

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>

		HAPPENING NOW: Live Q&A with Oxford (Saïd) Admissions Manager - Dan Ryan. Ask your MBA application questions to Dan!!
		Topic set by Narenn on Tue Dec 01 2015 21:25:25 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
21:30	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hello everyone, I'm stepping in for Aidan. Happy to answer your questions
21:31	Narenn	Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club Oxford (Saïd) Q&A session today and a big welcome to Oxford Admissions Team Member, Dan Ryan
21:32	Narenn	Today Dan will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Oxford.
21:32	Narenn	This is final chat session of this season with Oxford Team. So before we begin, I would like to thank Oxford's Admissions Manager, Aidan O'Halloran, on behalf of GMAT Club team for his co-operation and support for making these chats happen.
21:33	Narenn	This chat is now open for Q&A. Please ask your questions to Dan.
21:33	Narenn	Dan, Can you tell us a bit about yourself?
21:33	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hi Narenn, sure thing.
21:35	Dan_Oxford_MBA	I'm an MBA Recruitment Manager here at Oxford Said, originally from Adelaide Australia and most recently worked at the UN. I'm taller than I sound on this forum and there's a bit more on my background and contact details here http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/community/people/dan-ryan
21:36	Firepro	Hi Dan, what would be considered a competitive GMAT score? Is the reference for competitive scores among a particular pool of applicants or for all the applicants?
21:36	Firepro	I meant competitive GMAT score..

21:37	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hi Firepro, a 650 is a competitive score
21:37	Dan_Oxford_MBA	690 is our class average. if you get less than a 600 then it is certainly best to retake it before submitting, but we look at the entire application and the decision is not made on a GMAT score alone. Generally it depends on your undergraduate results as to what a competitive GMAT score is. We require evidence of an ability to keep up with the intellectual rigor of the programme.
21:37	svijayaug12	Hi Dan, Looking at the class profile, I found that the average class profile in terms of the years of experience is around 5 yrs. I am from India and have close to 8.5 years of experience in a technology company. Would this go against my profile?
21:38	svijayaug12	Also, I scored a 680 on the GMAT
21:40	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hi svijayaug12, we frequently have applicants with over 10 years experience
21:40	Dan_Oxford_MBA	it is important that you clearly outline how you have progressed through that time, but it won't work against you. The average age of applicants is 28/29 but we always have students that are significantly older and a decent percentage that are over 35
21:37	Firepro	if I have got 640 and have been asked to get a more competitive GMAT score then what score should I be targeting?
21:42	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Firepro, obviously aim for the highest score you can achieve. it will also depend on your experience
21:38	Firepro	my undergrad is 3.58/4
21:42	Dan_Oxford_MBA	you meet our minimum requirements of a 3.5 or 2:1
21:43	Dan_Oxford_MBA	and providing your experience and application was strong, a 650 may get you across the line
21:38	Narenn	All Newly joined folks: We are chatting with Dan Ryan – Oxford (Saïd) MBA Recruitment Manager. If you have any questions about Oxford's MBA program feel free to ask them to Dan.
21:39	NS13983	Hi Dan. I have submitted my application, and have reported by GPA out of 10. I read in an earlier chat transcript that the GPA needs to be converted to 4. Can you pls. guide on this?

GMAT Club Chat with Oxford (Saïd) Admissions Team

Mr. Dan Ryan – MBA Recruitment Manager

December 01, 2015.

21:41	Firepro	the grey area for me is that i need to achieve "a more competitive score". will getting a score 650 and above suffice if i have a 3.58/4 in undergrad?
21:41	svijayaug12	Ok. Thanks Dan. One more question is are IR scores taken into consideration ?
21:44	Dan_Oxford_MBA	svijayaug12 - we just take your total score into consideration
21:42	Guest38029	Hi Dan. As I am going through the admissions process will I be paired with a member of the admissions team like yourself to whom I can direct questions? If so should I reach out to the admissions team email to connect with someone?
21:46	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Guest38029 - you can reach out to an admissions advisor or recruitment manager for your region (by nationality)
21:46	Dan_Oxford_MBA	let me know your nationality and i can connect you to the right person
21:47	Guest38029	I am American. Thanks very much for your help.
21:49	Dan_Oxford_MBA	You need to connect to Raquel Lison
21:50	Dan_Oxford_MBA	http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/community/people/raquel-lison
21:43	Firepro	i hold a conditional offer and i am required to retake GMAT and get a more competitive score. now i really don't know what to make of this. if I retake and get a 650/660 I may get rejected, right?
21:48	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Firepro -i just checked with admissions. On your profile, all we can really advice is to get the best score you are capable of getting
21:44	mpcroaming	Dan, given the sensitivity of published average gmat scores in world rankings, I was wondering if strategically it would better for students with a weaker gmat score 600-650 to apply with a GRE since GRE averages are not usually published?
21:44	Narenn	Dan, 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
21:46	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Narenn - that's an interesting question. We have actually changed our admissions process slightly when it comes to making a career transition. We are looking for significant research; a post MBA career that is realistic, but also demonstrates a good awareness of the industry you are looking to move into and what specific traits are required; Names or

