## Nicole Mariona

## Blog #1: Different Paths in College

I have seen students excel very well in their classes. What is their secret you may ask? Well it all depends on their situation occurring at that second. Here is a student who attends a UC straight out of high school and a student who attends a community college. The student who attending the UC spent their quarter, and most definitely spent their quarters, dimes, and just maybe thousands of dollars to study and really hit the books. Then the community college student is spending their semester working, because who else will pay for their college tuition? Oh yes, with the great help of Financial Aid, this student received funds that does not have to be returned and can be used to their benefit. This person still made their own food at own, drove their car, worked hours in the week to still save more money, and worked on their laptop at the little desk in their room. Not to disregard the hard-work it took for students to get to a university. So many tests like the ACT, the SAT, and the AP exams that are required to be eligible to attend a UC or Cal State University. Then there's the insight questions answered when applying for a UC. This portion is meant for applicants to describe their hardships they've experienced that did not stop them from achieving their goals. I honor those students, but I also honor the students that take a different path. Their path may be longer, harder, a couple more bumps in the road. But the student who attended a community college had grit, perseverance, and had no fear in failing. The student who attended the university of California, dropped-out, and decided to go to a community college. They never pointed out each other's paths as being more valid then the other. Each I believe will excel accordingly to their own goals.