



**Web Resources:**

- Owen Business School Website: <http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/>
- Owen FT MBA Class of 2018 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-owen-vanderbilt-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200256.html>
- Owen MSF 2016 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-vanderbilt-owen-msf-2016-intake-applicants-207626.html>

20:23		Live Q&A with Owen (Vanderbilt) Admission Director and Current Student!!
		Topic set by Narenn on Thu Oct 29 2015 20:23:10 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
20:31	Narenn	Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club Vanderbilt Q&A session today and a BIG welcome to Vanderbilt Owen Admissions Director – Bailey McChesney
20:32	Narenn	and AJ Wullschlegler, who is 2nd year MBA student at Owen
20:32	Narenn	Today Bailey and AJ will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Owen.
20:32	rocky1988	Welcome to all
20:33	Narenn	This chat is open for Q&A. Pls ask your questions to Bailey and AJ
20:34	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi everyone! Welcome to our chat. I am Bailey McChesney, the Sr. Assistant Director of Admissions for the Vanderbilt MBA program and myself and a current second year student are looking forward to chatting with you this morning.
20:35	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	Hi everyone, I'll give a into about myself.
20:35	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	I am from North Carolina and come from a background in corporate banking and mutual fund analysis. This summer I was at Wells Fargo in Investment Banking.
20:35	technoholic	Hi Bailey, Could you please talk about any concentrations which could help a student progress into an IT Strategy Consultant role?
20:36	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi technoholic - The great thing about our curriculum is that you can customize



		it to work for you. We have concentrations, specializations and emphases. Everyone has to have a concentration and after that, you can really maximize your potential by adding others.
20:36	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	For a role in strategy consulting, you would likely want to concentrate in strategy and specialize in consulting. Other concentrations include Health Care, Marketing, Finance, Accounting, Human and Organizational Performance, and Operations.
20:36	rocky1988	Hi bailey and AJ Could you please let me know how a student from mechanical engineering background make use of whatever he/she has learned into a MBA Course, And which course is ideally suited for that person.
20:36	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	Rocky: What industry do you think you would want to go into?
20:37	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi rocky1988- We have a number of students in the program that come from engineering backgrounds. It really depends on what you want to do post-grad as to which concentration is the better fit for you.
20:37	rocky1988	Right now I am open to any industry to be frank, But I just want to maximize my 5 years of experience in mechanical.
20:38	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	Rocky: Engineering has a lot of good aspects that translate to an MBA. I would say the quantitative aspects of engineering work well in roles like business analysis, finance, marketing analysis, consulting.
20:38	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	There are even some engineers that go to work in different business units within large industrial firms (emerson, ge)
20:39	AndrewPGlover	Hi Bailey & AJ, thank you both for doing this. When putting together applications, what is the best way to "make up" for a relatively poor element? My cumulative GPA is below optimal although my major/upper division GPA is around a 3.8 and GMAT score was 720. I am concerned about how this will be reflected in my overall application.
20:40	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi Andrew - When you're looking at the class profile the best way to offset something that you're less comfortable with is to focus on the things you can control and work at being above the average student in something else. You did



		exactly that by making sure your GMAT was above the average. You can also use your interview and essays to your advantage.
20:40	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	The interview and essays are one of the opportunities you have to set yourself apart and to strengthen your application.
20:41	technoholic	Great! Thanks for confirming, Bailey. Could you also mention a bit about the industry exposure provided to students via capstones, immersions etc.?
20:41	Narenn	AJ, can you tell us what motivated you to choose Owen over other schools?
20:41	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	I have posted a long explanation of this somewhere on Gmatclub. If you search why Owen I think it comes up. But in short it falls into a few buckets. 1. The people. This place has an amazing culture. I was accepted to other schools such as Tepper, Duke, Kenan Flagler, Cornell. This place by far had the best culture.
20:43	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	The school as a whole has a really strong reputation in the U.S. The university is ranked 15 in the US and when you are recruiting you see that the reputation precedes itself. The city is amazing. Its growing incredibly fast and there are a ton of things to do plus the weather is great
20:43	alt12688	I am highly interested in the Healthcare concentration, which is actually why Owen is one of my top choices. I am curious if there are select numbers you allow into that concentration? Also, if waiting to submit until the second round could ultimately hurt my chances.
20:43	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi alt12688 - we are a small program so if you are admitted and want Health Care you can concentrate in Health Care.
20:44	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	The pool gets more and more competitive as the year goes on, but the 2nd round is usually the largest round. At that point we will still have scholarship money available so waiting until that round will not hinder your chances.
20:44	rocky1988	Thanks a lot Vanderbilt.
20:45	samsum007	What is the average GMAT score at Owen?



