



Oct 10, 2014

Web Resources:

- School Website: <http://www.sdabocconi.it/en>
- SDA Bocconi Class of 2016 Discussion: <http://gmatsby.com/forum/sda-bocconi-class-of-2016-calling-all-applicants-185305.html>

Live Q&A Session with SDA Bocconi Team (9.30 AM Pacific Time)	
Topic set by Narenn on Fri Oct 10 2014 21:04:02 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)	
22:09	Narenn Hello Everyone. Welcome and Thank you for joining SDA Bocconi chat session.
22:10	SDABocconiAdmissions Hello everybody, this is Francesca Roveda, from the Recruiting & Admissions Office. With me, today, Davide Scannapieco, our testimonial
22:10	SDABocconiAdmissions Davide will be pleased to share his MBA experience with you. I am sure his inputs and pieces of advice will be very valuable
22:11	SDABocconiAdmissions before we begin, let me give you my email address so that we can keep in touch for more focused chats: francesca.roveda@sdabocconi.it skype: francesca_roveda
22:11	SDABocconiMBAStd Hi everyone, just a few words about myself: my name is Davide Scannapieco and I am currently an MBA candidate at SDA Bocconi. I will be more than happy to share my thoughts and experience with you!
22:12	neo656 Hi David & Francesca .. Good Day to you... My question is with regard to entrepreneurship and clean energy. According to you how much emphasis do you see the student community paying to these 2?
22:14	WaterFlowsUp I am planning to apply in r2. Is there any difference in r1 n r2 ratio?
22:15	SDABocconiAdmissions Thanks noe656 from breaking the ice with your question, actually a good one. Here at SDA Bocconi the possibility to develop your MBA with a strong emphasis on entrepreneurship is surely feasible because on one side you can opt for the summer project focused on your entrepreneurial project on the other, in the last part, among the various concentrations we offer
22:17	SDABocconiAdmissions You can choose the one that gathers electives aimed at strengthening this area (entrepreneurship). More on a general note, our MBA is a general management one which wants to prepare you as a strong manager who knows how to move with ease in a company because you have acquired a 360 degree perspective.
22:19	SDABocconiAdmissions We only have one application deadline which is April 30th. do keep an eye open on the various tuition waivers we offer because in this case there are different rounds which in any case to the deadline. to make it short: apply when you feel your decision has become solid and mature. we are of course available to schedule 121 chats in order to help you with you
22:19	SDABocconiMBAStd Well, in terms of clean energy we have plenty of activities going on - for instance, we are having discussions about clean energy in the O&G sector (by the way, I have a PhD in environmental engineering, so this is exactly the topic I have been carrying out my research on for many years)
22:20	Narenn Hello Francesca, GPA, GMAT, Application Essays, Interview, Work Experience, and Extra Curricular. If you asked to arrange these parameters in the order of their importance – what would it be?
22:21	neo656 thnx.. Francesca .. I have a follow up question.. Does SDA Bocconi, invest in sandbox type of platform for testing of entrepreneurial ideas?
22:21	SDABocconiAdmissions As a general note, I would like to say that our admissions process is based on a series of factors that help us select the best candidates to our program: academic excellence, professional experience, ability to contribute to the SDA Bocconi MBA experience, solid motivation, international outlook. All these elements will eventually determine your admission
22:22	SDABocconiAdmissions admission to the course. So, just on a conclusive note, I would like to re-emphasize that your candidacy will be given a thorough evaluation based on a mix of criteria. Admissions isn't a formula.
22:23	SDABocconiAdmissions in any case you might want to keep in mind that our participants' average gmat is around 660 and that you need a high score if interested in tuition waiver.
22:24	SDABocconiAdmissions and when assessing applications we really want to be sure about their solidity which best emerges from the admissions interview and the essay part. These are probably the most important parts because they tell us a lot about yourself, your goals and motivation
22:24	neo656 Hi David, there's ques for you too. How collaborative do you find the program? Do you think that the program builds strong bonds amongst the student community?
22:25	SDABocconiMBAStd neo656, I'll try to answer both your questions: regarding entrepreneurship, SDA Bocconi recently launched its own startup incubator - just as an example, a few days ago a startup made by SDA Bocconi MBA alums based on the East Coast ended its beta testing phase for its product under the supervision of our faculty members

