

Web Resources:

- Foster Business School Website: <http://foster.uw.edu/>
- Foster Full Time MBA Class of 2018 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-uwa-foster-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200382.html>
- Foster Evening MBA Applicants Class of 201: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-uwa-foster-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200382.html>

		Live Chat with Megan Lewis - Associate Director of Admissions at UW Foster - and Nelson Tang - Current Foster MBA Student.
		Topic set by Narenn on Thu Oct 01 2015 20:14:22 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
20:30	Narenn	Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club UW Foster Q&A session today and BIG welcome to Associate Director of Foster Admissions – Megan Lewis – and Current Foster Student – Nelson Tang.
20:31	Narenn	Today Megan and Nelson will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Washington.
20:31	Narenn	There are around 15 chat participants and more are expected to join in next couple of minutes, so it is humble request to all participants to adhere to the following rules during chat so that our guests can answer everyone's questions
20:31	Narenn	1) Ask the questions one by one. Before posting your question, make sure the earlier question is answered.
20:31	Narenn	2) Do not ask profile specific questions e.g. What are my chances etc.
20:31	Narenn	3) Keep the question typed in advance and paste them in chat box when earlier question is answered.
20:31	Narenn	Before we begin the session, I would request Megan and Nelson to give us your introductions
20:32	FosterMBAAdmissions	Hello! My name is Megan Lewis. I'm an Associate Director, MBA Admissions.
20:32	FosterStudent_Nelson	Hi, my name is Nelson, I'm a second-year full time MBA (class of 2016)
20:33	FosterMBAAdmissions	We're happy to answer your questions today!
20:33	Narenn	Thanks!! Dear Participants, this chat is now open for Q&A. Please ask your questions to Megan and Nelson.
20:35	Narenn	Nelson, Can you tell us about your background, post MBA goals, and why you chose Foster?

20:35	FosterStudent_Nelson	sure!
20:35	FosterStudent_Nelson	I come from a mechanical engineering background. Prior to the MBA I was an officer in the US Air Force for 8 years
20:36	FosterStudent_Nelson	where I got to work on some really great projects in a role that's similar to a product manager combined with product engineering and sourcing
20:36	FosterStudent_Nelson	I decided to leave the military life to settle down and really find a new career
20:36	suryav	Hi Megan..Is it true that mba students don't have much interaction with Center For Sales and Marketing Strategy.
20:37	FosterMBAAdmissions	Yes, that's true.
20:37	FosterMBAAdmissions	This is a new center and it is primarily focused on research at the moment.
20:37	FosterMBAAdmissions	However, we do have a robust marketing curriculum
20:38	FosterMBAAdmissions	In fact, 41% of our graduates last year landed marketing roles
20:38	FosterMBAAdmissions	Check out our Career Path page:
20:38	FosterMBAAdmissions	http://foster.uw.edu/careers/full-time-and-evening-mba-career-management/students/career-path/
20:39	FosterMBAAdmissions	You'll find a list of companies that have hired our students for marketing roles
20:39	FosterMBAAdmissions	among other resources that Foster offers students pursuing careers in marketing
20:39	ken_uscg	Good morning! Nelson, after you started your first year, was there anything you encountered that you didn't expect? Good or bad?
20:40	FosterStudent_Nelson	Hi, Ken! I was really surprised to get the internship offer from Nike - a huge plus. It was really something that couldn't have happened without the MBA program
20:41	FosterStudent_Nelson	on the bad side - as a military guy I was really surprised how hard the internship search and career change was. But thanks to the UW alumni network and the program, I am well on my way to changing careers 🙌
20:40	suryav	thanks Megan
20:39	Kizashi	Hi Foster team. Thanks for holding this chat session. How does Foster 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.
20:41	FosterMBAAdmissions	Hi Kizashi, you may want to include a bullet point in the optional essay explaining why you