VANDERBILT

## GMAT Club Chat with Owen (Vanderbilt) Admissions Team

Bailey McChesney – Sr. Asst. Director of Admissions at Owen

AJ Wullschleger – Current Owen MBA Student, Class of 2016

October 29, 2015.



20:45	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>Samsun: It is 690</b>
20:45	samsun007	Any cutoff for TOEFL?
20:46	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>Hi samsun007 - The average TOEFL in our program is a 107. Typically, our admitted students have above a 100.</b>
20:46	rocky1988	Vanderbilt: After doing any course in MBA or any specific one?
20:47	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>Rocky: I think the course as a whole will provide you with the knowledge needed to work in most industries.</b>
20:47	tronghieu1987	Thanks Bailey and AJ for being here in such a open chat. Sorry to ask this but I wonder if there is a technical problem in Vanderbilt email system, as I sent an email 16 days ago, resent it 9 days ago, but received no reply.
20:48	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>Oh my tronghieu1987 - we are so sorry! We typically respond to emails within 24-48 hours. I wonder if your email got caught up in our filter. If you send me your email address directly, I will take a look and make sure we get back to you.</b>
20:48	Narenn	<b>Newly Joined Members: We are chatting with Bailey McChesney – Senior Assistant Director of Admissions at Owen Vanderbilt - and AJ Wullschleger – Current second year MBA Student. If you have any questions about Owen’s MBA program, you can ask them to Bailey and AJ.</b>
20:48	Amjad	@Bailey/AJ, Is there scope of Graduate/Teaching Assistantship?
20:48	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>Amjad - We are a private institution so we do not offer Graduate Assistantships. We do give out a fair amount of scholarship (60% of our students receive some sort of scholarship). All scholarships are merit-based and evaluated at the same time we evaluate admission. We also have student worker roles on campus that pay an hourly rate.</b>
20:49	rocky1988	GMAT CLUB is seriously amazing!! so many good people around!!
20:49	Amjad	Thanks Bailey
20:50	Narenn	Not sure if this asked before but few users on forum were asking about deadlines for



		sending online recommendations. Are they displayed anywhere on the site?
20:52	technoholic	+1 for the recommendation deadline
20:52	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>For those asking about online recommendations - The deadlines for admission are posted on our website. We understand your recommenders are busy so the closer to the deadline they can get their recommendation in, the better. We will not make a decision on your application until the application is complete.</b>
20:53	rakshitv13	I have a undergrad gpa of 3.0, does this mean my GMAT score has to be exceptionally high?
20:53	Narenn	<b>Moderator Note: Please refrain from asking profile specific questions in this chat</b>
20:53	AndrewPGlover	What is the standard internet protocol for Owen? Specifically dealing with out of state students.
20:53	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>Andrew: What specifically do you mean but internet protocol?</b>
20:54	AndrewPGlover	whoops, what is the standard INTERVIEW protocol.
20:54	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>haha gotcha</b>
20:55	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>For out of state students we review the admissions packets then schedule interviews after approval. There are Skype interviews available if necessary although we recommend coming to Vanderbilt to experience the culture but understand if that is not possible.</b>
20:55	Narenn	Bailey, can you tell us about the deadlines for sending online recommendations? Are they displayed anywhere on the site?
20:55	rakshitv13	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey, what is scope and involvement from outside companies for investment banking or finance?
20:58	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>rakshit: We have a large number of banks that recruit here for IB. DB, Goldman, Jefferies, Citi, Credit Suisse, Wells Fargo, Houlihan Lokey, Piper Jaffray, Deloitte, Black Arch, Sun Trust, Key Bank and others</b>



