

## Web Resources:

- Darden Website: <http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/Home/>
- Darden Class of 2017 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-darden-uva-applicants-2015-intake-class-of-172957.html>

		Welcome to the Chat Session with Darden Admissions Team!! Topic set by Narenn on Tue Sep 30 2014 20:28:34 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
21:21	Narenn	Hi Kristen, Welcome on GMATClub 😊
21:22	DardenAdmissions	Greetings from Darden! I am looking forward to joining the chat session today and answering your questions. Thank you for joining to learn more about Darden.
21:26	Narenn	Hello Everyone. Welcome and Thank you for joining Darden chat session.
21:27	Narenn	Our guest today is Kristen Egan, Assistant Director of Admissions at Darden School, who will be answering our questions about Darden MBA program and admission process in this live session. Thank you very much, Kristen, for joining us.
21:27	Narenn	This chat is open now. Dear visitors, please post the questions you may have.
21:28	DardenAdmissions	My name is Kristen Egan and I am a representative from the admissions committee. It is a busy time here as we gear up for our first application deadline on 10, October! I'm looking forward to answering your questions on our admissions process and connecting you to additional resources as you explore our MBA formats.
21:29	neo656	hi DardenAdmissions ..
21:29	nitishgera	Hello Team Darden 😊
21:31	EV22	Hi
21:31	wize47	Hello...Could you please tell us more about the optional essay? What an application should mention in it? What does admissions committee look for
21:32	DardenAdmissions	The optional essay should really only be used to explain any areas of your application that we may have additional questions about - i.e. a gap in your employment, why you may not be able to choose your current supervisor as a recommendation writer, any further explanation that you want to provide on an area of your previous academic record, etc.
21:32	neo656	Hi Kristen, I am R1 applicant. I have seen a lot of data on Darden's website with regard to entrepreneurship. Quite a variety of electives, iLab incubator, club and Venture Capital bootcamp. Can you please reflect upon the general mindset of student community with regard to entrepreneurship?
21:33	pleezy	Hi Kristen! Good luck with the applications 😊 First question: I was invited to apply for the Jefferson Fellowship Program, and I turned in my application to the Fellowship Committee. Does this mean I have to turn in a R1 application? Will there be any disadvantage if I don't?
21:35	DardenAdmissions	The entrepreneurial community here is thriving and we offer a variety of opportunities to start or support new or early stage ventures. You can explore more here: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Entrepreneurship/home/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Entrepreneurship/home/</a>
21:36	DardenAdmissions	You can learn about our iLab here: <a href="http://ilabatuva.org/">http://ilabatuva.org/</a>
21:37	DardenAdmissions	I would also encourage you to connect with our Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital Club to learn about the different events they host throughout the year
21:38	DardenAdmissions	Pleezy please send me a separate e-mail at egank@darden.virginia.edu regarding the Jefferson Fellowship requirements and I can follow up with additional information on that process.
21:38	PiedadeFranco	Hello Kristen, I'm from Lisbon and I saw that some Darden representatives will be in London in October. Since I'm considering to fly specially to London to that occasion could you tell me what should I expect? Is there any chance to book an appointment with someone?
21:39	DardenAdmissions	Here is a link to all of the events we will be attending internationally: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Admissions/Events/Home/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Admissions/Events/Home/</a> . Our receptions provide a great opportunity to meet with alumni and other Darden representatives to have your questions answered.
21:40	DardenAdmissions	Multi-school events are great to attend to hear from a variety of schools. It looks like we will be at the Forte event in October. We will have an alumni representative attending who would be happy to speak with you and to share their experience.
21:41	Narenn	@All attendees: We display notifications of info session organized by a school in the last post of every thread of that school. <a href="http://screencast.com/t/EgVPISQoB">http://screencast.com/t/EgVPISQoB</a>
21:41	neo656	Thanks Kristen.. 😊

## GMAT Club Live Q&A Sessions Schedule

<http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-live-q-a-sessions-with-school-adcoms-174827.html>

