

Web Resources:

- CBS Website: <http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/>
- Columbia Class of 2017 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-cbs-applicants-2015-intake-class-of-171409.html3>
- Schedule of all Admissions Team Chats: [Schedule of Live Q&A Sessions on GMATClub](#)

		Welcome to all Participants for Chat Session with Columbia Admissions Topic set by Narenn on Wed Aug 13 2014 18:30:36 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
20:17	CBS_Moderator	Welcome Matthew!
20:20	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Thanks for having us! We look forward to chatting!
20:28	Narenn	Alright!!
20:28	Narenn	So shall we start the session?
20:29	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	CBSAdmissionsDana is here too!
20:29	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Yes, let's begin!
20:29	Narenn	Thanks
20:29	Narenn	Hello to everybody.... Thanks for joining today's chat!
20:29	Narenn	let's start with the formal introduction
20:29	Narenn	Our guests today are Mr. Matthew Moll (Associate Director) and Ms. Dana Cushing (Assistant Director) at Columbia Business School
20:30	Narenn	They will be answering your questions live today
20:30	Narenn	For those people who were not able to join us at this time, the transcripts from this chat will be posted in the Columbia thread.
20:31	ankushbagwale	Shall we proceed ahead with the questions?
20:31	CBS_Moderator	Yes
20:31	CBS_Moderator	Welcome Dana!
20:31	CBSAdmissionsDana	Hi everyone!
20:31	ankushbagwale	So,my question is for Ms.Dana,
20:33	ankushbagwale	It is an established fact that all the B schools deny having any cutoff for GMAT scores however I wondered what is the preliminary process of screening the host of candidates?
20:33	pcnemesi	what is the minimum profile that columbia looks for in a prospective student, i mean GMAT score, Work ex, leadership
20:34	pcnemesi	and how should a non native proceed to get an admission
20:34	cosmopolitan	Hi Dana, hi Matthew, thanks for your time today. I've got two questions related to my academic background. I've completed my undergraduate studies part-time, while I was working full time. My first question would be whether I count the time while I was still studying (but working full time) as full work experience on the application website. My second question is whether you'd recommend me to explain my academic background in the optional essay to not cause any confusion - or do you have plenty of applicants with similar backgrounds that this wouldn't be necessary?
20:34	cosmopolitan	
20:35	ankushbagwale	How strict is the word limit for the essays followed? In other words what is maximum tolerance beyond the word the limits?
20:35	CBS_Moderator	Guys,please ask one by one and let the adcom persons answer the

		pending questions first...
20:35	CBSAdmissionsDana	We have a holistic review process. We are looking at many components (academic, career, getting to know you as a person just to name a few). There are no minimums.
20:36	AnkitKumar	Hi
20:37	abhijitmaity	Is 9+ yrs of experience in Project Management, engineering, operations a right fit for CBS?
20:37	CBSAdmissionsDana	Cosmopolitan - in the application we are talking about post undergraduate work experience. However, you should tell us about your work experience during school. The Optional Essay is a great place to do this.
20:37	Leopold	Hi
20:37	mib_wezh05	hey, can anybody review my issue task essay?
20:37	Ergen	Hi. I have two questions. First, do you minimum score for the TOEFL?
20:37	Leopold	Hello
20:37	cosmopolitan	Thanks for your answer, Dana.
20:38	CBSAdmissionsDana	Ankushbagwale - I suggest sticking to the word limit as closely as possible. If you are a few words over that is ok.
20:38	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	pcnemsis - I think Dana's response to ankushbagwale's question covers yours as well. The review process is holistic so there are no minimum requirements. Our class is about 40 % international every year so many of our students are not native English speakers.
20:38	sunayana	hi, I have a query similar to cosmopolitan's. I completed my undergraduate (full-time) degree along with working full time as a requirement for the chartered accountants course. is the work experience counted? and if not, if my articleship continued beyond graduation, would the post graduation articleship be considered?
20:38	pcnemsis	Thanks Matthew and Dana
20:39	sciMBA	I know that students can take classes outside of CBS. How about a credit of research in another department? Is that allowed?
20:39	CBSAdmissionsDana	mib_wezh05 - Thank you for your question. Unfortunately, the Admissions Office does not conduct essay reviews
20:39	Kai_Sun	How is the entrepreneurship atmosphere in CBS? What kind of support do CBS provide?
20:39	pcnemsis	Dana: Is it possible for a student with a gap year in undergrads to join CBS. If the gap is because of acads?
20:40	TripleDetroit	Is there an unofficial round 1, round 2 deadline? with the rolling admissions and all..
20:40	CBSAdmissionsDana	Ergen - Regarding your TOEFL question, we do not have a minimum required test score.
20:40	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi abhijitmaity - We do not have a minimum (or maximum) requirement for work experience or a requirement for a specific "type" of work experience. We are looking to bring a diverse class and that includes previous industry.
20:40	abhijitmaity	Thanks 😊
20:40	sangramchinnappa	Hi, before I completed my Bachelors Degree in Law I was working in a BPO and was a team leader for a year after which I resigned to