		chose not to ask your current supervisor for a recommendation. This is fairly common, so don't worry, it won't affect our perception of the quality of your application.
20:42	FosterMBAAdmissions	Re: Recommendations:
20:43	FosterMBAAdmissions	I would think about your greatest and achievements and those you've worked most closely with who can talk about your work style and personality. Also consider whether they have good written communication skills. It can be a former supervisor, a colleague, a client, etc.
20:40	Deepak	Hi I am Deepak , I have an electrical engineering background and have worked as a product design lead for ~8 years. My post-MBA goals are to get into product marketing/product management.
20:42	Deepak	First, Thanks to the Admissions team for hosting this online-chat. Megan, I have an application related question. I requirements and noticed that the resume can be upto 3 pages long. While it is the Max Limit, What is the preferred page-limit that you typically recommend?
20:45	FosterMBAAdmissions	There is no optimal length, but we are interested in seeing any work experience and extracurricular activities or volunteer experience from the 1st year of university onward. If you are planning to make a career transition, it is helpful to tailor your resume to demonstrate that you have the skills to do so. Any activity demonstrating leadership and commitment to community is positive.
20:45	suryav	Hi Nelson,Are strategic consulting project and Applied Strategy Consulting project same or there is some difference. Can you please share your experience on these.
20:45	FosterStudent_Nelson	@Suryav re: consulting projects:
20:46	FosterStudent_Nelson	I think those are the same if you're referring to the consulting project that we do in the first year
20:46	FosterStudent_Nelson	it was a great experience to immediately apply what we learned in the first quarter
20:46	FosterStudent_Nelson	towards a meaningful business challenge that a company is facing
20:47	FosterStudent_Nelson	for my project, I did marketing strategy for EMC's Big Data analytics
20:47	FosterStudent_Nelson	it was a subject I have no prior knowledge or experience with, and it was great to really learn about their industry and to interact with people at EMC. Our final brief was to senior leaders at that company, and was a great learning opportunity!
20:48	Narenn	Megan and Nelson. 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 Foster?
20:48	FosterStudent_Nelson	@Narenn re: employment. I really like the personal attention you get from the career services team

20:49	FosterStudent_Nelson	since we are a smaller class, we get a ton of support from each of the career coaches
20:49	FosterStudent_Nelson	and since they get to know your aspirations and career goals, they really do hook you up with opportunities and get you in front of people
20:50	FosterStudent_Nelson	I had an interest in the outdoor/sports industry, and the Nike internship pretty much fell into my lap thanks to coordination between career services and Nike
20:50	FosterStudent_Nelson	so for me, that support that they offered was invaluable. They are always available and ready to help
20:50	FosterMBAAdmissions	You can find career placement stats here: http://foster.uw.edu/careers/full-time-and-evening-mba-career-management/employment-statistics/
20:51	FosterMBAAdmissions	You'll find a list of employers along with a break down of industries and functional areas, salary, etc.
20:50	ken_uscg	How much should we elaborate on our personal interests in the resume? Are you looking for more in depth than just a bulleted list?
20:53	FosterMBAAdmissions	Re: Personal interests on resume:
20:53	FosterMBAAdmissions	If they are minor hobbies, a list is fine. If your personal interest has resulted in awards, travel, leadership responsibility, professional development, etc. you may choose to give a bit more detail or if the experience has been more significant, you might use the optional essay space to talk about it. In most cases, a bullet or list is fine.
20:50	suryav	Thanks Nelson, In second year also do we get any chance to work on any similar live project.
20:52	FosterStudent_Nelson	@suryav re: similar projects -- yes, you actually get opportunities with companies for longer-term, more complex business challenges. In addition, you can always organize and arrange your own consulting projects with companies. for instance a couple of my classmates and I joined up and found our own consulting project with Cascade Designs, a local outdoor company
20:54	Deepak	Hi Nelson, Your marketing strategy project at EMC big-data analytical sounds interesting. Based on your experience, Can you let us know how challenging is the process of applying/getting marketing jobs/internships in industries where one might not have direct previous experience but can be open and willing to get into?
20:55	FosterStudent_Nelson	@Deepak re: career changing
20:55	FosterStudent_Nelson	It's really tough depending on your background. we have a former ski patroller and a folk singer who completely changed their career paths. The career services team is SO amazing at helping you frame your experience and tell your story to new audiences. Our folk singer had some weird-sounding things on her resume, but thanks to career services, she was able to land an amazing marketing internship.

