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**1) Response:**

**a) College 1:** Columbia University

- Columbia offers a Master's Degree in Sustainability Management. I'm drawn to this program because Columbia is a very prestigious university so I know I would get a great education. The program is unique in that it focuses on the business/economic side of sustainability. This means that I would likely have a wide range of job prospects if I were to complete it due to the increasing trend of sustainability across the world. It was launched in 2010 due to popular demand. A class I'd love to take would be, "Sustainability in the Face of Natural Disaster." I think that especially since natural disasters often disproportionately harm low-income communities due to limited preventative infrastructure, this class would be both important and interesting. The syllabus is only available to students unfortunately.

**b) College 2:** Northwestern University

- Northwestern offers a Master's Degree in Energy and Sustainability. I like this program because I think using alternative energy instead of fossil fuels is a key priority. This program teaches students how to "navigate the complex intersection of technology, business, and public policy" when dealing with renewable energies. This is also part of a growing industry and seems like a versatile degree that students could take in several directions. This degree is very recent and was only introduced last school year. It was also introduced due to popular demand because of growing environmental concerns. I would like to take the "Climate Change and Sustainability: Ethical Dimensions" class. It would also probably deal with environmental justice and how we could reach equity through energy-based solutions. No online syllabus.

**c) College 3:** New York University

- NYU has an entire center dedicated to Sustainable Business. I think this is really cool because many people may think of the two subjects as separated, but there is a lot of potential for growth in this area. This center has countless programs and classes for all areas of businesses. One interesting article that caught my eye was, "How to Talk to Your CFO about Sustainability." I like this especially because it's not reasonable to assume every student will start their own business, but this program gives them the ability to change an already existing business for the better. The Center for Sustainable Business was created in 2016

when business majors wanted more of a role in sustainable practices. One class I would take is, "Consumerism, Happiness, and Sustainability." It addresses how consumerism and capitalism in modern society has led to the degradation of the environment in many places around the world. No syllabus available.

**d) "Dream Class":**

- While I do think that sustainable business and economics is a huge and important part of improving sustainability in the future, it's not exactly what I'm interested in. I'm more interested in the natural sciences side of the issue and physical solutions that I could use to help fight climate change. I am especially interested in the ways that we could use already existing natural structures or animal biomimicry to create solutions to the problem that is climate change. I've always been interested in using natural processes and structures to mitigate the effects of climate change, and yesterday's PGC theme of biomimicry inspired me even more. The way I see it is that nature has existed for hundreds of millions of years longer than humans, so it probably has solutions to every one of our problems. It's literally a perfect machine that we're throwing a wrench into. By studying the ways that animals and the environment interact, we can learn ways to reduce our impacts without negatively impacting our quality of life or economy (since that is the main concern of many anti-climate action advocates). Additionally, I have special interest in the ocean and wish to become a marine biologist. Especially since we've only identified an estimated 91% percent of marine species, there is insanely massive amounts of potential there. In the beginning of the course, we would study examples of this strategy already being used. For example, many transportation devices today use an aerodynamic design to help reduce drag, and so, fuel. This was inspired in many ways by how bird's bodies and feathers are designed for the same purpose. Some architectural designs in Africa use termite mounds as inspiration for their homes for the usage of improved cooling systems without the need for burning fuel for energy. These examples are only a taste of the potential of using biomimicry for sustainability and the class would encourage students to find even more!