21:42	nitishgera	Hi Kristen. My question is regarding the MBA Loan Program for international students. Is it going to be there this year too? Where can I learn more about this option? Thank you!
21:42	pleezy	sure thing. Thanks a lot Kristen!
21:43	DardenAdmissions	Yes we will still loan options for international students. You can find out more about the Discover Custom Graduate Loan program here: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Financial-Aid/Loan-Programs/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Financial-Aid/Loan-Programs/</a>
21:44	nitishgera	Thanks Kristen.
21:44	PiedadeFranco	Thank you Kristen
21:46	ballparkfigure	I am aware that in US it is fairly atypical to have a resume of more than 1 page. However, with somebody with transactional deal experience would it make sense to have a one page annexure to the resume (of one page) listing out certain marquee transactions handled?
21:47	DardenAdmissions	We encourage applicants with less than 10 years of experience to keep their resume to 1 page.
21:47	nitishgera	In the Education History section of the application, there is a field to enter the cumulative GPA and the corresponding scale. Could you guide me on answering that prompt if I had a percentage system in my undergraduate university. Thanks!
21:50	DardenAdmissions	If you are able to enter the percentage system/range you can use that space to provide additional information. Many transcripts provide additional information on the grading scale.
21:51	aashu4uit	Asking a very common and generic question : what gmat score a typical Indian male IT 32 should have for Darden
21:51	DardenAdmissions	We have no minimum GMAT requirement, but our average GMAT score last year was 706. Please note that we take all aspects of your application into consideration when evaluating your application. <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Admissions/Admissions-Criteria/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Admissions/Admissions-Criteria/</a>
21:51	jainudit	Hi Kristen, how do you see an applicant who has a vast international experience vis-a-vis a candidate that has little
21:53	DardenAdmissions	We have a very strong global community here at Darden and are looking for applicants who are excited to join our global network. Having international experience is not a requirement, but you should be able to demonstrate an interest in working with diverse teams. Darden offers a number of global opportunities that you can learn more about <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Global-Opportunities/Home/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Global-Opportunities/Home/</a>
21:54	Amateur	Hello Darden, please sell yourself to a guy that is aspiring to build a business to make a social impact (kind of Apple but for quality of living) in not more than 5 phrases.
21:57	neo656	interesting prompt...
21:58	jainudit	right amateur ..think about i lab
21:58	jainudit	batten institute
21:58	DardenAdmissions	Read more about our Net Impact club as well: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/mba/student-life/organizations/net-impact/net-impact/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/mba/student-life/organizations/net-impact/net-impact/</a>
21:59	DardenAdmissions	They share a passion for corporate responsibility, social enterprises, nonprofit management, and community development.
22:00	DardenAdmissions	I posted this earlier, but for everyone looking for more info on entrepreneurial support: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Entrepreneurship/home/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Entrepreneurship/home/</a>
22:01	EV22	Hello Kristen, is there any opportunity to stay with a student for campus site visits? I'm sure there are other hotels in the area but the Inn recommended on the website is sold out for the date I plan to visit.
22:02	DardenAdmissions	Hi EV22. Please send me a separate message at <a href="mailto:egank@arden.virginia.edu">egank@arden.virginia.edu</a> and I can provide some additional information to help plan your visit.
22:02	nitishgera	Kristen, how strong is the community outreach at Darden? Do students regularly support small businesses in Charlottesville or nearby VA to accelerate their growth/revenue?
22:03	EV22	Will do, thank you.
22:04	DardenAdmissions	Darden is very connected to the surrounding Charlottesville community. Our consulting club often takes on projects with local businesses. The iLab is open to Charlottesville community members as well.
22:05	nitishgera	Thanks Kristen
22:05	DardenAdmissions	We host a variety of conferences and competitions throughout the year as well. Check out our upcoming Entrepreneurship Conference: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/Batten-Institute/Education/Experiential-Programs/Conference/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/Batten-Institute/Education/Experiential-Programs/Conference/</a>
22:05	vicah1	Are there any specialized courses/opportunities at Darden to prepare a student for a management consulting ?
22:07	DardenAdmissions	Yes there are a variety of electives to choose from. There are a variety listed here for consulting: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Academics/Curriculum-Electives/Areas/Consulting/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Academics/Curriculum-Electives/Areas/Consulting/</a>
22:08	DardenAdmissions	Strategy Consulting is an optional concentration
22:08	samm	how good is the general management curriculum as compared to say finance or marketing?
22:09	DardenAdmissions	Darden is well known for being a top general management program. All of our classes are taught through the case