		concentrate on my final exams, would this experience count towards showing my leadership skills?
20:40	jegadhish90	Hi Dana & Matthew thanks for being here today. My question is I have done my under-graduate in India & masters in Canada, when assessing my application which degree of mine would be weighed more?
20:41	Narenn	Moderator Note :- We request not to speak all at once. Please give Admission team members sufficient time to finish earlier questions first. Thank you for your co-operation
20:41	gcsathya	I understand most people try to apply for the early decision cycle. How does it differ significantly from the regular decision?
20:41	CBSAdmissionsDana	Sunayana - Thank you for your question. Again we are asking about all work experience post undergraduate graduation. I do suggest explaining your work history in the Optional Essay.
20:41	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi sciMBA – Students can take up to two courses outside of the Business School as electives. Best of luck!
20:42	abhijitmaity	Is CBS a right fit for a person aspiring to become entrepreneur? CBS Vs Babson?
20:43	mib_347jo2	To piggyback on abhijit's questions, is entrepreneurial experience more advantageous than regular (for the lack of a better word) experience?
20:43	AnkitKumar	I have undertaken quite a few novel and unique initiatives in my workplace and have been successful. I wish to enter into an entrepreneurial venture in one such area of interest. Is entrepreneurship encouraged at CBS as a career choice for someone who has yet not been a full time entrepreneur.
20:44	CBSAdmissionsDana	pcnemesi - Regarding your gap year question. We require that you receive a BA (or equivalent), if you have done this and have a gap year it is best to explain the gap year in the Optional Essay.
20:44	pcnemesi	Thanks Dana 😊
20:45	CBS_Moderator	Guys, please go slow a bit as there are a few pending questions that Dana & Matt would be answering still...let 'em answer those first please!
20:45	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi Kai_Sun – The entrepreneurial community is active and growing at Columbia! I suggest visiting the Eugene Lang Center for entrepreneurship's website to learn more http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/entrepreneurship/ and also visit CEO's site http://columbiaentrepreneurs.org/ this is the student club related to Entrepreneurship. Thank you!
20:45	sciMBA	Thanks
20:46	CBSAdmissionsDana	TripleDetroit - We read and admit students in a rolling basis. We do not have rounds. Our August ED deadline is Oct. 8, 2014, our Merit Fellowship Consideration deadline is January 7, 2014 and our final August regular decision deadline is April 15, 2014.
20:47	cosmopolitan	Are you able to share the number of students already admitted for the Class of 2017?
20:47	dab	Hello! I was happy to see Columbia offers amazing entrepreneurship opportunities and resources. My questions regards to the challenge of aspiring entrepreneurs who are not US citizens. Are there examples for international students who graduated with a business and made it their main occupation?

