

Web Resources:

- Cambridge Website: <http://www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/home/>
- Cambridge Class of 2017 (Full Time MBA) Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-judge-cambridge-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200762.html>
- Ask Cambridge Admissions: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-cambridge-judge-admissions-117002.html>

		Live chat with Judge (Cambridge) Students
		Topic set by Narenn on Tue Nov 17 2015 17:42:53 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
18:07	Narenn	Hello Sameer and Matt
18:08	Narenn	Thanks for joining
18:08	Cambridge_student_Matt	Happy to be here
18:08	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Hello Narenn. Glad to be here
18:08	Narenn	Thanks!! Let's start the session quickly
18:08	Narenn	Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club Cambridge (Judge) Student chat session today and a BIG welcome to Cambridge MBAs – Sameer Baroova and Matt Kamisher-Koch.
18:09	Narenn	Today Sameer and Matt will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Cambridge.
18:09	Narenn	It is humble request to all participants to adhere to the following rules during chat so that our guests can answer most of our questions
18:09	Narenn	1. Ask the questions one by one. Before posting your question, make sure the earlier question is answered.
18:09	Narenn	2. Do not ask profile specific questions e.g. What are my chances etc.
18:09	Narenn	3. Keep the question typed in advance and paste them in chat box when earlier question is answered.
18:09	Narenn	Dear Participants, this chat is now open for Q&A.
18:10	Narenn	Dear Sameer and Matt. Please tell us in brief about your background and your motivation for choosing JBS for getting MBA or Why JBS?
18:11	Cambridge_student_Matt	Hi everyone, I was living in washington DC. I started my career in lobbying (for banks) and then transitioned to management consulting focusing on corporate finance

		functions.
18:12	Cambridge_student_Matt	I wanted to get an MBA to make a career and geography switch and chose Cambridge for three reasons: 1.) the international student body, 2.) the highly collaborative environment in the small class size, and 3.) the college system that is part of the structure of Cambridge
18:12	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Hi I live near London. I have been in the video games industry for 15 years. I am starting a tech company and chose Cambridge for its technology focus and startup presence
18:13	Narenn	Thanks Sameer and Matt. How did you find the whole experience from application to starting on the course?
18:14	Cambridge_student_Matt	I think applying for MBAs is a long process but I thought the application process helped me narrow down exactly what I was looking for and match my profile to a program that fit me well. The course has been intense in a really fun way so far, there is SO much going on every day it can feel like almost too many choices.
18:15	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	I had made a quick decision to do an MBA and Cambridge was my only application. It was a very comfortable application process. The admission requirements were simple (one single essay) which was to the point and made it easy for me to make a compelling case
18:13	Nicks	What are the classes like? More case studies or traditional? Do you study in groups? Are most jobs after JBS based in UK / Europe?
18:15	Cambridge_student_Matt	Right now we are split into two different groups and our lectures are a mix of traditional classes, with case study components covered in each class lecture
18:15	Cambridge_student_Matt	we also have assigned groups for smaller group projects including a consulting project for an outside client based in Cambridge
18:17	Cambridge_student_Matt	For the jobs question I would say that the recruiting is quite global. Many of the post MBA programs that come on campus to speak have opportunities all over the world (that tend to be linked to language skills)
18:18	KunalSaravya	Matt could you please elaborate a little more on the consulting project for an outside client?
18:19	Cambridge_student_Matt	Yeah there are two, Sameer and I are actually in the same group. The first one is in groups of 5-6 and we are assigned a client with a business problem that they want help solving. We have most of the term to work on it with regular client meetings, and some key deliverables along the way.
18:19	Cambridge_student_Matt	all of the clients are in the Cambridge area--startups, more traditional companies, some non profits
18:19	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	There is a second consulting project that is 4-5 week long in March-April

GMAT Club Chat with Cambridge (Judge) MBA Students

Sameer Baroova and Matt Kamisher-Koch.

November 17, 2015.

