Facility escapes

Movie: Shawshank State Penitentiary is a maximum-security facility in rural Maine. Dufresne spent years tunneling through the wall in his cell with a rock hammer. He covered the hole in the wall with a poster of a scantily-clad woman. Dufresne climbs through the tunnel and busts open a sewer pipe that he climbs out of to freedom. Dufresne did not leave any taunting messages for the guards and just disappeared.

Real life: The Clinton Correctional Facility is a maximum-security facility in Dannemora, N.Y., about 20 miles from the Canadian border. Sweat and Matt escaped Friday night or early Saturday morning, according to New York State Police. "A search revealed that here was a hole cut out of the back of the cell through which these inmates escaped," said Anthony Annuci, the acting state corrections commissioner. "They went onto a catwalk which is about six stories high. We estimate they climbed down and had power tools and were able to get out to this facility through tunnels, cutting away at several spots." The prisoners emerged into the streets of Dannemora, N.Y., through a manhole.

According to the governor's office, the prisoners left a Post-It-note that said "Have a nice day," with a racist caricature of an Asian man. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo told the TODAY show he believes the convicts had help from the "inside." Brzenchek says the taunting note that the pair left behind could confirm that.

"They probably had inside help, and they are brazen about it," Brzenchek says. "To leave have a nice day on their exit pipe, just think what they will do out in the community."

Title: 'That was a movie... this is real life': Shawshank Redemption's Tim Robbins enjoys bike ride after revealing he's tired of questions about NY prison break

Author: Heidi Parker

Link: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-3126732/That-movie-real-life-Shawshank-Redemption-s-Tim-Robbins-enjoys-bike-ride-revealing-s-tired-questions-NY-prison-break.html>

Date: June 16, 2015

The 1994 hit film The Shawshank Redemption has been brought up repeatedly ever since convicted killers Richard Matt, 48, and David Sweat, 35, escaped the Clinton Correctional Facility in New York 10 days ago.



The star of that drama (about an innocent man who chips his way out of a prison), Tim Robbins, didn't seem to be too fazed about the association as he was spotted riding his bicycle in Milan, Italy on Monday.

This comes after the 56-year-old actor told [Conan O'Brien](#) on June 8 that he finds it weird that the actual prison break is being linked to the fictional prison break in the Frank Darabont-directed film: 'Yeah, okay, that was a movie. This is real life.'

His big drama: The 56-year-old star played a prisoner in 1994's The Shawshank Redemption with Morgan Freeman; the film has been mentioned repeatedly after two convicted killers found their way out of the Clinton Correction Facility in New York on June 6

Showing off his arms in a black Papa's Place tank top that he paired with long beige shorts and red-and-grey sneakers with a brown hat to keep the sun out, Robbins looked like he had put style on the back burner in favor of comfort.

The IQ star appeared to be in good spirits, however, as he smiled to onlookers.

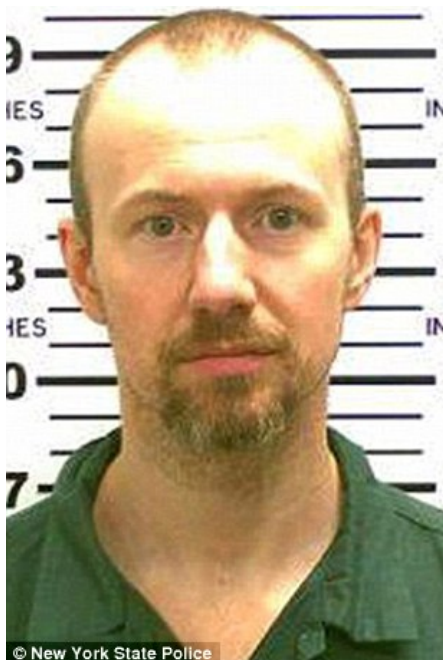
It looks as if Tim - who split from Susan Sarandon in 2009 after 23 years of dating - could be in Italy for a vacation. His next project, HBO's The Brink with Jack Black, debuts on June 21.

Robbins also told Conan last week that he thinks the link between his Shawshank character Andy Dufresne and the real-life escapees Matt and Sweat is off.

'For me, it's a different story,' Tim said, 'Andy was innocent. I don't think there's much of a story there.'

Even O'Brien noted that there is 'no other parallel' between the Clinton break and the film (which was set in the 1940s through 1960s) other than that it has to do with men escaping.