20:47	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi sangramchinnappa - You should certainly include any experience you feel is valuable. If you were not in school please be sure to explain this in the Optional Essay.
20:47	Ergen	My question is about verification process after being admitted. In my country it is usual to work without any registration for some time. So I wont be able to prove my job history with documents. Can it cause me trouble?
20:48	pcnemesi	Dana: Does CBS help in getting financial help apart from scholarship and to what extent.
20:48	CBSAdmissionsDana	Jegadhish90 - As a part of the holistic review process we will review both degrees and both will be considered.
20:49	sangramchinnappa	thanks a lot Matthew
20:49	gcsathya	Do the admission chances diminish when students apply in the regular decision?
20:49	TripleDetroit	Does CBS have any classes or programs that are designed to help with soft skills?
20:50	mib_2kgl6w	@dab, international students face US Visa issue challenge. If you can overcome that, you can be an entrep in US.
20:51	CBS_Moderator	Folks- as I see still there are around 10-12 questions pending to be clarified by Dana and Matt. So, kindly bear with 'em and let 'em finish off those first...Hold on for few minutes guys 😊
20:51	dab	Thank you, mib_2kgl6w
20:51	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi gcsathya – Early Decision makes sense for applicants who know that Columbia Business School is their first choice. Because our process is rolling we encourage applicants to apply as early as possible; however ED only makes sense for applicants who are committed to attending Columbia.
20:52	ankushbagwale	What are the options available for the existing social entrepreneurship? Does CBS has any program which train its graduates into transferring their learning directly to the society by means of social venture particularly the non profit ones?
20:52	sunayana	thanks Dana. to follow up with another question, regarding J term, other than there being no internship, is there any other major difference to take into consideration when applying?
20:53	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi cosmopolitan – We are not able to release those stats, but it is still very early in the process.
20:53	CBSAdmissionsDana	abhijitmaly, mib_347jo2, AnkitKumar - Entrepreneurship is a strong part of the CBS experience and curriculum. We have students who are becoming entrepreneurs for the first time and students who have been working in the field for some time. Take a look at the links Matthew sent a few minutes ago, they will provide more information about our program.
20:54	CBSAdmissionsDana	Ergen - Everyone needs to provide proof of employment once admitted.
20:56	CBSAdmissionsDana	pcnemesi - thank you for your question. There are many different avenues and opportunities for securing financial aid (too many to fit in this chat bar). Take a look at this link to find out more: http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/programs-admissions/mba/financial-aid/overview
20:56	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi dab – We have many international entrepreneurs who are part of the

		CBS community. The CBS experience is a global one as you will be in the classroom with students from over 80 countries and you will be in a network with alums who are in a variety of industries around the world.
20:57	dab	Thank you, Matthew
20:57	pcnemesi	Thanks a lot Dana
20:59	CBSAdmissionsDana	TripleDetroit - We have a growing number of tech focused classes. You can also take up to two courses at other Columbia graduate schools to broaden your skills set. Additionally, student initiatives like the one here are something to consider: http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/mba/voices/content/emerging-innovators-elliott-koss-14
20:59	LTN99	Dana, can you tell us more about the Social Enterprise Program at Columbia - Projects the social enterprise club is currently working on.. Also do you know if CBS will be hosting Net Impact any time soon?
21:00	cosmopolitan	I'm very committed to CBS and actually plan to apply during ED. However I wonder if ED would reduce my chances of receiving a fellowship/scholarship since CBS in return would know that I'll matriculate no matter if I get anything offered or not. My question thus would be if fellowships are offered together with the admit letter or at a later stage without separating ED and RD applicants?
21:00	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi gcsathya – Because the process is rolling, the class is being filled as we review. The later apply the fewer spots are available. Individually, if you apply in ED or early during the RD process, your chances are the same. I encourage you to apply sometime in November or early December if you are considering RD. We admit many, many applicants who apply late
21:01	Anonymous	Hi, I am applying to CBS in J term. My company is partly sponsoring my MBA(through half salary during the MBA). Also, the company is providing me 2 years study leave. I asked my HR manager and he confirmed that you can avail the study leave since you have crossed the 5 year period(minimum work experience for study leave).
21:01	Anonymous	Do I need to furnish any sponsorship letter during the application process ?
21:02	CBSAdmissionsDana	Sunayana - There isn't a difference between Jterm and August aside from the internship. Jterm does work best for those who do not need an internship (like entrepreneurs, those returning to their previous employer or industry, or those joining a family business)
21:04	rodrigocani	My fiancé and I will both apply to Columbia (she for the LLM program and I for the MBA) and we depend that both be accepted to consider going to NY. It is interesting for us to inform this situation in our application? If yes, where?
21:04	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi ankushbagwale and ltn99 – Take a look at some of the courses offered by the Social Enterprise Program http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/socialenterprise/ and the Social Enterprise Club http://columbiasocialenterprise.org/sec/about-us and also see what our students in Pangea Advisors http://www.pangeaadvisors.org/ do during their breaks. I think you will see tha
21:05	washiwashi	Hello how can I connect with current CBS students? I would like to know more about opportunity and experiences from people in telecom and technology sector.