18:19	Narenn	Matt/Sameer, Could you guys please shed some light on life at JBS Cambridge in terms of time spent in clubs, class and lecture related activities as well as the amount of time spent on networking?
18:21	Cambridge_student_Matt	I'm really involved in my college, I row for them and am also on something called the may ball committee which is like a giant end of year gala that I'm responsible for all of the staff for
18:21	Cambridge_student_Matt	I also go to a lot of events at the Cambridge Union which is like a debating society that get policy makers in to speak on key topics
18:21	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	There are far more activities of interest than one can physically be a a part of. From sports clubs in College to Student Interst groups in the college
18:21	Scorpiann	What can you tell us about the college system and what is life like? Are you actually part of University of Cambridge?
18:22	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	You choose a college when you are admitted to JBS. Thats where you live. Each college has its own unique qualities. Being a part of a College is probably the best part of the Cambridge experience. College Dinners get you together with people from all departments.
18:26	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	I am at Darwin where there are quite a few PHd students in the Graphene department and dinner conversations are always lively
18:22	Cambridge_student_Matt	There are 31 colleges that everyone (students, faculty, etc) have to be part of, it is where you get your housing, eat your meals, etc
18:23	Cambridge_student_Matt	part of the fun of it is that you can meet people from outside the MBA really easily and you get to also eat at all the different ones from your friends in the MBA etc and explore the whole university
18:23	Cambridge_student_Matt	so you don't just feel like an MBA student, but you also feel like a key part of a larger Cambridge community
18:27	Narenn	GPA, GMAT, Application Essays, Interview, Work Experience, and Extra Curricular. If you asked to arrange these parameters in the order of their importance at JBS – what would it be?
18:28	Cambridge_student_Matt	I think your essays matter a lot, really thinking about why this program in particular and how it fits what you are looking are key. Since the class is small they really want to build a cohesive class of people who love to collaborate, work on teams, etc
18:29	Cambridge_student_Matt	If you have outside or unique interests, work experience etc, highlight that. Part of what is so great here is the variety of backgrounds so making clear what you have done previously goes a long way
18:28	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Good question - The essay is the most important bit, the interview the next

18:29	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Since they require just one recommendation make sure that the recommender is one who can connect with your long term vision
18:27	KunalSaravya	Could you tell us something about the consulting club at JBS Cambridge? The activities, the type of work the club is involved in?
18:30	Cambridge_student_Matt	Kunal, I think it is one of the most active clubs. I know that they have spent a lot of time on outside case interview prep for people going after consulting jobs
18:31	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	The consulting club is fantastic. Even alums take part in case interview sessions conducted by the consulting club. It's student led though so the experience would differ every year but alums will be available to guide future clubs.
18:31	Narenn	Following on my earlier question: How much importance is given to school visit? Did any of you visit campus before applying?
18:32	Cambridge_student_Matt	I had been to Cambridge, but not to Judge. I don't think you have to visit before you apply. It was really far for me to fly over for it. I know a lot of people did their interview in person (I did not) so that helped them in their decision.
18:32	Cambridge_student_Matt	You don't HAVE to visit to be admitted, but I think a visit can help you in your final decision
18:33	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	I visited the school on an Open day and it helped me a lot. I got more clarity on their focus on Entrepreneurship and met with alums
18:33	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	that helped me in my essays too. I'd recommend a visit, but almost half the class did not visit before joining
18:34	mib_0ozkbs	I have a question about financing the study. What MBA financing options are available to students and how long it would take to pay off the amount, and how would be the job market after MBA so that loan payment could be taken care of?
18:34	Cambridge_student_Matt	I think everyone has a different financing situation. I would look at the finance page of the MBA website because that gives a really good breakdown of the current cost and the options available
18:35	Cambridge_student_Matt	I know it changes a little bit each year
18:35	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	apply early to avail of the scholarships - they have early deadlines
18:35	KunalSaravya	Is there any way for an aspiring student to contact alumni? something like a contact alumni portal or a database of their email IDs?
18:36	mib_0ozkbs	Does applying late reduce the chances of getting scholarships?
18:36	Cambridge_student_Matt	After i was admitted, the school put me in touch with a lot of local alumni and even