20:55	FosterStudent_Nelson	I'll have her tell her story in a future blog post 🙌 But yeah it is really challenging, but with your classmates and career services, you can do it! (but be prepared for lots of rejection)
20:56	FosterMBAAdmissions	We are ranked #3 in the US in job placement. Seattle is the fastest growing city in the U.S. and we have a small MBA program, which helps, but the program won't accomplish your career goals for you. It's your responsibility to take full advantage of the resources, network, do your homework, build your interview skills, etc.
20:57	FosterStudent_Nelson	agreed - you can't be passive. you have to be really active in the job search and really work on it
20:57	mib_y6oo3a	Hello, What options are available for international students for interviews? Do you connect applicant with local alumni?
20:58	FosterMBAAdmissions	Re: International students: There is an international alumni group that is available as a resource for current international students. MBA Career Management knows which companies offer sponsorship. We've actually had a 100% job placement rate for international students for the last 3 years. MBA Career Management offers assistance in terms of cultural issues that may crop up as well.
20:58	suryav	Hi Nelson, Are you a board member of any non-profit organisation through Board Fellows Program.
21:00	FosterStudent_Nelson	@suryav re: board membership -- I am not, though I interviewed with many non-profit boards ultimately turned down the offer. I have classmates who are in the program and are getting some amazing opportunities to help them tackle problems and projects.
20:58	suryav	Normally how many students take these positions and how tough is it to get.
20:58	FosterMBAAdmissions	What positions are you thinking about?
21:02	suryav	I was referring to positions in non-profit organizations through Board Fellows Program.
21:02	FosterStudent_Nelson	the positions for non-profit board membership thru the board fellows program are competitive. it's challenging to get a position with the *right* board that you really want, but if you are agnostic then you will have a good chance
21:03	FosterStudent_Nelson	you are a non-voting board member on these boards, and you are responsible for a particular project for that board. It is an active role where you get to add value and you compete with public affairs masters' students. So it is tough - be sure to talk about how you can add value to the non-profit board, you aren't just sitting there at meetings taking notes 🙌
21:03	Narenn	Could you please shed some light on the scope of Internationals to obtain overseas employment in US post MBA, especially considering the current H1B restrictions?
21:04	FosterMBAAdmissions	Until now, only one of our students did not get the H1B through the lottery after completing

		the first year of employment on OPT (F1) status. That's in the last three years. All other students were hired on F1 status and converted.
21:04	medved	Does Foster have close relationships with any other aviation/airline services companies (except for Boeing)? Do they hire on campus?
21:04	FosterMBAAdmissions	Alaska Airlines
21:05	ken_uscg	Are students from the East Coast (or anywhere outside the Pacific Northwest) at any disadvantage over local students in terms of job placement, resources available, internship opportunities, etc?
21:05	FosterMBAAdmissions	There is no disadvantage for those from other areas of the U.S.
21:07	suryav	Sorry Nelson,I am just firing questions one after another.But my post mba I want to work as Business-to-Business Pricing and Marketing analyst in any of telecom operator.And you are the best person to discuss. Have you done any international consulting project.How is it different from study tours.
21:08	FosterStudent_Nelson	@Suryav: re: international consulting project -- unfortunately I have not. I have classmates that did the india consulting trip. it's different from study tours because you put in a TON of work prior to and the actual trip is to go and brief and work with the client for study tours you are literally just touring around different companies - you don't have to do any prior work
21:07	Deepak	Nelson, I am currently looking at expanding into product marketing roles in the technology industry (semiconductor chips) which can best leverage of my previous experience. But i am open to exploring retail marketing roles in company say like Starbucks. Would like to understand how open and willing they might be to a person who doesn't have previous direct ex
21:08	FosterStudent_Nelson	@Deepak re: retail marketing roles
21:09	FosterStudent_Nelson	well for starbucks specifically...let's just say we have a fantastic alumni network there
21:09	FosterStudent_Nelson	they should call it Fosterbucks
21:09	FosterStudent_Nelson	thanks to that network they are very, very open to career changers. After all, many of them were in our shoes a couple of years ago
21:09	FosterStudent_Nelson	for other companies I'd say it depends. the MBA program will help you tell your story to those companies for sure
21:09	Narenn	Is only Evening MBA option available for those want to apply for Part time program? Or do you have weekend program too?
21:10	FosterMBAAdmissions	Foster has 3 work-compatible programs: Evening MBA, Technology Management MBA, and Executive MBA. TMMBA has classes on Saturdays and one evening/week. Executive has two different schedules. One schedule includes full-day classes alternating Friday and

