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Natalie's Road to New York University





Natalie Jonas attended high school in Weehawken, New Jersey, who despite all the challenges in 2020-2021, including an extremely difficult application round, was able to lock in several acceptances and bountiful scholarships to universities across the United States.

Natalie's personal drive, independence, strong grades, and standardized test scores, in addition to her extensive extracurricular activities, are what made Natalie an excellent candidate for top universities.

Natalie's Extracurriculars

Natalie loved writing for and editing her school's newspaper, where she served as the editor-in-chief. She spent the majority of her remaining time swimming for her school's swim team, participating in Model UN, and creating an exchange program for her school. Additionally, Natalie volunteered extensively around her town at events including the Junior Olympics.

Natalie created a partnership with her high school in New Jersey and a school in Germany to facilitate cultural exchange. The plan was to allow students to travel to the opposite country and attend school to gain exposure to the local language and culture. The plan was for the exchange students to spend two weeks at the sister school. Due to the ongoing pandemic, this wasn't able to happen this year, but it is planned to happen in Spring 2022. Natalie is leaving this incredible legacy at her school.



Natalie's Journey with Crimson

Natalie found Crimson through YouTube and was intrigued by Crimson's approach, services, student testimonies, as well as results.

"I didn't see any other platforms or companies that helped students with such a unique, personalized, and mixed approach for applying to colleges," said Natalie.



Natalie's Crimson Team

Natalie came to Crimson in June of 2020 and took full advantage of application support and strategy. Natalie was first paired with Drea, her Education Coordinator. Drea's role is similar to a team manager, ensuring that Natalie was on track and all the various members of her team were in communication with one another. Using Crimson's algorithm for matching students based on personality traits and shared interests, Drea paired Natalie with her Strategist, Laila S, and her Application Mentor, Rhiannon P.

Natalie's team helped her organize and craft her applications, though Natalie did the heavy lifting. Natalie came to Crimson with an impressive extracurricular list which undoubtedly contributed to her widespread success in the application round.

The Strategy

Crimson's Strategists work with students to narrow down a best-fit university list, balanced with target, reach, and safety schools. Laila and Natalie worked through this process together.

"She asked me what I wanted in a university, and helped me consider which factors were necessary and the ones that were maybe less necessary. And then with that information, we were able to look at what kind of schools fit these factors and values."

For Natalie, a big city and a linguistics program were non-negotiables. This, in combination with Natalie's academic and extracurricular profile, helped shape Natalie's school list and ultimately her final decision.



Application Mentoring and the Essays

Rhiannon and Natalie worked together from start to finish on all of her essays for the schools she applied to with Crimson's support.

"We talked a few times before I started writing my essays. This helped me go over unique aspects of my life that I could talk about, and any special viewpoints that I hold. Rhiannon helped me figure out a response for a particular prompt and whether it would work for that school or not. She really helped me figure out what I was trying to say and what my application was really pointing to."

Rhiannon and Natalie made use of Crimson's Essay Review Team, a team of experienced writers (authors, journalists, professors, former admissions officers, and more!) who review essays in the style of an application process and provide detailed feedback, which Rhiannon and Natalie then implemented to each essay.

"It was just so helpful to have a second and final outside look at my essay," said Natalie.

Before working with Crimson, most students don't have the experience with personal and reflective writing, which college applications require. This is where Crimson's mentors really help students grow as a writer.

"I never knew how to write about personal experiences, because in school we didn't really do that. Rhiannon helped me learn how to write essays that weren't as academic, and I really learned a lot about myself."

Natalie's personal statement, the main essay for most schools, particularly for schools that use the Common App, addressed a situation that arose in her neighborhood with an anti-Semitic neighbor and how Natalie was still able to show empathy and understanding. Natalie was raised Jewish and Judaism has always been a large part of her life. The Jewish community has been an important aspect of Natalie's identity. Natalie used this unfortunate realization about her neighbor as an opportunity to grow, connect and have a conversation, rather than building walls.

"I really demonstrated to the schools the importance and need to bridge differences and work through issues. If you don't agree on everything or don't have the same views, you can still form a bridge between people," reflected Natalie.

Rhiannon also helped Natalie with her supplemental essays, of which there were many. A prompt for Boston College asked for a favorite book, and Natalie wrote about Shel Silverstein's Where the Sidewalk Ends and how it impacted her life as she grew up.

"I think the normal route would have been to write about a more reading-level-appropriate book, but since I read something from my childhood, I then showed how I evolved and can look at it now from a different perspective. That was cool!"

Rhiannon and Natalie built a strong relationship throughout the essay writing process.

"Natalie was such a fantastic student to work with; she is kind, insightful, gracious, and a lovely writer. She just radiates happiness and you can tell that she truly cares about others. She wants to make the world a better place, and she makes you believe that you can too. She was always very polite and grateful, and she put in the hard work to make her goals a reality. I am going to keep my eye out for her name in the future; I have no doubt she is going to make a mark on this world," said Rhiannon.

Interview Training

College interviews are often an important part of the college process where an alumnus requests a meeting with the student to get to know them beyond the digital application.

Rhiannon helped prepare Natalie to come up with an “elevator pitch about [herself] and how to answer the questions that would come up. She also helped me reflect on my own reasons for wanting to attend each school and helping me sound a bit more eloquent.

“She helped me to project confidence and not be so shy during each interview,” said Natalie.

Financial Aid

Natalie worked with one of Crimson’s financial aid experts who helped her fill out the CSS, or College Scholarship Profile, which requires a lot of financial information.

“He helped let us know what to additionally put for every section and how to approach it all because it’s just such an overwhelming process,” Natalie shared.

By receiving support with the federal aid application and scholarship process, Natalie was able to receive some incredible offers both for admission and financial aid!