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22:27	SDABocconiMBAStd	about collaboration - first of all bear in mind that I have been here for a month, but I can tell you that the environment is extremely collaborative here, from faculty members to classmates. We get involved in group projects everyday (two days ago AT Kearney came on campus to present the Global Prize)ù Plus, we from the MBA40 batch are already spending so much time together that it's almost impossible ending up without forming bonds together. Just to give you an idea, I am here with you now, but I have a study group later on and finally an aperitivo with the whole batch - this should give you ground to
22:30	SDABocconiMBAStd	draw your own conclusions 😊 you should really get in touch with us and try to get more information about the school and what it offers to its MBA students, as I believe they are really investing on entrepreneurship
22:31	gmataroram	Hello Francesca, I would like to know what prospects can I see for a Marine Engineer(Sailor) after joining SDA as Europe is the hub of shipping?
22:31	SDABocconiAdmissions	Generally speaking, I believe that it should be kept in mind that answering a question such as how easy is to find a specific position after your MBA is not an easy task because it really depends on many different factors: your professional background and skills, your flexibility in considering different sectors or functio
22:33	SDABocconiAdmissions	I would suggest that you start to give a look at our career report: http://www.sdabocconi.it/en/mba-executive-mba/full-time-mba/career-network/employment-statistics#content and also that you get directly in touch with me for a 121 chat.
22:34	neo656	Thanks David... The startup incubator sounds very encouraging to me.. And so does the environment.. 😊
22:35	Narenn	Francesca, can you tell us what Interview options are there for international applicants?
22:35	Narenn	Are the on-campus and off-campus interviews treated equally or there is any preference to one over other?
22:37	SDABocconiAdmissions	all our candidates are to be interviewed, of-course should you have the opportunity to come on campus we organize it over here, otherwise it can be carried out through our alums interviewers or, finally, via skype. as mentioned earlier on, it is a pretty important part of our admissions process
22:38	mba_girl	Hi Francesca, I am from India and I was wondering if the school plans to hold any event in India this year? An opportunity for the candidates here to be able to meet the school representatives
22:38	SDABocconiAdmissions	as for India, we are not planning now to attend mba events but surely a School rep will be available to meet you. just get back to me so we can possibly arrange the chat
22:39	mba_girl	that sounds good..thanks 😊
22:39	SDABocconiAdmissions	going back to the interview question, they are all treated equally
22:39	Narenn	Thanks!!
22:41	Narenn	Davide, Can you tell us about student clubs at school and social initiatives taken by these groups?
22:43	SDABocconiMBAStd	Sure, to start with we have both social and professional student clubs. Among the former, examples are sailing club, ski club and divino club (wine tasting); among the latter, consulting club, finance club, healthcare club and entrepreneurship club Of course, our clubs are constantly involved in many initiatives: a few weeks ago, our sailing club hosted the Rolex MBA Regatta in Santa Margherita Ligure, the major sailing event for MBA students by far our professional clubs facilitate networking with people from specific industries and help students with mock interviews, business cases, formal and informal events, and so on
22:42	smit29may	I already have MBA in Pharmaceutical Technology. Integrated with my Bachelors in Pharmacy. Will I be eligible to apply ?
22:43	smit29may	I learnt recently that some US schools discourage already MBA's to apply
22:43	SDABocconiAdmissions	Yes, you will be eligible, of course you need to have a very clear idea about your mba goals. Also, keep in mind the time factor.
22:43	smit29may	can you elaborate on the time factor ?
22:44	SDABocconiAdmissions	Again, it depends on your whole profile and also about when you did your MBA.
22:44	smit29may	okie. thanks!
22:47	neo656	Another ques. How strong is the emphasis on case study format? Does it depend on the teacher or does it depend on the subject?
22:49	SDABocconiMBAStd	we go through case studies on a regular basis - of course there are subjects which rely almost completely on them (ie, I am taking managerial economics now and we entirely rely on case studies) on the other hand, some other courses mix case studies with more traditional lectures to give us the fundamentals