		ideal organizations, knowledge of how they hire, research of what they look for and an idea of how your skills transfer. All these elements are important.
21:48	rocky1988	Hello dan As a mechanical engineer, I want to use my prior experience in energy/oil and gas. Do we have any such courses in oxford. Thanks
21:52	rocky1988	and i also have a prior experience of an year working with ALSTOM in UK
21:52	rocky1988	how it affects one's profile.
21:54	Dan_Oxford_MBA	rocky1988 - it seems you are early in your research for a suitable course
21:54	Dan_Oxford_MBA	we are talking about the MBA, a general management degree
21:55	Dan_Oxford_MBA	we often have mechanical engineers looking to leverage their technical experience coupled with an MBA to make a transition to a higher role, a new industry or country
21:55	fushoo	How is family business work experience viewed on a CV? I took a 2 year sabbatical from investment banking to run family business
21:56	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hi Fushoo Are you still with the family business?
21:56	Dan_Oxford_MBA	the short answer is that it can be a benefit to your application and demonstrate leadership experience
21:57	fushoo	I'm currently managing it, but on the market to transition back into ib
21:57	Dan_Oxford_MBA	The challenges may be getting a suitable reference that is not a family member. Sometimes, depending on the size and scale of the operations, it can represent a step up. every year we have family business owners in the class
21:59	fushoo	Yes, i do foresee that issue, as I am currently the most senior decision making capacity. In my case it was a step down into a small business
22:00	fushoo	Do you think it would demonstrate entrepreneurial spirit?
22:01	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Fushoo, potentially, you would need to flesh it out in your essays or 'additional information' section
22:01	Dan_Oxford_MBA	we have done some research and have a programme connected to family business (in

		China) http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/execed/leading-transforming-family-businesses-china-%E9%A2%86%E5%AF%BC%E4%B8%8E%E5%8F%98%E9%9D%A9%E5%8D%8E%E4%BA%BA%E5%AE%B6%E6%97%8F%E4%BC%81%E4%B8%9A%E5%85%A8%E7%90%83%E8%AF%BE%E7%A8%8B
21:56	vaidhaichaturvedi	Dan I have expertise in airline domain for about 7.5 years..is there any specialization/program which can help me to get good growth
22:01	Narenn	Dan, what is one thing about Oxford MBA that prospective students will NOT get to know from online resources like the college website or chat rooms?
22:02	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Narenn, when doing research as to a short list of MBA Programmes websites and forums can be helpful
22:02	Dan_Oxford_MBA	but to be honest, nothing beats actually walking around the School, experiencing life in this incredible University
22:03	Dan_Oxford_MBA	it is the conversations you have over dinner (Harry Potter style) in the colleges each night
22:03	Dan_Oxford_MBA	the debates you witness or join in on at the Oxford Union
22:03	Dan_Oxford_MBA	the opportunity to be mixing with future world leaders
22:03	Dan_Oxford_MBA	in a world class University
22:04	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Our MBA Open Days
22:04	Dan_Oxford_MBA	are a good way to experience some of this http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/programmes/degrees/1plus1/events/oxford-mba-open-day-7
22:04	Dan_Oxford_MBA	We include taster lectures as well as the opportunity to have lunch with current students and a free tour of Oxford and the colleges at the end of the day
22:05	Narenn	Thanks Dan!!
22:08	Narenn	I think Oxford sent interview invitations a couple days back. What would be your advice to applicants preparing for the interviews?
22:09	Dan_Oxford_MBA	The interviews are not designed to be intimidating but it is worth preparing by re reading