Natalie's Results

Natalie's application results were fantastic! Natalie was accepted to DePaul University, Loyola Chicago, Sarah Lawrence, and Fordham University. After careful consideration, Natalie accepted her offer to New York University, where she plans to enjoy the big city during her studies.

The most astounding part of this all is that Natalie was awarded scholarships to all of her accepted schools. She was awarded the Dean's Scholarship from Sarah Lawrence and Fordham University. She also received the Presidential Scholarship at Loyola Chicago, which is a full ride.

Natalie's mother commented that "these acceptances coupled with the generous merit scholarships is very exciting. They are a testament to all of the hard work Natalie poured into her career and college application and beyond. But it's also a testament to the hard work and dedication you and Crimson have put it on her behalf. I am very grateful for the opportunity Natalie received from her Education Coordinator, Drea, and from Crimson."



Definitely don't start late.



Natalie's Future and Advice

For students who want to go down a similar path, Natalie has a few recommendations:

"Definitely don't start late. The fact that I started early, like the summer before senior year, was crucial. I had friends who started it days before and that just gave me so much anxiety."

Natalie's ability to start early gave her time to complete everything on time, and the ability to submit applications for scholarships and financial aid, which will undoubtedly impact her final decision or where to attend.

Wherever Natalie decides to go, we are confident her future will be bright. After college, Natalie wants to teach English abroad and learn languages. She plans on attending graduate school and studying for her P.h.D in Linguistics.

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Make your dream possible with

Crimson Education



Who We Are

Crimson Education is an education consulting company that helps students around the world get into their best-fit universities by creating personalized teams comprised of the top tutors, mentors, and admissions experts.

Our one-on-one sessions ensure that Crimson students get the support they need to stand out in today's highly competitive college admissions race.

Our Services

Crimson's bespoke services help you to achieve your educational aims.

- Admissions Consulting
- Career and Mentoring
- Standardized Test Tutoring
- Extracurricular and Leadership
- Merit & Need Based Scholarships
- Sports Recruitment

Our Results

414
Offers to the Ivy league

143
Offers to Oxford and Cambridge

2,700+
Offers to US Top 50 universities

1000+
Offers to the UK Top 10 universities

Why Crimson?



Our Network

2400+

2,400 expert tutors, mentors, and strategists located around the world

The Crimson Team includes alumni from top 25 US & UK universities in over 20 offices around the world

Our elite board of advisors and sponsors include prestigious influencers at the top of their chosen industry

Our Methodology

One-On-One Mentoring

We provide our students with personalized one-on-one programs, with the best tutors and mentors from around the world. Our advice is tailored for each individual student!

Roadmaps

Each student will receive a fully-personalized program with a roadmap that outlines every detail of the college admission process.

Resources

We believe in giving students and parents around the world access to vital information. We have the largest YouTube channel of any educational company that depicts college life and answers all of your big questions!

Our Technology

Crimson App

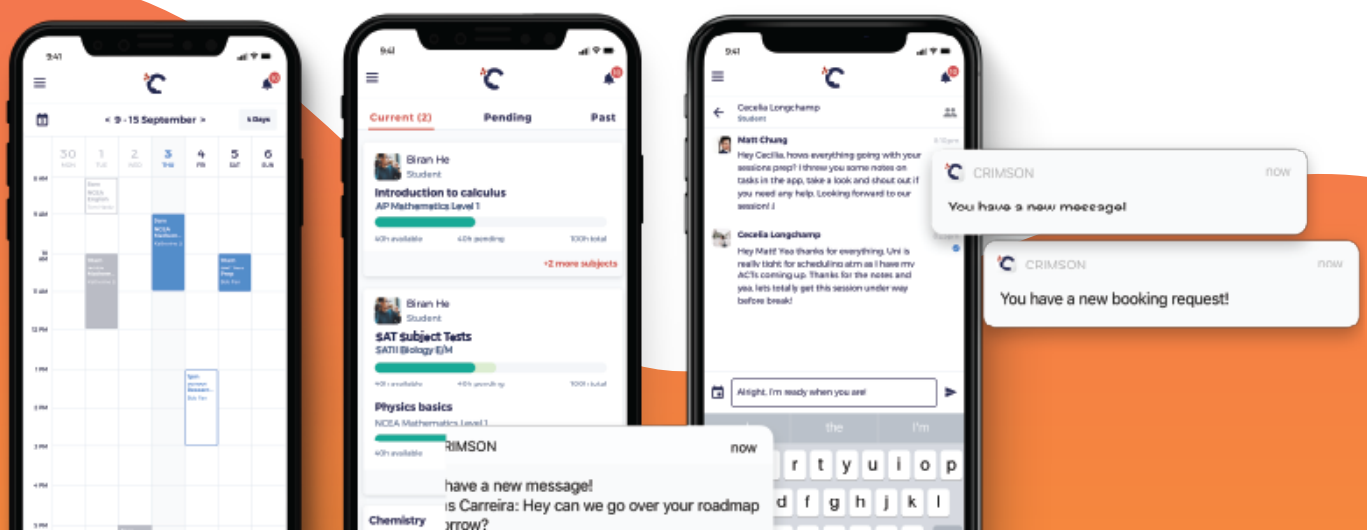
Each Crimson student is onboarded to our mobile & web app, where students can book sessions and view their tailored timetable of customized tasks.

Video Based

Crimson students are able to connect anywhere in the world with their team through our video-based mentoring.

Personality Test

We utilize psychometrics to pair each student with a team that is optimized to his/her interests and learning style! Our test was developed from one of the most well-known data scientists in the world, Galen Buckwalter.



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Want to start building your own path?

Talk To Us

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