On the loose: convicted killers Richard Matt, 48 (left), and David Sweat, 35 (right), escaped the Clinton Correctional Facility in New York 10 days ago



Robbins went on to say, 'It's like calling Leo DiCaprio every time a boat sinks. Leo, what do you think?'

Then he joked, 'Actually, those two guys [Matt and Sweat] called me about a month ago. What's your advice on this? I said: "Alternate clothing."'

Title: 3 institutions offer advice on building corporate partnerships

Such arrangements often offer benefits on both sides

Author: Tara Garcia-Mathewson

Link: <http://www.educationdive.com/news/3-institutions-offer-advice-on-building-corporate-partnerships/401260/>

Date: June 30, 2015



Bloomington, IN

Colleges and universities across the country are developing partnerships with companies seeking to provide continuing education to employees. The benefits of such arrangements run in both directions, often giving schools captive audiences for their programs. Below are tips from three higher education administrators about how they have found success.

Indiana University's Kelley School of Business -

Rich Magjuka is the executive director of Kelley Executive Partners at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. The school offers online business courses through a range of corporate partnerships with companies including General Motors, General Electric, and China International Marine Containers Group. Magjuka said virtually all of the partnerships forged over the last 10 to 15 years remain in place today.

In some cases, companies turn to Kelley for customized workforce development content in more of an exclusive partnership. Other companies offer the school as one approved program among several for their employees. Either way, Magjuka said the partnerships are important to the school.

On finding partners, Magjuka said he looks for companies that already have "multiple layers of relationships with the school. Maybe they have recruited our undergraduates or some of our graduates from various programs or we've placed a number of alums within that company who are active."

When it comes to creating coursework, Kelley often gets a boost from its partners. General Motors asked for a course in enterprise risk management years before it became a high-demand area. After being developed for GM, the course became core content across several programs for all students.

"Sometimes we're already thinking of offering a course in an area, such as sustainable operations, and then a company provides us with an opportunity to launch it because they can guarantee us enrollment," Magjuka said. "It really helps in that way. We created that course specifically for Cummins Engine but then over time many other manufacturers have been interested and students in general have been interested."

Champlain College - Burlington, VT

At the other end of the spectrum, Champlain College is not even two years into an initiative that has forged more than 60 partnerships to grow its well-established online presence with adult learners. Melissa Hersh, assistant vice president for business engagement in the Division of Continuing Professional Studies, said its truEd Alliances program reflects the changing demographics of higher education. The college has capitalized on the opportunity presented by returning students, partnering with Cisco, 7th Generation, AT&T, and the U.S. government, among others, to engage their employees.

Hersh says the partnerships put Champlain leaders in close contact with subject matter experts who can offer curriculum support, help build entire courses, and even work at the college as adjunct faculty. They also shift some of the recruitment burden onto employers, who push information about Champlain to their workforce.

When it comes to identifying partners, Hersh said her office works with companies who have a certain level of alignment already.

"We don't want to have conversations with employers about why it's important to educate their workforce," Hersh said. "We want them to already be there. That's why we work to carefully vet what businesses or corporations we're willing to engage with."

What's more, Champlain is looking for partners willing to motivate employees toward program completion.

"It's very hard, as an adult, to go back to school and to get that accomplished when you're dealing with all the things that adults deal with — mortgage, family, after school programs," Hersh said. "How do they do that? It's a lot easier when the employer is supporting them as much as we are on the academic advising side."

Peirce College - Philadelphia, PA

For mission-driven nonprofit Peirce College, corporate partnerships have been a critical way to meet workforce needs in the Philadelphia region. Peirce offers a 25% tuition discount to employees of partner companies, a benefit Uva Coles, vice president of institutional advancement and strategic partnerships, said works because of Peirce's no-frills model that prioritizes academic excellence and workforce preparation above all else.

Peirce's average student is 34 years old, meaning the college's core demographic already has a lot in common with the employees of Peirce's partner companies. Operating within this consistent space and being strategic in response to employer desires are two reasons Coles thinks Peirce's partnerships have thrived.

Innovation and flexibility, too, are key to ongoing success. Peirce students are able to change the delivery model of their coursework from week to week, depending on whether they are available to attend classes online or on campus. But perhaps the most important piece of advice Coles has for other campuses is around leadership support.

"It has to be a business imperative," Coles said. "I know that in some colleges, there are staff people who may spend time doing this work but unless it becomes a strategic initiative that is really kind of blessed by your leadership and also your board, it can lose momentum and also lose the quality of the work."

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