# How to make the most of a COVID-19 summer

By Sona Dadhania

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#### **A BIT ABOUT ME**



2019 Graduate in Materials Science and Engineering



Current Master's Student in Advanced Materials Science and Engineering

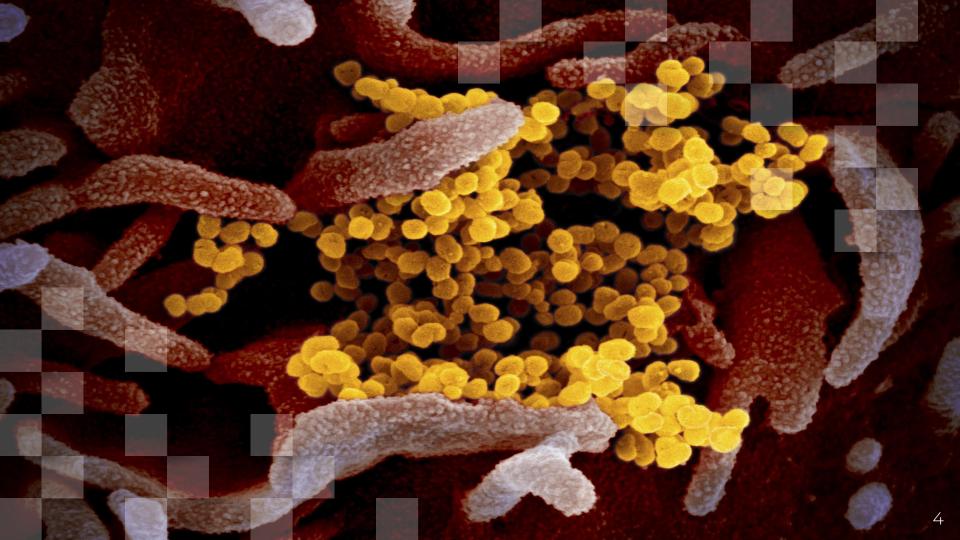


#### PERSONAL COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CONSULTING

I offer personal counseling for high schoolers of all ages:

- **12th grade** = guiding you through the process by editing essays to perfection, practicing for interviews, answering questions, etc.
- 9th-11th grade = specific mentoring on how to set yourself up for the college app process

Please check out my website (**sona-dadhania.com**) for more info and feel free to contact me!



How can we be productive this summer when so many things are closed?

## 1. ONLINE COURSES

From a different perspective

#### **ONLINE COURSES**

1. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)











2. Local community colleges or state schools

#### **ONLINE COURSES**

Reality: There's a good chance you won't get credit for the classes you take.

Takeaway: take truly interesting classes with unique subjects

### 2. RESEARCH PROJECTS

Do college-level work as a high school student

#### RESEARCH PROJECTS

Goal: Producing a college-level "thesis" (high-level research paper) into the subject of your choice

#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

- **Step 1:** Pick a broad area of interest
- Step 2: Do preliminary research into area of interest
  - Figure out what is being explored in area of interest
  - Identify a specific section/part of the broader topic explored
  - Sources: library databases, news articles, NGOs, academic journals
  - Accessing academic journals:SciHub

- **Step 3:** Craft a research question using prelim research
  - What specific question will your paper try to answer?
- Step 4: Do enough research to "answer" your question
- **Step 5:** Begin writing paper
  - Do more research as necessary
  - Adjust research question as needed
- Step 6: Edit to perfection

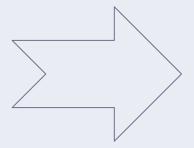
# 3. STARTING YOUR OWN VENTURE

How to make need-driven initiatives

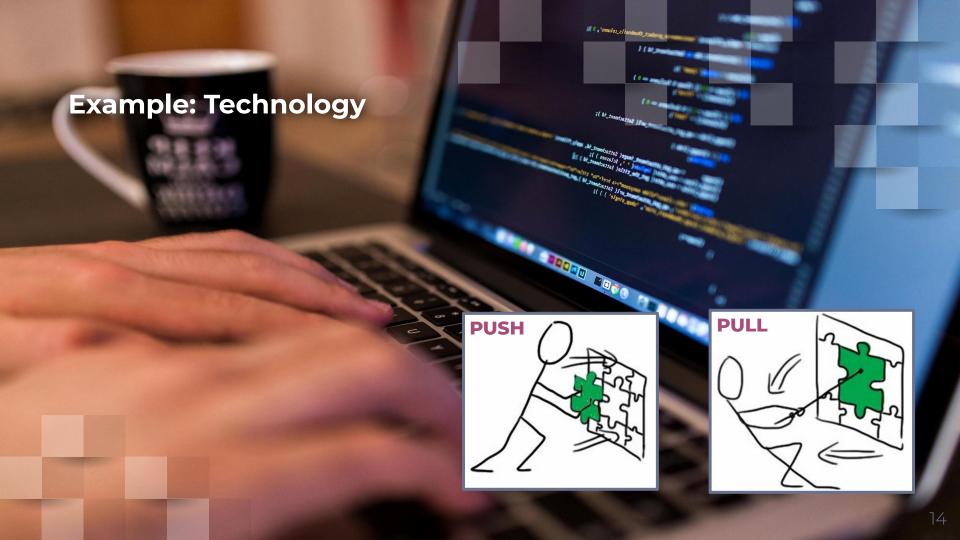
#### **STARTING YOUR OWN VENTURE**

#### Examples:

- Clubs
- Fundraising initiatives
- Business
- Product or program/app



Not uncommon



### STARTING YOUR OWN VENTURE

Don't just do anything do something need-driven

Need-driven = creating things/groups to address a specific population or an unmet need in a population

#### **STARTING YOUR OWN VENTURE**

#### Examples:

- Program/app
- Engineered product
- Club
- Fundraising initiatives







## 4. CREATIVE PORTFOLIOS

Building and curating your body of work

#### **CREATIVE PORTFOLIOS**

#### Why?

Build up your arts supplement for college application

#### Do what

Try out ideas you had before and never did

#### **Examples**

- Fine arts
- Dance
- Music
- Architecture
- ☐ 3D printing/maker work
- Baking/cooking

## 5. ELECTIONS & VOLUNTEERING

Making the most of an election year, during a pandemic

### ELECTIONS & VOLUNTEERING

Look to volunteer for:

Congressional representatives, state representatives, mayors, etc.

### THANKS!

#### Any questions?

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