21:06	CBSAdmissionsDana	cosmopolitan - you will be considered for merit fellowship as long as you apply before January 7, 2015. Some people receive fellowship when they are admitted and some receive fellowship at a later date.
21:06	cosmopolitan	Dana, Matthew, thank you very much for having answered lal my questions today! Looking forward to submitting my application end of August!
21:06	GMATGuest	Hi team, I attended the on-campus information session. I am gravitating towards general management. Somehow, I could not find enough material with regards to General Management in the presentation. Would you please guide me to the appropriate resource for the same.
21:07	shapirom	I had a question regarding the course curriculum. I am looking to apply in the fall for the 2-year full-time program, but have a specific interest in taking courses related to sports and entertainment. Is there any ability to supplement the core business curriculum of the MBA with elective courses from the Sport Management master's program?
21:07	LTN99	Thanks Matthew.
21:07	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi Anonymous –thank you for your question! If you are partially sponsored by your company for the MBA please include this in your application. There is a section where you can upload a sponsor letter.
21:07	CBSAdmissionsDana	rodrigocani - Thank you for your question. You will see a space in the application that asks if a family member or significant other is applying to Columbia. You should let us know about your situation in that section.
21:09	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi washiwashi – Thank you for your question! You can contact students here: http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/programs-admissions/mba/find-out-more/contact-students . These are student volunteers so they will be eager to hear from you!
21:09	akj119	Hi. Greetings. My question - a diverse profile or a high gmat score or a balance? What do you prefer?
21:10	CBSAdmissionsDana	GMATGuest - Take a look at this link, it will bring you to the website for our Management academic division, I hope this helps! http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/programs-admissions/academics/divisions/management
21:11	GMATGuest	Thanks Dana
21:11	Anonymous	Hi Matthew, Thanks for your response. Actually, the company will provide me study leave subject to my admission to the MBA program. So is it okay if I submit the sponsorship letter after my admissions decision has been made ? I can mention the fact that I am partially sponsored(including the approximate money offered) in the optional essay.
21:11	CBSAdmissionsDana	akj119 - Thank you for your question. As our process is holistic, we will be looking at everything.
21:11	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi shapirom – You can take up to two courses outside of the MBA program at other graduate level schools. There are also several courses related to sports and entertainment at the Business School. One recent example http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/courses/mba/2014/spring/b8535-001
21:12	akj119	thanks
21:12	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi Anonymous – I suggest including in the application that sponsorship is pending then once you receive your sponsor letter send that to us. I hope

		this helps!
21:13	shapirom	Great, that is perfect. I am really looking forward to the opportunity take Sunil's course if accepted.
21:13	Kai_Sun	Regarding the applicants of Chinese/Indian engineers, what do you see as the main factor which leads to their rejection letter?
21:14	clseller50	Hello CBSAdmissions, I am currently on H1B and expect my permanent residence to be processed by July' 2015. Should I enter my status as H1B or permanent resident?
21:15	Anonymous	Thanks Matthew. I will keep that in mind. Looking forward to submitting my J-term application this month.
21:16	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi TripleDetroit – Thank you for your questions! I suggest looking at our leadership courses to get a sense of what we offer. Also look at our LEAD course which is taken during orientation http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/courses/mba/2013/fall/b6500-005 . Additionally PSI is part of the program that you will see throughout your time at Columbia http://www8.gsb.col
21:17	CBSAdmissionsDana	clseller50 - When you apply enter your current status (H1B). In the optional essay let us know that you expect to have permanent residency status in July 2015.
21:18	clseller50	Perfect, thank you.
21:19	ankushbagwale	What is the potential value addition for existing entrepreneurs who are already into the social domain & making huge impact on the societal structure through their organisations?
21:21	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi Kai_Sun – Thank you for all your questions! For every applicant, there will not be a single factor why they are admitted or denied. Additionally we are not looking at any specific demographic and making decisions for that group separately. The process is holistic so we are taking into consideration the entire application.
21:22	CBSAdmissionsDana	ankushbagwale - The value of the MBA is up to each applicant. Our program has a strong curriculum and can offer a strong network and community.
21:23	Narenn	Guys, we are running out of time..We will continue for next few minutes only
21:24	ankushbagwale	I trust that CBS MBA offers the strong network & community which can help existing organisation to move into the global domain & further their outreach to the global needs! Mant Thanks Ms. Dana & Mr.Matthew....Special thanks to all GC organizers for making this happen. The insights provided are highly helpful
21:24	gautam1987	Thanks Matthew and Dana for taking the time to answer such varied questions. The understand that I've generally got from CBS is that you're looking at applications holistically. However, if you were to pin point the top 5 ingredients in an application, what would they be? This would allow many of us to understand and apply accordingly. Thanks.
21:24	Anonymous	Hi Dana, It was nice meeting you at the Mumbai CBS on-the-road session last month. I have an informal question. At the session,we had only 1 hand going up who had already submitted the application. I am submitting my application this month. Just wondering how many J term applications have already been received ?
21:25	sunayana	thanks for all the insight Dana and Matthew!