**GMAT Club Live Q&A Sessions Schedule**

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		method giving you the opportunity to discuss 500-600 cases by the time you graduate
22:10	samm	oh good
22:10	samm	what % of students stay off-campus and howz community involvement at Darden?
22:10	DardenAdmissions	You can spend your second year taking more elective coursework in finance and marketing. We have concentrations in Corporate Finance/Investment Banking , Consumer Marketing or Business to Business Marketing
22:11	DardenAdmissions	Additional concentration areas can be explored here: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Academics/Concentrations/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Academics/Concentrations/</a>
22:12	DardenAdmissions	Most of our students live in apartment complexes within walking distance of Darden. Our students are very involved in extracurricular activities and other community organizations. We have 40+ student organizations. Darden is well known for being a very tight-knit community. I encourage you to follow some of our student bloggers to read more about their experiences in Charlottesville
22:13	pleezy	Hi Kristen, before you leave, do you think you can shed some light on what happens after an application is submitted? How many readers will be looking at it? How many are going to be selected for interviews, and how many are eventually admitted in each round?
22:14	Pritha149	Hi Kristen, on which basis does the Admission Team evaluates profile of a prospective student?
22:17	DardenAdmissions	Once our first application deadline hits all applications will be divided among our committee. An application will be thoroughly reviewed by multiple members of our committee. Our interview process is by invitation only . The percentage of interview invitations varies each year and each round, but we will extend interview invitations up until our decision release date in December.
22:19	DardenAdmissions	We take all aspects of a candidate's application into account. We will review undergraduate work, professional experience, GMAT scores, essays, professional letters of recommendation, etc. We are trying to get to know you as a person as much as we can. I am not in a position to evaluate your candidacy through this forum but we post our Class Profile on our website which is a good place to start. <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Students-Alumni/Class-Profile/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Students-Alumni/Class-Profile/</a>
22:19	Narenn	<b>Moderator Note: We will continue for next 10 minutes. If any pending questions, please post them early</b>
22:20	nitishgera	Kristen, I'm a still a bit confused on how I should enter my undergrad percentage in the Education History section. I can only see the 2 prompts : Cumulative undergraduate GPA and On a scale of (e.g. 4.0, 4.3, etc)
22:20	nitishgera	Pls see this link : <a href="http://imgur.com/VZDpcmE">http://imgur.com/VZDpcmE</a>
22:21	Johnwells	Hey Kristen, Before you leave I have couple of questions: How would you evaluate a UK degree: What does a First Class Honors yield when compared to US GPA? Secondly, how does professional accountants stand? Are they at an advantage/disadvantage?
22:21	DardenAdmissions	We receive applications from all over the world and recognize and understand different degree levels in the context of the university and country. We will look at all of your academic coursework and any additional certifications received.
22:21	Pritha149	Thank you..
22:23	Guest55409	Kristen could you please give some insight on where Indian students typically get placed? Further what is the average GMAT score for students applying from India?
22:24	DardenAdmissions	nitishgera - you should enter it however it is entered on your transcript or leave blank if not applicable. You can provide further explanation in the additional comments section if needed.
22:24	DardenAdmissions	We receive a breakdown of the grading scale with your transcript
22:25	Guest55409	Kristen, how is Darden's case study method and classroom experience different from that of HBS, IESE and Tuck (though Tuck only uses case studies only for 60%)
22:26	DardenAdmissions	I cannot speak on behalf of other programs, but encourage everyone to visit to sit in on a class to experience the case method and meet with current students.
22:26	samm	What are the prospects of a job in a leading tech company in the silicon valley post mba from Darden?
22:27	DardenAdmissions	You can read our employment report here: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Career/Home/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Career/Home/</a> . This provides a breakdown of where recent graduates are employed.
22:27	DardenAdmissions	I'll be heading to the silicon valley next week for a few events! You should join if in the area to meet with some of our alumni.
22:28	nitishgera	Kristen, how soon can we expect interview invites after October 10th?
22:29	DardenAdmissions	We will begin reaching out around end of Oct./ early Nov. to schedule interviews and will extend invitations up until our decision release date on December 17th.
22:29	nitishgera	Thanks!
22:30	Guest55409	What is the average GMAT score for male students joining Darden from India?
22:31	DardenAdmissions	We have no minimum GMAT requirement, but our average GMAT score last year was 706 for our incoming class.
22:31	mib_yoalaw	could you please talk about scholarships available?

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22:32	DardenAdmissions	All applicants are considered for scholarships and they are merit based.
22:32	DardenAdmissions	More information on scholarships here: <a href="http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Financial-Aid/Scholarships/Home/">http://www.darden.virginia.edu/web/MBA/Financial-Aid/Scholarships/Home/</a>
22:32	DardenAdmissions	You will find out whether you have received a scholarship when you receive your decision.
22:33	mib_yoalaw	Thanks
22:33	DardenAdmissions	Sorry I can't chat longer. To stay up-to-date on news from Darden Admissions, read our Admissions & MBA blog ( <a href="http://blogs.darden.virginia.edu/admissions/">http://blogs.darden.virginia.edu/admissions/</a> ) or follow our MBA Admissions Dean on Twitter ( <a href="https://twitter.com/SaraNeher">https://twitter.com/SaraNeher</a> ). Please contact us directly with any additional questions. We're here to support you through this process and look forward to reading your application
22:33	Narenn	Thank you everyone for participating in the session.
22:34	Narenn	I would also like to thank Ms. Kristen Egan – Darden Representative – on behalf of GMATClub community for sparing time with us. Hope you had a wonderful session, Ma'am.
22:34	Narenn	Darden Admissions team will remain available to answer your questions on GMATClub. Please post your questions to Darden representative in this thread. <a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-darden-admissions-156127.html">http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-darden-admissions-156127.html</a>
22:34	DardenAdmissions	Thank you all for the great questions. Have a wonderful day.