

### 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>

Live Chat with Oxford (Said) Admissions Manager, Mr. Aidan O'Halloran.	
Topic set by Narenn on Tue Oct 06 2015 20:01:29 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)	
20:30	Narenn <b>Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club Oxford (Said) Q&amp;A session today and a big welcome to Oxford Admissions Manager – Mr. Aidan O'Halloran</b>
20:30	Narenn <b>Today Aidan will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Oxford.</b>
20:31	Narenn <b>It is humble request to all participants to adhere to the following rules....</b>
20:31	Narenn <b>1) Ask the questions one by one. Before posting your question, make sure the earlier question is answered.</b>
20:32	Narenn <b>2) Do not ask profile specific questions e.g. What are my chances etc.</b>
20:33	Narenn <b>3) Keep the question typed in advance and paste them in chat box when earlier question is answered.</b>
20:33	Narenn <b>Before we begin the session, I would request Aidan to give us a short introduction of your roles and responsibilities at Oxford</b>
20:35	Oxford_MBA-Aidan <b>Hello everyone, my name is Aidan O'Halloran and I am the Oxford MBA Recruitment Manager responsible for the School's activities in Europe and the Middle East. I support applicants from all over the world through the admissions process here at Oxford.</b>
20:37	Narenn <b>Thanks!! Dear Participants, this chat is now open for Q&amp;A. Please ask your questions to Aidan.</b>
20:40	rishiroadster Hi Aidan, what's the conversion rate for people who are interviewed?
20:42	Oxford_MBA-Aidan <b>Hi rishiroadster, the conversion rate changes with each round depending on the quality of the applicants. We have just had Round 1 where approximately half of the applicants were invited to interview, and I would expect a good proportion of those to be given an offer. Previously this has ranged from 30% to 60%. Round 1 is often attracts very good quality.</b>
20:44	Narenn How big is Consulting as an employment opportunity coming out of an Oxford MBA?

20:44	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	Consulting is one of the most popular career paths for Oxford MBA graduates. Major consulting firms such as McKinsey recruit our candidates on campus. This often takes place near to the start of the programme, as it is a one year intensive programme.
20:45	bcghbsbcg	Hi Aidan, how many students, roughly, change the country of work after Oxford?
20:45	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>bcghbsbcg</b> many candidates use the Oxford MBA to switch locations, you can find the exact statistics on our careers report. The good thing about the University of Oxford is that the name is recognized world-wide and is very well respected, which can support career moves into new locations.
20:45	Narenn	Does Oxford take into account the number of attempts for the GMAT?
20:46	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>Narenn</b> Good question. We only take into account the highest GMAT that applicants submit, however if an applicant has taken the GMAT a lot of times with varied results, this can sometimes be a negative point if the application is borderline.
20:47	mib_z7yitz	How many dual degree (MD/MBA) applicants do you have?
20:48	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>mib_z7yitz</b> Oxford offers an incredible opportunity through our 1+1 programme ( <a href="http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/1plus1">http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/1plus1</a> ) This involves taking a one year specialist Masters degree from the University of Oxford, developing an in-depth knowledge in a specific area, and then combining this with the breadth of a world-class MBA. There is a fantastic scholarship offering for 1+1 applicants.
20:49	Prajat	Hi, Given the current strict visa & work permit regulations in the UK, in your frank opinion, will the Oxford MBA be an economically feasible option for non-EU students? I won't even have asked this 5 years back. Specifically, in my case, if I have to come back to India after graduating, even with a good job it will take me a long time to just pay back my loan. Could you also provide some data regarding the status of the Indian/Asian graduates of the past few years?
20:51	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>Prajat</b> This is a very good question and a key point for many of my students, especially my candidates who are coming from Russia with the current currency issue. Since the PSW was removed, it did become more difficult for international students to secure a job in the UK after graduating but it is feasible. The Oxford MBA gives candidates support in securing work with organizations that sponsor their employees for working visas. This is of course competitive, but everything is there for you to support you through the process.
20:52	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	In 2013/14 (careers report) of the 31 Indian candidates that were in the MBA - 15 secured work in the UK. 3 in the rest of the EEA. <a href="#">updatedEmployment%20ReportMBAClass2013-14.pdf</a>
20:53	Prajat	Thanks for the insight, Aidan
20:55	Narenn	How is Oxford adapting or changing its curriculum to suit the change in the job market in the recent years? What changes are on the horizon? How have employers reacted to these

