



GMAT Club Chat with Oxford (Said) Admissions Team

Mr. Aidan O'Halloran – MBA Recruitment Manager

Ms. Teddy Sun – MBA Recruitment Manager

August 11, 2015.



Web Resources:

- Oxford Website: <http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/>
- Oxford Class of 2017 (Full Time MBA) Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-said-oxford-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200760.html>
- Oxford Class of 2017 (Executive MBA) Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-oxford-exe-mba-applicants-jan-2016-entry-class-of-200761.html>
- Ask Oxford Admissions: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-said-business-school-admissions-138836.html>

19:52		Welcome to the Live Q&A with Aidan O'Halloran and Teddy Sun - MBA Recruitment Managers at Oxford!!
		Topic set by Narenn on Tue Aug 11 2015 17:14:38 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
20:41	Narenn	Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club Oxford (Said) Q&A session today and a big welcome to Oxford Admissions team
20:41	Narenn	Today MBA Recruitment Managers from Oxford will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Oxford.
20:41	Narenn	It is humble request to all participants to adhere to the following rules....
20:41	Narenn	1) Ask the questions one by one. Before posting your question, make sure the earlier question is answered.
20:42	Narenn	2) Do not ask profile specific questions e.g. What are my chances etc.
20:42	Narenn	3) Keep the question typed in advance and paste them in chat box when earlier question is answered.
20:42	Narenn	Before we begin the session, I would request Teddy to give us a short introduction of your roles and responsibilities at Oxford
20:42	teddy_oxford	Sure - thank you Narenn for the introduction.
20:43	teddy_oxford	My name is Teddy Sun, MBA Recruitment Manager for the Asia Region
20:44	teddy_oxford	I am also specialised in the Finance sector, for candidates coming into or wishing to stay in the industry.
20:44	Narenn	Thanks!! Dear Participants, this chat is now open for Q&A. Please ask your questions to Teddy.
20:44	abhinay	Hi Teddy... thanks for joining us today. Let me kickoff with the first question - Oxford comes across as a university which focuses a lot on equipping students to solve world scale social challenges. Is that kind of aptitude a key factor in deciding who gets accepted?
20:45	teddy_oxford	Hi Abhinay, that is correct. For our MBA we are looking for candidates who see themselves as an active contributor to society.

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20:45	mona19	what is the minimum score at which one should expect to get admission
20:45	ManuGupta	Hi Teddy, Thanks. First of all I have a question on Admission dates for 2017 intake, is there a profile evaluation which Said does before people apply ?
20:46	teddy_oxford	Yes, you can access it here http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/mba/how-apply-mba/cv-review-form
20:46	Solarus	If an applicant has a GPA which is below the minimum requirements, but a GMAT which is well above the average (30-40 points), would this be sufficient evidence to prove academic capability? Oxford has a posted minimum GPA requirement, however I'm not sure how strict this is.
20:48	teddy_oxford	If you have less than an equivalent to an UK 2.1 or 3.5 GPA we would be looking for mitigating circumstances
20:48	teddy_oxford	A high GMAT will help to strengthen other parts of your application but cannot be substituted for your undergraduate score.
20:47	ReaganSmith	Hi Teddy- Has the admissions team put an added focus this application year on finding certain qualities in a candidate?
20:49	teddy_oxford	Hi ReaganSmith - we are looking for the same qualities in candidates we always do - it does not change by year.
20:49	km95134	Hello Teddy, I hope all is well! I have a question regarding the application process, does Said require the official GMAC report at time of application or will it accept self-reporting? (E.g. Would it be okay to take the GMAT on September 5th and apply for Round 1 deadline? Or should the applicant wait until a later round?)
20:50	teddy_oxford	Hi km95134 - you can self-report. We will check your score with GMAC when we process your application.
20:51	abhinay	Continuing on the social impact point - So do you require the applicants to have similar relevant experience in the past? Or just a strong motivation to do so in some context post the MBA is more important
20:51	teddy_oxford	For MBA candidates, we are not looking for specific profiles. However, should you come from a social impact background you may qualify for the Skoll scholarship http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/ideas-impact/skoll/skoll-scholarship
20:51	badhanc4u	Hi Teddy. My university award GPA out of 10 . So how to convert the same to 4. or is it ok to give it out of 10.
20:52	teddy_oxford	Hi badhanc4u - no, you will have to convert to a 4 point basis