		Saturdays.
21:11	Narenn	TMMBA is only for those coming from tech sector??
21:12	FosterMBAAdmissions	I don't know that you couldn't get in without a tech background. I believe it is for people looking to work in tech. Many of their students do have a tech background. Unfortunately, I cannot talk in detail about TMMBA because I don't actually work for that office.
21:13	FosterMBAAdmissions	Contact them directly, please: http://foster.uw.edu/academics/degree-programs/technology-management-mba/contact-us/
21:13	Narenn	thanks
21:13	AbdurRakib	I want to pursue a Masters leading to PhD or PhD? If I've a GPA 2.81,How could I have to be to get admission by preforming other criteria?
21:14	FosterMBAAdmissions	The MBA and PhD in business are VERY different kinds of degrees that lead to different kinds of careers.
21:14	FosterMBAAdmissions	In general, you should choose one or the other. Business is not like other more academic fields where one degree leads to another
21:14	medved	Do you have an option of taking a couple of courses during the summer for internationals who never have been studying in English before and graduated from the University a while ago?
21:15	FosterMBAAdmissions	Yes, we have summer English courses
21:15	medved	I meant not English, but professional courses
21:15	medved	something like accounting, finance, etc
21:16	FosterMBAAdmissions	There are courses in the UW Professional and Continuing Education Department you might explore: http://www.pce.uw.edu/explore-programs.aspx
21:16	FosterStudent_Nelson	in addition to that, everyone gets the option to do 'refresher' training just prior to the MBA in accounting, finance, statistics, etc. It's called Jumpstart I think. pretty much everyone takes the option 🍷
21:14	Geo	How can a candidate highlight notable achievements (on a professional / personal level) that may come in after the application has been sent in, but before the decision has been made? I understand it may make things harder for Adcom, but is there a preferred way of managing this?
21:17	FosterMBAAdmissions	If you have achievements to share after submitting the application, you can email us an updated resume, but there is no guarantee that your update will be considered. It depends on where we are in reviewing your application.

21:17	medved	Thanks! It's exactly what i was curious about. It's just called differently in different schools
21:20	suryav	Hi Megan, how often students get GA opportunities. Are these positions tough to get considering Phd students also compete with us?
21:20	FosterMBAAdmissions	I'm not sure about GA positions, but we have around 12 highly competitive TA positions per quarter
21:27	suryav	Thanks nelson and Megan...
21:28	FosterMBAAdmissions	If anyone has further questions, you can email me at lewismr@uw.edu
21:28	FosterStudent_Nelson	also, follow the MBA blog for more on the student experience: http://depts.washington.edu/mbablog
21:28	Narenn1	Megan, Any tips regarding applications that I can put on Foster forum?
21:28	ken_uscg	CG is the best kept secret!
21:29	Deepak	Thanks guys for hosting this chat.
21:29	FosterMBAAdmissions	We have application tip videos. http://depts.washington.edu/foster/tag/full-time-mba-application/
21:29	Narenn1	Alright!! Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today.
21:30	Narenn1	Thank you very much, Megan and Nelson, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions. Hope you enjoyed chatting with us.
21:30	Narenn1	The next chat session with Foster team is on November 03. 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
21:30	Narenn1	We will publish summary of this chat in Foster forum in few days. Keep an eye on this thread... http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-uwa-foster-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200382.html
21:30	Narenn1	Also we need a ThreadMaster to lead discussions in Foster forum. Please PM me if anyone is interested. Here you can learn more about this status. http://gmatclub.com/forum/be-the-coolest-guy-in-the-mba-forum-be-a-threadmaster-152204.html
21:30	FosterMBAAdmissions	Thanks for hosting us.
21:30	FosterStudent_Nelson	been a pleasure!
21:30	Narenn1	I encourage all applicants to share their application updates with fellow applicants in Foster forum. We are eager to know how you are approaching to your application essays, your

		interview debriefs....
21:30	Narenn1	If you are visiting campus, we would love to read your school visit experience too.....
21:30	Narenn1	Most applicants can't visit the school, so these reports would be immensely helpful for such applicants in figuring out their fit for UW's MBA program.
21:30	medved	Thank you, Megan and Nelson!
21:30	Narenn1	Thanks again everyone and good luck!!
21:31	ken_uscg	Thanks Megan and Nelson!
21:31	FosterMBAAdmissions	Bye!

1) Upcoming Foster Chat sessions:

- **November 03**

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	http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3	Application Experiences of Applicants	http://bit.ly/1IecA6z
All MBA Deadlines	http://bit.ly/19RSTSX	MBA Applicant Blogs	http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE
All School Stats	http://bit.ly/1MPOguZ	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/		