		your application
22:10	Dan_Oxford_MBA	be especially aware of any weak points or gaps in the CV
22:10	Dan_Oxford_MBA	and also well researched on both the MBA experience at Oxford and what you want to do post MBA
22:10	Dan_Oxford_MBA	it's ok to be open to new opportunities
22:10	Dan_Oxford_MBA	but you need at least a plan A, if not plan B
22:12	Narenn	I have one more question about applications. Can you give us a glimpse of application process? What happens in the background after submitting application until final decision?
22:13	Dan_Oxford_MBA	The admissions team review every application, and make a recommendation through to the admissions committee as to who should be interviewed
22:13	mpcroaming	I have noticed a number of candidates have been provided with acceptance conditional to retaking their GMAT and achieving a higher score. How much time are students normally given in which to do this? Can students offer to take additional pre-courses as an alternative?
22:13	Dan_Oxford_MBA	mpcroaming - the conditional offer is not common actually
22:13	Dan_Oxford_MBA	i think we have just two this year who have qualified for it. but we don't accept pre-courses as an alternative
22:14	mib_81qgzg	For those of us preparing for interviews, can you give us an idea of the types of questions we can expect?
22:15	Narenn	Following on mib_81qgzg's question: Is there any disadvantage in choosing Skype interview over in person in terms of acceptance chances?
22:16	Dan_Oxford_MBA	there is no disadvantage to a Skype interview
22:17	Dan_Oxford_MBA	but if you are close enough, it is always a good experience visiting Oxford
22:17	Dan_Oxford_MBA	the questions will be different depending on the interviewer
22:17	Dan_Oxford_MBA	but there won't be any trick questions

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Mr. Dan Ryan – MBA Recruitment Manager

December 01, 2015.

22:17	fushoo	Are interviewers faculty and alumni?
22:18	Dan_Oxford_MBA	faculty or admissions committee but not alumni
22:18	Dan_Oxford_MBA	it will be along the lines of why you want an MBA, why you have applied to Oxford
22:19	Dan_Oxford_MBA	with a conversation around your strengths
22:19	Dan_Oxford_MBA	and anything else you want to bring up
22:17	Narenn	Dan, what is that one unique thing about Oxford which you are very proud of?
22:20	Dan_Oxford_MBA	the Oxford MBA is unique because it is embedded in a world class university
22:21	Dan_Oxford_MBA	which has been educating generations of leaders for hundreds of years
22:21	R_Kelian	Hi Dan, its definitely interesting to read a LinkedIn profile of someone who had been shortlisted for space travel! I saw that you quite a bit of experience in the social enterprise sphere too. I am looking to utilise the time and course at Oxford to build a platform into this career as well. As you answered Narenn's question before for a career change, could
22:21	R_Kelian	could you enlighten me as to what specifics you would be looking at in such a case and where exactly could one highlight them given that there is just one essay.
22:22	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hi R_Kelian, thanks for looking through my profile. Unfortunately I didn't end up being selected to space travel but it went to a very deserving winner! I was there in Bangkok last week at One Young World when he was selected.
22:23	Dan_Oxford_MBA	good to hear you are looking to transition into social enterprise
22:23	Dan_Oxford_MBA	a very rewarding career path
22:23	Dan_Oxford_MBA	I wouldn't put too much pressure to cram it all into the essay
22:23	Dan_Oxford_MBA	instead use the questions about your career plans (recently added) to go into more detail here
22:26	fushoo	Is there quota's for regional geographic selection? I'm from Africa and I hear Oxford does like candidates from the continent

22:27	R_Kelian	Sounds good. Thanks for the input!
22:27	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Hi Fushoo, make sure you reach out to Tammy
22:28	Dan_Oxford_MBA	but there is not regional quotas
22:28	Dan_Oxford_MBA	http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/community/people/tammy-brophy
22:29	mib_81qgzg	Thank you, Dan!
22:29	Narenn	Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today.
22:29	Dan_Oxford_MBA	Thanks R_Kelian and others for all your questions. Happy to connect on LinkedIn and all the very best to you all https://uk.linkedin.com/in/danieljoshuarian
22:29	Narenn	Thank you very much, Dan, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions. Hope you enjoyed chatting with us.
22:29	Narenn	We will publish summary of this chat in Oxford forum in few days. http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-said-oxford-applicants-2016-intake-classof-200760.html
22:30	Narenn	Thanks again everyone and good luck!!

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/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/		