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		but to give you an example, one of our faculty members has been teaching at LBS for 7 years and then moved to Kellogg for 5 more years - of course such faculty members extensively use case studies during their course If you want to stay in touch or get some additional info, my email address is davide.scannapieco@mba.sdabocconi.it feel free to drop me an email anytime!
22:47	SDABocconiAdmissions	one more thing I want to add is that at such events you get exposed to alums and mba students from other top b-schools. a very good opportunity to expand and reinforce your networking
22:50	SDABocconiAdmissions	more in general, SDA Bocconi runs a series of online events where the MBA Director together with alums present the Course. Or where you can "attend" a class from where you are. we will be filming a real class so that you can get a feeling of sda bocconi MBA environment. Here you can find more info:
22:50	SDABocconiAdmissions	http://www.sdabocconi.it/en/events/mba-executive-mba/all/all/all#content
22:50	mba_girl	Hi Francesca, could you tell me what the average gmat score is of the present class?
22:52	SDABocconiAdmissions	regarding your "GMAT questions, here is my answer: GMAT: no minimum score is required. Our average for the program is 665. However, the GMAT is just one of several admission criteria. Just as a high score does not guarantee admission, a below average score does not necessarily mean non-acceptance to the course. Should you take the exam more than once we look at your highest score.
22:53	mba_girl	Thanks!!
22:50	Narenn	What proportion of your students typically manages to switch their careers (sector/function) after the MBA?
22:52	SDABocconiAdmissions	an mba is surely about change: a pretty important professional and personal change. just consider that 91% of our participants were able to have at least one change (sector or function or country), 30% had the triple change. you can surely read more data and stats in our career report. here is the link http://www.sdabocconi.it/en/mba-executive-mba/full-time-mba/career-network/employment-statistics#content
22:54	neo656	Are strong candidates awarded a full scholarship?
22:57	SDABocconiAdmissions	all our tuition waivers and scholarships are merit based. "Merit" which of course emerges from your admissions process. For a full scholarship we require 700 gmat but also all the other elements are to be considered. keep an eye open on our site. we will be soon publishing the list of scholarships available for the program starting in 2015
22:57	Narenn	What is the proportion of international students in recently admitted class and how has the trend of applications been to your school from Non-European countries?
22:57	SDABocconiAdmissions	The figure for our batch is something around 70% of international students, coming from everywhere, from Colombia to India to Canada
23:01	SDABocconiMBAStd	and as far as my batch is concerned, we have at least 45% of non-EU MBA students
22:58	Narenn	Moderator Note: We shall continue for next 2 minutes only
22:59	SDABocconiAdmissions	While waiting for the last questions, let me only say that, of course, our chat does not end here. I will be glad to continue on a one-to-one basis our conversation. my contacts: e-mail: francesca.roveda@sdabocconi.it skype: francesca_roveda
22:58	mba_girl	About scholarship and funding-for international candidates-if we are not able to arrange the entire amount with loans and everything from the home country-does the school have funding of its own? or tie ups with banks in your country where we can arrange for the remaining amount?
23:01	SDABocconiAdmissions	yes, you can check on our site to see what possibilities are there with loans etc.
23:02	SDABocconiAdmissions	here is the link: http://www.sdabocconi.it/en/mba-executive-mba/full-time-mba/admissions/scholarships-funding/prodigy-finance-loan-program
23:01	Narenn	Davide, you got admits from both SDA Bocconi and Oxford. What motivated you to choose SDA Bocconi over Oxford?
23:02	Narenn	also any thoughts you would like to share with new applicants about SDA Application process?
23:03	SDABocconiMBAStd	my decision was based on a number of factors and it would take a while to explain the whole process in detail, but just to give you an idea I choose SDA because of its location and its strong brand all over the EU
23:04	SDABocconiMBAStd	but I'd be more than happy to discuss the reasons behind my decision with you guys, so reach me out
23:05	SDABocconiMBAStd	alright guys, thank you so much for your questions and your time, once again keep in touch if you want to get more info about my experience here at SDA Bocconi!
23:06	Narenn	Thank you everyone for participating in the session. I would also like to thank Francesca Roveda and Davide Scannapieco – SDA Bocconi Representatives – on behalf of GMATClub community for sparing time with us. Hope both of you had a wonderful session.
23:06	neo656	Thanks to both of you, Francesca and David...

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23:06	SDABocconiMBAStd	Thank you Narenn for your assistance
23:07	SDABocconiAdmissions	thanks Narenn and thanks to you all, we surely look forward to continuing our chat. An MBA is surely not an easy choice so let's look at this just as a first step.
23:07	SDABocconiAdmissions	Arrivederci a tutti da Milano
23:07	SDABocconiMBAStd	and good luck everyone with your selection process