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20:53	Narenn	In that case will Oxford provide any guidelines on how to convert GPA to 4 point scale??
20:54	teddy_oxford	We do not provide a conversion table. However, if you are really stuck you can email us your score and we can give you a rough conversion.
20:55	teddy_oxford	My email address is teddy.sun@sbs.ox.ac.uk
20:55	km95134	Question regarding academics, is it possible to cross-register or attend classes in other Oxford divisions?
20:56	teddy_oxford	You cannot register for any other courses (i.e. get credit for them) but you can audit most lectures apart from the medical ones
20:56	Abhinay	What's the impact on Said business school with the latest changes in the UK immigration policy? I reckon the shift in policies mean that most non EU nationals will have to exit the UK as soon as the study program is over. Is Oxford doing anything to still attract top talent from across the world regardless of this rule?
20:57	teddy_oxford	I believe students on Tier 4 Visas have 3 months after graduation
20:59	teddy_oxford	Abhinay - back to your point about immigration. It is important to take that into consideration if your plan is to stay in the UK after graduation. Most major employers do provide sponsorship but smaller ones may not.
20:57	veenasan_	Hi Teddy. Do you consider IR section in GMAT score for evaluation?
20:57	teddy_oxford	We take the IR section into account but it is less important than the main score.
20:59	veenasan_	What number of students apply in R1 ? In which round do you receive the maximum number of applications?
20:59	teddy_oxford	veenasan_ - we receive the most applications in R1-R3. It is recommended to apply for these rounds.
21:00	veenasan_	OK Thanks Teddy.
21:00	teddy_oxford	If you apply later than R3 you will be restricted in terms of funding, college choices etc.
21:00	Narenn	Teddy, can you tell us about scholarships and other financial assistance provided to students? Typically how much of admissions cost they cover? Also does Oxford have tie up with any British banks to provide students with student loans ?
21:01	teddy_oxford	Narenn - we partner with Prodigy Finance for student loans https://prodigyfinance.com/oxford-university-said-business-school/loan
21:02	ReaganSmith	I am flying to Oxford from the US for the open day on the 28th of this month. Is it possible to schedule a

		one on one interview while I am on campus? and who would I contact to set it up?
21:02	teddy_oxford	ReaganSmith - are you an US National? This is so that I can set you up with the correct relationship manager.
21:03	ankurgupta03	Hi Teddy ... can you please tell about the placement opportunities in the education sector available at Said
21:03	teddy_oxford	ankurgupta03 we do not place students into any employment opportunities. You will have to go through the normal application process for most employers.
21:03	ReaganSmith	Yes, I believe that Raquel is the manager and we are still trying to reconnect
21:05	teddy_oxford	ReaganSmith - Raquel will speak with you tomorrow about the arrangements
21:05	km95134	Question regarding the 1+1 program, admission, Is acceptance mutually exclusive for both degrees? Would it be possible to get into the MBA program and not the MSc? Or vice versa? Must an applicant be admitted to both programs?
21:06	teddy_oxford	km95134 the applications are processed by two separate teams; if you get rejected from one you will still be able to attend the other.
21:06	GhanaBa	Hi Teddy, thanks for making the time to talk to us about Oxford. How does the school ensure diversity considering how difficult it is for some applicants from non-English speaking countries to perform well on the verbal sections of the GMAT? Is the scale for such applicants tailored? Can such applicants make up with good leadership skills?
21:07	teddy_oxford	GhanaBa we take that into consideration but you have to demonstrate strong English skills regardless by achieving 7.5+ on IELTS or 110 for TOEFL
21:07	saurabdey	Hi Teddy, Is it possible for international applicants to schedule a one on one session for profile evaluation before applying for any of the rounds?
21:08	teddy_oxford	saurabdey absolutely. You can contact the manager for your region.
21:08	ankushbagwale	hii teddy Can you pl. share with us the opportunities in sustainability & Green construction industry available there?
21:09	teddy_oxford	ankushbagwale unfortunately I cannot advise on specific employment opportunities.
21:09	abhinay	Would you happen to know the manager for Singapore? I believe you are based out of Singapore right? Vaguely remember meeting you during one of the Oxford talks
21:10	teddy_oxford	abhinay That would be my colleague Dr. Jie Yang jie.yang@sbs.ox.ac.uk
21:11	abhinay	ok thanks

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21:11	Narenn	Teddy, can you comment on the Employment process of the school? What support do students get from Career Services dept, peers, and alumni?
21:13	teddy_oxford	Narenn: once you register as a student you will be assigned a careers advisor based on the industry you want to work in. The careers advisor will work with you on your CV and alert you to specific opportunities. You will also have access to both the School's and the University's careers portals.
21:13	ManuGupta	Can you give more information on 1+1 MBA ?
21:13	teddy_oxford	ManuGupta can you be more specific on what you want to know?
21:15	km95134	What percentage of Said students lives 'on campus'/in colleges vs. off campus?
21:15	Solarus	Hi Teddy, I was wondering about how Oxford feels about applicants reapplying the following year if they are unsuccessful?
21:16	teddy_oxford	Solarus you should explain how you have improved your application since. Have you asked for feedback on your previous application?
21:16	GhanaBa	Teddy, congrats on engaging applicants from the last year on LinkedIn. I feel it was a very beneficial tool. Should this year's applicants expect something similar?
21:17	teddy_oxford	GhanaBa I am glad to hear that you found our LinkedIn campaigns useful. We will be using the platform again this year but we may not be operating the profile assessment.
21:17	ankushbagwale	Teddy can you pl. shed some light on the entrepreneurial avenues available there?
21:20	Aidan_Oxford	ankushbagwale - I would recommend having a look at our entrepreneurship page here: http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/school/oxfordentrepreneurship
21:17	Solarus	I have not personally applied previously; it is more a theoretical question for application strategy. Thank you!
21:19	teddy_oxford	Solarus I would apply to a good range of schools so that you do not have to reapply.
21:19	GhanaBa	Thanks for the clarification.
21:19	abhinay	Do you reply to everyone who submits a profile assessment request from the facility that you have on your website? I submitted mine but am yet to receive a feedback. Not sure if feedback is limited to only a select set of people
21:20	teddy_oxford	abhinay everyone will receive feedback. Please be patient as we are experiencing a high number of applications through the portal.
21:20	Narenn	Folks, Join me in welcoming another Oxford representative - Aidan O'Halloran, MBA Recruitment