		changes in Oxford's curriculum or program?
20:56	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>Narenn</b> The Oxford MBA was completely redesigned two years ago by MBA Director, Dr Dana Brown. This was designed to address the job market in consulting, finance, corporate sector, as well as for our entrepreneurs (we are ranked top in Europe by the FT for this).
20:58	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>Oxford</b> has since conducted an incredible CEO report, which has influenced the design of the programme. This can be found here: <a href="http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/faculty-research/entrepreneurship-centre/global-shapers-community-collaborates-sa%C3%AFd-business-school/ceo-report-0">http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/faculty-research/entrepreneurship-centre/global-shapers-community-collaborates-sa%C3%AFd-business-school/ceo-report-0</a>
20:58	sun01	Could I know the cut-off gmat score? I have 10 years of experience in Engineering Design and scheduled my gmat on 11 jan 2016. At least lower gmat score of admitted student
20:59	Narenn	There are no cut-offs for US/UK Bschoools 😊
20:59	Narenn	Unlike for IIMs
21:01	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>sun01</b> <b>Narenn</b> is correct, we have no minimum score, however our average is 690. We had candidates with 720 + last year who were unable to enter into the Oxford MBA, as for us it is not just about GMAT. It is the whole profile.
21:01	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>Oxford</b> looks for leadership potential. We have 800 years experience of producing leaders.
21:02	Narenn	GMAT, GPA, Quality of work experince, Recommendations, Application essays, Post MBA goals: You will be judged on all these factors
21:02	sun01	Does the SAID evaluates the profile before formal application?
21:02	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>sun01</b> <b>yes, you can have your profile assessed here:</b> <a href="http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/mba/how-apply-mba/cv-review-form">http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/mba/how-apply-mba/cv-review-form</a>
21:03	Narenn	Aidan, Does admissions committee check the online presence of the candidate such as linkedin, instagram, twitter, blogs etc. and give weight to a good social presence?
21:04	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>Narenn</b> In the admissions process no, however the team of Recruitment Managers can submit their recommendations for certain candidates, so a good LinkedIn profile can help us to know more about who you are.
21:04	Narenn	Thanks again
21:04	sun01	You wrote about demonstrated leadership potential. How do u assess this ? Couldn't get it.
21:06	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	<b>sun01</b> This can be demonstrated through your career experience, in our application form we request you to list your achievements and this often includes examples of strong leadership. We then delve deeper into this in the interview.

21:07 sun01 Great.

21:08 +++ ChanServ has given op to Ergen

21:08 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **For those of you interested in Finance, I would advise you to read about the Oxford Finance Lab that runs alongside the MBA.**

21:08 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan <http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/faculty-research/private-equity-institute/oxford-said-finance-lab-0>

21:09 Narenn How does Oxford view our inability to get recommendation from current supervisor? At the moment I don't want to disclose in my company that I am applying for MBA.

21:10 sun01 rightly asked. It's really difficult.

21:10 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **Narenn We understand getting a reference from a current employer can be difficult, we therefore accept references from previous employers who have worked closely with you.**

21:11 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **It is good to point out; references are 100% judged on the quality of the reference, and 0% on the seniority of your reference provider.**

21:12 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **It is always better to find someone who can write a whole page about your achievements, rather than someone who has a very impressive job title but can't spend the time writing your reference.**

21:12 Narenn Great thanks

21:12 Narenn Hi **Souvik**

21:12 souvik101990 Hey **Narenn**.

21:13 souvik101990 Just came to see and probably ask a few questions.

21:13 Narenn Sure, please go ahead and ask

21:13 souvik101990 Yes. I am not sure if this has been asked before, but I would like to know the scene of non profit recruitment at Said, especially the education sector or ed/tech in general.

21:14 souvik101990 My second question is how fluid is switching careers for Said MBA students. How encouraged is it and how often is it witnessed.

