



GMAT Club Chat with Saïd (Oxford) Admissions
Aidan O'Halloran (MBA Recruitment Manager, Europe and Middle East)
Feb 9th, 2015



Web Resources:

- School Website: <http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/>
- Said Class of 2016 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-said-oxford-applicants-2015-intake-class-of-175970.html>
- Schedule of all Admissions Team Chats: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-mba-info-sessions-on-gmatclub-174827.html>

		Welcome to the Live Q&A with Oxford Admissions Team!!!
		Topic set by Narenn on Mon Feb 09 2015 21:01:08 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
21:21	Ergen	Welcome Everyone
21:22	Ergen	Representative of Oxford Admission Team is already here and we shall begin shortly.
21:31	Oxford-Aidan	Hello everyone and thank you for joining us today. My name is Aidan and I am one of the MBA recruitment managers
21:31	Oxford-Aidan	it is a pleasure to take part in this live Q&A
21:31	Oxford-Aidan	Very happy to answer your questions
21:31	applicant	Hi Aidan, Thanks for joining us
21:31	mpaul05	Hi Aidan
21:31	applicant	I'm an applicant from India and would like to seek clarity on the undergraduate requirement to apply to Said. On the website, it says "As guidance, you should have a 2.1 (3.5 GPA) or its equivalent." What would be considered an equivalent for an indian applicant as we neither have gradings in the british 2.2/2.1/1 scale or the american GPA scales.
21:32	Oxford-Aidan	Hi applicant
21:32	Oxford-Aidan	we use conversion tools for all our degrees so you shouldn't worry too much about making the conversion yourself
21:33	Oxford-Aidan	Once you send us your transcripts we will convert them to UK system
21:33	kshitij1109	Please provide an insight on career services support considering UK economy and tough VISA rules imposed by government
21:34	Oxford-Aidan	kshitij1109 - The Careers team at the School has been working very hard to strengthen the support given to MBA applicants given the tight visa situation
21:35	Oxford-Aidan	we have put in place since the latest regulations a series of careers bootcamps that take place before the official start of the course and aim to prepare applicants to look for a job as soon as you start the programme
21:36	Oxford-Aidan	These specialize into four sectors; for students aiming for a career in finance, students wanting to get employment in consulting, diversified industry and entrepreneurship. The sessions are run in collaboration with sector consultants, who are senior members of staff with years of experience in the relevant area of work. they will prepare you for job hunting as soon as you get through the door.
21:34	kshitij1109	What are the school's plan for next 5 years



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21:36	Ergen	Guys, let's slow down a little bit. Allow time for Aidan to answer questions.
21:37	Ergen	Don't worry. Everyone will have a chance to ask their questions.
21:38	applicant	Aidan, following up from the question on Indian grades. Could you provide a baseline grade for our grading scales similar to what has been provided for british and american gpa scales.
21:39	LaxAvenger	I would also be interested in German grade conversion..as some british schools rank different
21:42	SaiP	Is there something wrong with the chat room?
21:43	Oxford-Aidan	Apologies for the delay in our responses. Slight technical issue but we are back now.
21:44	Ergen	Guys, let's wait a little bit till Aidan answers all unanswered questions.
21:44	Oxford-Aidan	For Indian grades we look for 85% or an 8.5. We see this as equal to a UK 2:1. For Germany, depending on the grading system you are on the usual equivalent to a 2:1 is approximately 1.9.
21:46	applicant	Wow. That is often even higher than the highest in most universities offering engineering degrees. But thanks that answers my question.
21:35	AhmedMBA	Aidan, how are you. This is Ahmed from Saudi Arabia. Many thanks for participating in this session, with respect to the test score required, is it true that GMAT is more desirable than the GRE for Oxford MBA?
21:47	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Ahmed, many thanks for your question. GMAT and GRE as seen as equal; either is acceptable.
21:35	Op45	Hi- is Said planning on increasing its class size for the 2015 intake?
21:48	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Op45, it is true that the Business School is planning on expanding our class size to over 300 for 2015 intake.
21:49	toprasadcp	I am an India IT male (34 Year) with 12 years of experience in IT services industry, my GMAT score is 710. Would above average age against my chances to get into Oxford?
21:52	gipsybear	Good afternoon everyone! Has the session started yet? I m sorry, I just joined
21:53	Narenn	yup....the session is in progress. You can ask questions to Oxford Team
21:53	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Toprasadcp, your age is not taken into account when applying, it will not go against your application. It is true, the average age for the MBA is 28 and the average age for the Executive MBA is older.
21:47	saurabhatmumbai	Hi Aidan.. Wanted to check on where can I find a list of companies that recruited at SBS last year
21:54	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Saurabhatmumbai, you can find a list of recent employers here: http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/mba/career-advancement/recent-employers
21:54	SaiP	What are/have been some of the functions that students are/were recruited for in the non-profit industry? Thanks
21:55	saurabhatmumbai	Thanks a lot. Is it safe to assume that all these companies were on campus for recruitment?
21:59	Oxford-Aidan	Hi SaiP, many of our students that are not interested in consulting or finance go into Social Entrepreneurship. These are not always non-profit, but are