21:26	CBS_Moderator	@ ankushbagwale - Glad that you find it helpful.
21:27	Narenn	Last 2 minutes guys 😊
21:27	CBSAdmissionsDana	Anonymous - How is everything in Mumbai! We do not have the number of submitted applications to Jterm at this time. As a quick reminder to the chatroom the final Jterm deadline is October 8, 2014.
21:28	Kai_Sun	Do CBS organize any international field trips to help students broaden their international experience?
21:29	Anonymous	Hi Dana. It is raining nice out there.
21:29	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Hi gautam1987 – Thank you for chatting! Admissions isn't a formula! We really are looking at the entire application package when we are reviewing applications. All of our students have something unique to offer to the program and to their classmates. Unfortunately I can't give you a "top five" things to place your focus. I suggest that you do your research and some other links to keep in mind....
21:30	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/programs-admissions/mba/admissions/options-deadlines
21:30	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Here is where you apply http://apply.gsb.columbia.edu/apply/?pk=MBA
21:31	Anonymous	Thanks for the deadline reminder for the applicants. Looking forward to send my application ASAP.
21:31	CBS_Moderator	So, I think we can wrap up here...
21:31	Anonymous	Thank you Dana,Matthew for taking out time to chat with us.
21:31	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	If you have additional questions going forward do not hesitate to contact us at apply@gsb.columbia.edu
21:31	CBSAdmissionsDana	Kai_sun - we are running out of time but check out the Chazen Institute for global opportunities and trips: http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/chazen/globalinsights/about
21:32	Anonymous	I would also like to thank the chat moderators for hosting this event. It was great interacting with the Admissions team.
21:32	CBS_Moderator	Guys - You can always ask any further question on our club here @ http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-columbia-gsb-admissions-121805.html as well...
21:32	Narenn	Alright!!!
21:32	Narenn	Thank you everyone for participating in the chat.
21:32	Narenn	I would also like to thank Mr. Matthew Moll and Ms. Dana Cushing – Columbia Representatives – on behalf of GMATClub community for sparing time with us. Hope you had a wonderful session.
21:32	Narenn	We shall post transcript of this chat in the CBS discussion thread. If for any reason you want us to exclude your username from the saved transcript, please let me know.
21:32	CBS_Moderator	Thank you so much Matt/Dana for your time...
21:32	Narenn	We have many more such event coming in next few months. Please take a look at following thread for complete schedule of the events.
21:32	Narenn	http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-live-q-a-sessions-with-school-adcoms-174827.html
21:33	Narenn	CBS Admissions team will remain available to answer your questions on GMATClub. Please post your questions to CBS admissions in this thread. http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-columbia-gsb-admissions-121805.html

		http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-cbs-applicants-2015-intake-class-of-171409.html
21:33	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Thanks everyone! Yes please post your questions on the forum as well!
21:33	CBSAdmissionsDana	Thank you everyone!
21:33	CBSAdmissionsMatthew	Thank you!
21:33	CBS_Moderator	Hopefully you find the session useful guys...
21:35	Narenn	We have organized such sessions for many other schools
21:35	CBS_Moderator	Judge and SDA lined up guys...
21:36	Narenn	if anybody wants to make any suggestions on these events please feel free to PM me
21:36	Narenn	Thank you again and Have a nice day ahead!! 😊
21:39	bb_gmatclub	Thank you very much CBS Team!