20:58	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	For corporate finance the companies are pretty broad
20:59	rakshitv13	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ, thank you, is there a way that I could connect with the faculty in that field and have a chat with them to see what type of students are they looking for?
20:59	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	I think it would be better to reach out to the finance club and guys going into the industry.
20:59	Amjad	@Bailey , does the school help in getting financial aid ?
21:00	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi Amjad - Yes! We have a financial aid office that works with all students on an individual basis. You can view information about tuition and financial aid here: <a href="http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/mba-admissions/tuition-and-financial-aid/index.cfm">http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/mba-admissions/tuition-and-financial-aid/index.cfm</a>
21:00	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Here is a link to the class profile for those needing it: <a href="http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/mba-admissions/class-profile.cfm">http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/mba-admissions/class-profile.cfm</a>
21:00	AndrewPGlover	Perfect, I would definitely prefer to interview on campus. However, it is nice to know that there is a level of flexibility.
21:00	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	Andrew: I would highly recommend coming to campus. There is something very unique about Owen.
21:02	rakshitv13	I did my undergrad here in USA, do I need to take the TOEFL again?
21:02	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi rakshitv13 - There are a couple of cases where we would waive the TOEFL: 1. I have earned an undergraduate degree in a country where the official language is English (not just an English-speaking institution or just a country where English is spoken.)
21:02	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	2. I have lived and worked, for the past two or more years, in a country where the official language is English (not just a country where English is spoken). 3. I have scored in the 90th percentile or higher on the verbal component of the GMAT or GRE.
21:04	Narenn	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ: How competitive or collaborative have you found your fellow students during your time at Owen.



21:04	Narenn	Another question for you AJ: How often do you interact with professors outside classroom? How easy it is to do this?
21:05	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>The students here are incredibly collaborative. I would say this is one of the strongest part of Owen. I know all of my classmates and honestly like them all. Being able to integrate into the culture is a big part of what I think admissions looks at.</b>
21:07	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>I interact a lot with the professors. I had lunch with the past chief economist at the Federal Trade Commission and go ride bikes with him on the weekend. The professors are extremely open to have a relationship outside of the class with students. We have a small classes and that helps facilitate this.</b>
21:08	atl12688	Can you shed any light on those who would be using the MBA to change industries and what sort of things to highlight in order to stand out for admission
21:08	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>Hi alt12866 – Great question! We have a fair number of students who are coming into the program from non-traditional backgrounds. The number one way to stand out in the admissions process is to craft your story. Tell us about your experience, why the MBA, why you want to do that what you want to do and how your experience will help in that transition.</b>
21:09	atl12688	thanks Bailey!
21:09	Amjad	@AJ ,have you developed relationship with Alumni and how strong are the networking prospects ?
21:10	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>Amjad: The alumni are extremely receptive to Owen Students. I think it goes back to the small school small class. We are close knit so if someone calls they listen. I try to put it in perspective like this. At a Wharton there are 900 students looking for a job. Here there at 170.</b>
21:10	rakshitv13	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ, thank you, sorry I joined in late, but I just wanted to know, are u in the finance field?
21:10	rakshitv13	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey, are the admissions rolling? and is there an early decision?



21:12	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<p>rakshitv13 - We have 4 rounds of admission. Here are the dates for this year. We release all decisions for the round on the Decision Release Date:  <a href="http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/mba-admissions/how-to-apply/deadlines-fees.cfm">http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/mba-admissions/how-to-apply/deadlines-fees.cfm</a></p>
21:13	rakshitv13	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey, thank you
21:13	tronghieu1987	My GPA is 7.2/10, which is about 3.2/4. My undergraduate is Finance, and after university, I did pass 2 levels of CFA program with great performance. So I wonder whether I should write the optional essay to justify my low GPA?
21:14	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	tronghieu1987 - I usually tell candidates to write the optional essay if you would feel more comfortable with your application/you feel like it is relevant for the Admissions Committee to know.
21:16	Nareen	Bailey and AJ: Can you shed some light on employment process. What support do students get from career services team during internship/employment? Which companies, and from which sector, generally recruit at Owen?
21:17	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<p>Here is the link to our Class of 2015 Employment Report:  <a href="http://issuu.com/vanderbiltowen/docs/owen-2014-mba-emp-report?e=2354609/10584070">http://issuu.com/vanderbiltowen/docs/owen-2014-mba-emp-report?e=2354609/10584070</a>. It will have a list of companies that have hired, geographic regions, etc. My favorite number in the report is that one that says 78% of our students get their jobs from school-facilitated activities.</p>
21:17	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Every student has a personal career coach based on your functional area and there is a lot of support from our Career Management Center because of our size.
21:19	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	Nareen: The CMC here is amazing. I would say it is one of the strongest parts of Owen. I think it goes back to the class size. Since it is small they really get to know you and are able to invest time in you. They also work hard to keep the communication open with Alumni so when a student reaches out it is a warm call not a cold call.
21:19	Amjad	78% is really impressive !!!
21:20	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	There are also a ton of companies that come here. Since I did investment