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		Manager.
21:21	GhanaBa	Aidan_Oxford Welcome. Pleased to have you. 😊
21:21	Solarus	Out of curiosity, how long does feedback for profile evaluations typically take during periods of high volume? If I submitted one today, would I likely receive feedback within a couple of weeks?
21:22	teddy_oxford	Solarus you should receive a reply within two weeks.
21:22	Narenn	Does Oxford provide opportunity for applicants to connect with current students and alumni during application phase?
21:24	teddy_oxford	Narenn we try to accommodate every request but sometimes it is not possible.
21:24	Narenn	Which student clubs or groups are in Oxford? What social and philanthropic opportunities and opportunities to get involved in leadership roles one can get in these groups?
21:25	teddy_oxford	Narenn you can find the full list of clubs here https://www.oxfordbusinessalumni.org/Networks
21:26	abhinay	How big is Consulting as an employment opportunity coming out of an Oxford MBA?
21:27	abhinay	I have seen that McKinsey was one of the companies which hired the most number of students - But I have also heard that these recruits mostly in the renewable energy space? Is that true?
21:28	teddy_oxford	Consulting is the most popular career choice for our students. I believe people recruit into McKinsey as generalists.
21:28	ManuGupta	Hi Adian, are you hosting any 1-1 event in Switzerland soon? Or can we call you to discuss few specific questions?
21:28	teddy_oxford	Aidan just left the chat, you can email him at aidan.ohalloran@sbs.ox.ac.uk/
21:29	saurabdey	Roughly what percentage of the batch gets through strategy or leadership roles with an work exp of 3+ years? just need a rough estimate
21:30	teddy_oxford	Could you be more specific about strategy and leadership?
21:30	teddy_oxford	Do you mean C-suite roles? Most MBA graduates become mid-career professionals after graduation. It will take more than 3 years to reach those types of positions in large corporations.
21:31	saurabdey	Yeah that was close to what i wanted to know
21:31	teddy_oxford	However, about 5% start their own companies, in which case they will be 😊
21:31	Solarus	Is Renewable Energy a popular focus for students at Oxford? I am very interested in pursuing a career in the Renewable Energy sector following graduation..

21:33	teddy_oxford	Solarus it's somewhat niche. We do not have specific electives in this area. However, if that is what you want to do, you may find it interesting to connect with the engineering and environment science departments.
21:33	Narenn	Alright!! Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today. Thank you very much, Teddy and Aidan, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions.
21:34	Narenn	The next chat session with SBS Team is on October 16. To view complete Live Q&A schedule visit this thread... http://gmatclub.com/forum/live-q-a-with-b-school-adcoms-2015-season-174827.html
21:34	Narenn	We will publish a condensed transcript of this chat in Oxford forum in few days. Keep an eye on this thread... http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-said-oxford-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200760.html
21:34	Narenn	Also we need a ThreadMaster for Oxofrd discussion thread. Interested members can PM me. If anyone wants to learn more about this, check out this thread. http://gmatclub.com/forum/be-the-coolest-guy-in-the-mba-forum-be-a-threadmaster-152204.html
21:33	teddy_oxford	Thank you everyone for your questions. We look forward to seeing your applications!
21:34	saurabdey	Thanks teddy for your time and helping us with our doubts 😊
21:34	Solarus	Thank you Teddy!
21:33	ManuGupta	Thanks Teddy for your answers !!

1) Upcoming Oxford (Said) Chat sessions:

- **October 06, Tuesday**
- **December 01, Tuesday**

2) 2015 Live Q&A Session Schedule: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-mba-info-sessions-on-gmatclub-174827.html>

GMAT Club's MBA Resources

All MBA Rankings	http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3	Application Experiences of Applicants	http://bit.ly/1lecA6z
All MBA Deadlines	http://bit.ly/19RSTSX	MBA Applicant Blogs	http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE
All School Stats	http://bit.ly/1MPOquZ	Current Student Blogs	http://bit.ly/1NPG4rD
Live Chats with B-School Adcoms	http://bit.ly/1NJ7v4w	All school discussions	http://bit.ly/1K0N43a
MBA Admission Consultant Reviews	http://bit.ly/1y6eLpt	Best MBA Books	http://bit.ly/1Cvz2qC
2015 MBA Applicants' Profiles	http://bit.ly/1DJKnBO		
For More Information Visit	http://gmatclub.com/forum/business-school-and-mba-115/		