21:16 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **souvik101990 thanks for your question. Oxford has a key theme of having a positive impact on society and producing leaders who can face world-scale challenges. We therefore attract a lot of candidates seeking to go into non-profit. In the programme topics such as Water Scarcity, Demographic Change, and Information Security are included.**

21:16 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **souvik101990 Switching careers into new industries is a major reason why people chose to do an Oxford MBA. It is very common and stats can be found in our career's report.**

[updatedEmployment%20ReportMBAclass2013-14.pdf](#)

**I would also recommend reading about the Skoll Centre which is based inside the School**

<http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/faculty-research/skoll-centre-social-entrepreneurship>

21:17 souvik101990 Thanks Oxford\_MBA-Aidan

21:17 souvik101990 Thank you for sharing the PDF.

21:18 Narenn **alright... we will continue for last 5 minutes. any last questions?**

21:18 hi is it an email or can we check status online as well?

21:19 souvik101990 Thanks. Skoll looks very interesting.

21:19 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **In case anyone is interested.. Investment Banks that are visiting Oxford this year for the Finance Lab includes:Goldman Sachs (M & A / Leverage Finance / D & Deutsche (MergersvR) n & Centerview (MergersvAcquisitions) n & Houlihan Lockey (DistressvAcquisitions) n & Rothschild (MergersvRestructuring) n & Commerzbank (IPO, MvAcquisitions) n & A)**

21:19 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **Merrill Lynch (Debt Capital Markets, MvN & JP Morgan (Mergersv Citi (Project Finance / Leverage Finance) nv Morgan Stanley (Distress, Capital Markets) nv Jefferies (Equity Research/Asset Management) nv Societe Generale (Leverage Finance) nv Barclays (Leverage Finance, Infrastructure Finance) nvA) n & Acquisitions)**

21:23 Narenn How Oxford is sending interview invitations?

21:23 Narenn Email or status update?

21:24 Oxford\_MBA-Aidan **Narenn Interview invitations are sent out via email. However, I usually call the candidates I know personally.**

21:25 Narenn **Great Thanks!!**

21:25 Narenn **Alright!!!... We'll wrap up here**

21:25 Narenn **Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today.**

21:25 Narenn **Thank you very much, Aidan, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions. Hope you enjoyed chatting with us.**

21:25 Narenn **The next chat session with Oxford team is on December 01. 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>**

21:25	Narenn	We will publish summary of this chat in Oxford forum in few days. Keep an eye on this thread... <a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-said-oxford-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200760.html">http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-said-oxford-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200760.html</a>
21:25	Narenn	I encourage all applicants to share their application updates with fellow applicants in Oxford forum. We are eager to know how you are approaching to your application essays, your interview debriefs....
21:25	Narenn	If you are visiting campus, we would love to read your school visit experience too.....
21:26	Narenn	Most applicants can't visit the school, so these reports would be immensely helpful for such applicants in figuring out their fit for Oxford's MBA program.
21:26	Narenn	Thanks again everyone and good luck!!
21:26	Oxford_MBA-Aidan	Thanks everyone.

**1) Upcoming Oxford (Said) Chat sessions:**

- December 01, Tuesday

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

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**GMAT Club's MBA Resources**

All MBA Rankings	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3">http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3</a>	Application Experiences of Applicants	<a href="http://bit.ly/1IecA6z">http://bit.ly/1IecA6z</a>
All MBA Deadlines	<a href="http://bit.ly/19RSTX">http://bit.ly/19RSTX</a>	MBA Applicant Blogs	<a href="http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE">http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE</a>
All School Stats	<a href="http://bit.ly/1MPOguZ">http://bit.ly/1MPOguZ</a>	Current Student Blogs	<a href="http://bit.ly/1NPG4rD">http://bit.ly/1NPG4rD</a>
Live Chats with B-School Adcoms	<a href="http://bit.ly/1NJ7v4w">http://bit.ly/1NJ7v4w</a>	All school discussions	<a href="http://bit.ly/1K0N43a">http://bit.ly/1K0N43a</a>
MBA Admission Consultant Reviews	<a href="http://bit.ly/1y6eLpt">http://bit.ly/1y6eLpt</a>	Best MBA Books	<a href="http://bit.ly/1Cvz2qC">http://bit.ly/1Cvz2qC</a>
2015 MBA Applicants' Profiles	<a href="http://bit.ly/1DJKnBO">http://bit.ly/1DJKnBO</a>		
For More Information Visit	<a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/business-school-and-mba-115/">http://gmatclub.com/forum/business-school-and-mba-115/</a>		