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		organisations that seek to benefit society. You can find some examples of our alumni in these industries here: http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/community/people/gagan-kanwar
21:59	Oxford-Aidan	and here http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/community/people/pierce-louis
22:00	Oxford-Aidan	You can read more about our Skoll centre for social entrepreneurship here http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/ideas-impact/skoll/about-skoll-centre-social-entrepreneurship
21:58	gipsybear	Dear Admissions team, I am weighting my options to apply in the next round. Do you have the equal number of seats allocated for each round or chances are lower in later stages?
22:02	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Gipsybear, each round is equal in terms of the application as the same entry requirements are applied to each round. However, the later you leave an application the more difficult it may be to get into your preferred college. Also it is better to apply earlier when applying for scholarships.
21:58	Guest11224	Hello, I'm from Germany (30), my grade is 2.5 (starting form 1.9 - 2.5 means in my university "Good"), would it be still enough to meet the requirements ?
22:04	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Guest11224, I would recommend that you send me a copy of your academic transcript so that I can confirm with the admissions team. My email address is Aidan.OHalloran@sbs.ox.ac.uk. You are all welcome to send follow up questions to me after the session.
21:58	saharshbagaria	hey hi, how many %age Indians are recruited after graduation?
22:00	AhmedMBA	Aidan, can you please illustrate more on the "new" curriculum design, I read somewhere that there will be more emphasis on analytical skills and technical aspects. Is it going to be more "quantitative" curriculum? What are the main new additions to the new curriculum?..Again, thank you so much for your answers.
22:12	Oxford-Aidan	Hi AhmedMBA, we are actually planning on visiting Saudi Arabia in March. I hope to have a chance to meet with you then to discuss the new Oxford MBA in detail. We are also announcing a new range of scholarships for the region very soon.
22:14	AhmedMBA	that would be great..thanks a lot Aidan..and best wishes for you all ..everyone here..
22:02	saurabhatmumbai	Aidan, May I request you to suggest a Finance faculty at SBS who could be available to respond on some of my queries on Finance at SBS
22:06	Oxford-Aidan	Hi saurabhatmumbai, thank you for your suggestion. If you send me an email I can point you in the right direction to ask some questions directly to the Finance team.
22:07	saurabhatmumbai	Ill do that.. Thanks
22:04	mib_lxxo71	Dear Aidan, I'm a 25yo Dutch entrepreneur with, what is called, a Dutch HBO Bachelors degree(7.5/10CGPA) and a 710 GMAT. I would like to know if SBS is familiar with the HBO Bachelor and if this would meet the minimum requirements? Thank you so much!
22:09	Oxford-Aidan	Hi mib_lxxo71, I would also recommend you send me a copy of your transcript so that I can confirm this with the Admissions officer responsible for Holland. A full undergraduate degree is a requirement and therefore if the HBO degree does not equate to a full undergraduate degree then this may be an issue. However, do send over a copy of your transcript.
21:34	mpaul05	I am not a tech guy but want to know if Said can help me in tech entrepreneurship/consulting/banking areas. if yes, how?
22:14	Oxford-Aidan	Hi mpaul05, The Oxford MBA can help you to get into many different industries



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		through our talent development coaching scheme that you receive as part of the course, as well as expert guidance from the careers team.
22:15	Oxford-Aidan	You can find the details for our careers team here http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/school/recruit-our-students/contact-careers-team/how-recruit-our-students/contact-careers-team
22:12	Op45	I have a few questions about the Institute of Retail Management. Could you please link me up to a current student who is an active member of the Institute of Retail Management?
22:18	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Op45, I recommend that you contact the institute directly with this request. They are more likely to be able to assist you with this, you can find their details here: http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/ideas-impact/oxirm/contact-us
22:17	Guest11224	Aidan, which program at SBS is more suitable - in order to switch to the banking sector without prior experience - MBA or Msc in Financial economics
22:20	Oxford-Aidan	Hi Guest11224. The MSc in Financial Economics is usually for students with no work experience, who have undergraduate degrees in Finance. It is known as one of the best finance programmes in the world. The MBA is more suited for individuals who have a number of years work experience and want to switch industry. They are both based in the Business School.
22:17	saurabhatmumbai	What is the ratio of students offered an admit to students called for interview in R3..
22:23	Oxford-Aidan	Hi saurabhatmumbai, it changes each year depending on how the candidates perform in their interviews. However, if you have got through the initial application stage to be invited to interview - you should be very proud. If you perform well on the interview you should be confident in gaining a place on the programme.
22:25	saurabhatmumbai	Thats motivating.. Thanks for your time today!
22:23	Narenn	Hi Aidan, before we end the session, any tips you would like to share with applicants?
22:25	Oxford-Aidan	Final tip I would like to share is to make the most of opportunities like this and follow up discussions with myself and my colleagues. Be prepared to demonstrate that you have been proactive in your research of the programme and have had useful interactions with the School
22:26	Oxford-Aidan	Also, visit us here in Oxford if at all possible. It is a beautiful place.
22:26	Narenn	Great...Thanks
22:26	Narenn	Alright!!
22:26	Narenn	Thank you very much Aidan for sparing your valuable time with applicants on GMAT Club.
22:27	saurabhatmumbai	Thanks Narenn and team..
22:27	Ergen	Thanks Everyone
22:27	Guest11224	Thanks