		organized a meet and greet for us. The alumni network is huge but I think it makes sense to really speak to them once you are admitted as opposed to before
18:36	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Kunal, i'd encourage contacting alums. What is your industry of interest?
18:37	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	mib_00zkbs yes it does. Some merit based scholarships are available till the end
18:36	mib_pznzn4	how does research experience help in MBA application?
18:38	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	mib_pznzn4 Can you specify what research ?
18:38	KunalSaravya	Consulting
18:39	mib_pznzn4	@Sameer Research on finance & Economics (Portfolio, Monetary System of LLDCs)
18:40	Cambridge_student_Matt	mib_pznzn4, I think it can help. Basically you take so many different kinds of classes on the MBA that in each one someone will be stronger, than others. So research can absolutely help.
18:41	Cambridge_student_Matt	I really believe that if you have a good story to tell (here is what you did before the MBA, here is how the MBA is going to help you for your future goals, etc) then regardless of tyour experience you should be in a good position to apply
18:41	Cambridge_student_Matt	I really believe that if you have a good story to tell (here is what you did before the MBA, here is how the MBA is going to help you for your future goals, etc) then regardless of tyour experience you should be in a good position to apply
18:39	swag	hi, how does financing MBA work ? Do they ask for collateral /sponsors?
18:41	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	swag - See Matt's response above.
18:43	swag	sorry, if the question has been asked.i just jumped in so cant check up.
18:43	Narenn	Swag, I am quoting here Matt's reply "I think everyone has a different financing situation. I would look at the finance page of the MBA website because that gives a really good breakdown of the current cost and the options available"
18:43	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	@swag no problem at all. The JBS site has good info on all financing and scholarship options
18:41	Narenn	How competitive or collaborative have you found your fellow students at JBS? Also How often do you interact with professors outside classroom? How easy it is to do this?
18:43	Cambridge_student_Matt	I have not found people very competitive in the class room (sports is another matter!) but collaboration is the key here. I think most people study in groups to some extent and seek out others who will complement their ability

18:44	Cambridge_student_Matt	Professors are available on email even if they are not around in person between lectures. But they tend to be quite friendly and helpful
18:45	Cambridge_student_Matt	Honestly one of the reasons I came to Judge was that I knew it wouldn't be particularly competitive. It is such a small class that you really want to work with everyone.
18:46	Cambridge_student_Matt	There are even great resources beyond the professors--for example the library for the business school is incredible. They really help us with research, background on companies for applications etc
18:45	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Professors are very accessible. They'd be happy to do one on ones to address issues from class or discuss general problems or even specific ones
18:46	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Classmates are not competitive at all. Its a very collaborative environment.
18:46	swag	one thing , I have my ielts on 9,jan (no earlier date available) but second deadline for submissions is on 8/01, Can anything be done ? like ielts score be submitted later ?
18:47	Cambridge_student_Matt	swag, i would contact admissions about that. They tend to respond quickly
18:47	swag	great
18:50	mib_zalid	what would you say if you ask about one specific feature that all students in JBS have in common?
18:50	Cambridge_student_Matt	They are collaborative and really friendly
18:50	swag	when do we have to submit complete fees ?
18:51	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	swag Just before arriving here. Thats the last thing you do
18:51	swag	arnd august ?
18:52	swag	and anything at the time you are accepted ?
18:52	Cambridge_student_Matt	swag, you pay a two deposits i think and then the final fees are before the program starts
18:53	swag	how much ?
18:53	Narenn	Moderator Note: We will continue for another 5 minutes only. Any last questions?
18:54	swag	commitment fee of 15% of the course fee and financial guarantees that you can meet the costs of the programme
18:54	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	swag the admissions team should be able to clarify that

18:54	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	it might change next year
18:54	swag	non-refundable ?
18:54	swag	ok cool
18:54	Cambridge_student_Matt	I know there is a lot of questions about the financing and the application process, I would check with admission and on the website. There is a ton of information on there, you just have to click the navigation tabs on the left of the MBA site
18:55	swag	yup, too much info
18:56	swag	but nothing about refunds 😊
18:57	swag	thanks matt,sameer
18:58	swag	last ques
18:58	swag	my brother has UK PR, does it help in any way ?
18:59	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	swag No it doesnt
18:59	swag	like avoiding overseas students fee ?
18:59	swag	ok
18:59	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	swag fees are the same for everyone
19:00	swag	ok
19:01	Cambridge_student_Matt	Thanks everyone, great questions! Good luck in your applications!
19:01	Cambridge_Student_Sameer	Concentrate on the essays - the long term goals are important! The interviews are competency based - prepare with examples from your past experience
19:01	Gnph	Thanks Sameer & Matt for your time!!
19:01	Narenn	Thank you very much, Sameer and Matt, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions. Hope you enjoyed the chatting with our community members.
19:01	Narenn	We will publish a condensed transcript of this chat in Cambridge forum in few days.... http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-judge-cambridge-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200762.html
19:01	Narenn	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

19:01 Narenn **Thanks again and have a great day!**

19:01 Cambridge_Student_Sameer **Cheers! Good luck**

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

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/1lecA6z
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/		