		<b>banking I know that recruiting process the best. In IB we had more offers and companies come to campus than we had students trying to get jobs in IB.</b>
21:22	<b>tronghieu1987</b>	and my last question: I want to change career from government to corporate finance. For the 1st essay, I wonder if it is better for me to focus on telling about my goal, the way led me to that goal, and why now, and go fast through Why MBA question. I find it so understandable for a career change to need an MBA.
21:25	<b>Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey</b>	<b>It sounds like you thought about it a lot and like a good idea to structure your essay in that way.</b>
21:25	<b>Amjad</b>	@Bailey/AJ , how much is the scope of career change for eg:- from Technology to Consulting etc.
21:29	<b>VanderbiltStudnet_AJ</b>	<b>Amjad: We had a guy go from being a drummer to working at BCG in consulting. The jump from technology to consulting isn't that hard. It's about the time nad commitment you put into.</b>
21:30	<b>Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey</b>	<b>Amjad - Many students coming into our program are career changers. Much of the admissions process will be how you tell the story. Because of our size and career support, there's a lot of avenues here from the customizable curriculum to the personal career coach to the access to faculty that helps you facilitate that.</b>
21:30	<b>Narenn</b>	<b>Alright!!</b>
21:31	<b>Amjad</b>	Thanks Bailey and AJ
21:31	<b>Narenn</b>	<b>Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today.</b>
21:31	<b>tronghieu1987</b>	Thanks you all
21:31	<b>Narenn</b>	<b>Thank you very much, Bailey and AJ, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions. Hope you enjoyed the chat.</b>
21:31	<b>Narenn</b>	<b>Next chat session with Owen team is on December 17. To view complete Live Q&amp;A schedule visit this thread... <a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/live-q-a-with-b-school-adcoms-2015-season-174827.html">http://gmatclub.com/forum/live-q-a-with-b-school-adcoms-2015-season-174827.html</a></b>



21:31	Narenn	<b>We will publish a condensed transcript of this chat in Owen forum in few days. Keep an eye on this thread...</b> <a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-owen-vanderbilt-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200256.html">http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-owen-vanderbilt-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200256.html</a>
21:31	tronghieu1987	ok Bailey, thanks much!
21:32	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>Thank you all! Feel free to reach out if you have any additional questions!</b> <a href="mailto:admissions@owen.vanderbilt.edu">admissions@owen.vanderbilt.edu</a>
21:32	VanderbiltStudnet_AJ	<b>Thanks everyone. Please reach out if you need anything else. I am <a href="#">thisisatestonlyatest</a> on gmatclub</b>
21:32	Narenn	<b>Thanks again and have a great day!!</b>

- 1) Upcoming Vanderbilt Chat sessions:
  - December 17
- 2) 2015 Live Q&A Session Schedule: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-mba-info-sessions-on-gmatclub-174827.html>
- 3) All Chat transcripts are available to download here <http://gmatclub.com/forum/live-q-a-with-b-school-adcoms-2015-season-174827.html#p1416987>

**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/1lecA6z">http://bit.ly/1lecA6z</a>
All MBA Deadlines	<a href="http://bit.ly/19RSTSX">http://bit.ly/19RSTSX</a>	MBA Applicant Blogs	<a href="http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE">http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE</a>
All School Stats	<a href="http://bit.ly/1MPOquZ">http://bit.ly/1MPOquZ</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>		