

Cornell Adcom Members Participated in this Session:

- Chelsea Hann, Associate Director of Admissions
 - Jade Kinsman, Assistant Director of Admissions
 - Jeremy Kinsman, Assistant Director of Admissions
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- Cornell Class of 2022 Discussion: <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-cornell-johnson-mba-applicants-2020-intake-class-of-299646.html>
 - Cornell Decision Tracker: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/johnson-198/decision-tracker.html>
 - Cornell Reviews: https://gmatclub.com/reviews/business_school/cornell-johnson-16
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Moderator: Hello Everyone, Thanks for joining us in today's chat session with Cornell admissions team. Today we are joined by...

- Chelsea Hann, Associate Director of Admissions
- Jade Kinsman, Assistant Director of Admissions
- Jeremy Kinsman, Assistant Director of Admissions

I welcome all adcom members in this chat session and request them to introduce themselves before starting the Q&A round.

Chelsea: Hi everyone! I'm Chelsea Hann, Associate Director of Admissions at Johnson. Thanks for joining us today. We're looking forward to answering your questions.

Jade: Hi everyone! Thanks for joining us, I'm Jade Kinsman, Assistant Director of Admissions.

Jeremy: Hello All, My name is Jeremy and I am also an Assistant Director with the Admissions team for Johnson. We look forward to chatting and answering your questions today!

How does technology recruitment and networking works? Do we companies visit campus or students travel ?

Chelsea: Good question! Recruiting at Johnson is a blend of on campus and off campus recruiting. Many tech companies do come to Ithaca to recruit, though we also have a few treks to the West Coast and NYC to visit companies. I would encourage you to look into the company you're hoping to work for and research their recruitment format!

Hi, if I haven't led a team at any of my jobs or frontlined any projects, what are the alternatives I could focus on to elaborate on my leadership qualities in the essay?

Jeremy: Any leadership roles within college, volunteering or community agencies are good options.

Chelsea: Leadership is something that is a large focus in business school, and we have a really strong leadership curriculum! It's not a requirement that you have formal leadership experience before matriculating, but we do want to see leadership potential. Highlight achievements, awards, projects that you've worked on, cross functional teams, etc. Also, anything related to community or volunteer work can be helpful as well.

I have read in a few forums that the 2 year Cornell MBA is one of the best MBA programs for people who intend to takeover their family business. Please can you help shed more light on this. Especially from the viewpoint of electives that will help with this and also how the MBA will work alongside the Smith Family Business Initiative at Cornell as I am unable to get information from the official site.

Jade: We have many students come to us from family businesses, and we have courses available of interest to those in family businesses, as well as our Family Business Club, an annual conference, and the Smith Family Business Initiative. I would encourage you to reach out to the club and initiative to learn more from our students! They can help provide a lot of information to you on these options.

Can you elaborate on the MBA interview? What are the qualitative characteristics that the adcom is looking for...etc.

Chelsea: Our interviews are meant to be conversational and are an opportunity for the admissions team to learn more about you. The interview is a great place to let your

personality, passions, and interests come through. Treat it as a professional interview (because it is), but don't be afraid to be yourself! We want to learn more about your story. Be sure to do homework on the program beforehand, and come prepared with questions at the end!

I am one of the One-Year MBA program applicants. I am wondering for those applicants admitted in prior years who don't have a lot of work experiences, what are the key qualifications that made them stand out to the admission committee?

Chelsea: Hi! It can be helpful for candidates who are early in their careers to highlight the value they would bring to the classroom and their teams- much of business school learning is from your peers! Focus on quality over quantity.

I have a question regarding the marketing association. Could you elaborate on the events that the club conducts apart from career treks and other recruiting oriented events that will help students prepare for roles in marketing specifically for someone from a non marketing background?

Jade: Hello! Our curriculum and immersion learning program helps prepare students for the transition by providing hands on experience and working on projects in class. I would encourage you to reach out to those in the Marketing Association as well to talk about their experiences!

Chelsea: Also check out our annual Marketing Executive Coaching Program! [https://business.cornell.edu/hub/2018/1 ... ts-alumni/](https://business.cornell.edu/hub/2018/1...ts-alumni/)

Hello, Me and my wife both plan to apply to Cornell MBA. We are both individually competitive Candidates. Does the fact, that we are a couple, diminishes our chances of acceptance? Thank you.

Jeremy: No, being a couple in no way diminishes your chances. In general, Johnson is very supportive of partners and spouses; they even have their own club on campus called Joint Ventures.

I have a question regarding the interview invites for the two year MBA program (2020 intake). Does the admissions committee send out interview invites for Round - 1 applicants on the 15 November 2019 or is it done so on a rolling basis?

Jade: Great question! We do send out interview invitations on a rolling basis up until the initial notification date of November 15. So it's possible to receive an invite anytime through the 15th.

Does Johnson admit second MBAs who are looking to advance their careers?

Chelsea: Our students come from diverse backgrounds and educational experiences, and we have had students with MBAs in the program. It may be helpful to explain in the optional essay why you are pursuing a second.

How demanding can the course work be throughout the 2 years of MBA?

Chelsea: Academics are taken seriously at Johnson and the curriculum can be rigorous. Candidates sometimes choose to pursue a pre-MBA quant bootcamp or other online course to prepare for business school.

What happened to the Hot Truck?

Jeremy: Unfortunately the Hot Truck is no longer, but Louie's Lunch is still available on West Campus. I think it came down to zoning and costs for food trucks as they became more popular. I will certainly miss the PMP!

I heard from graduates of the Tech MBA program that they do not feel they have the same level of access to the full Cornell alumni network and do not benefit from the full Cornell brand as the Ithaca-based programs. What is Cornell doing to address this?

Jade: We haven't received feedback on this yet, though unfortunate to hear. I would certainly encourage you to reach out to the Tech Admissions office with further questions about this if you'd like. However, the Career Management Center resources at the Tech campus are available to students, and they can help assist in providing introductions with

alums or our Office of Alumni Affairs can always assist with connecting students with alums as well. The Cornell alumni network is large and all over the world, and typically always accessible to those in the network.

Can you speak to the opportunities Johnson offers for prospective students interested in social/impact investing?

Chelsea: We have lots of opportunities for social impact at Cornell at both Johnson and the undergrad level- take a look at these resources!

[https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/center- ... s-program/](https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/center-social-program/)

<https://www.cornellimpactinvesting.org/>

Are International MBA applicants with advanced degrees eligible for one year MBA program or the candidate is expected to work in US at the time of applying for one year MBA.

Jeremy: Yes, they are eligible as long as that they meet the English requirements and no the candidate does not have to be working in the US to apply.

What in your opinion is your program's biggest asset?

Jade: Our immersion learning program is very strong here, as it helps students to build the skills and knowledge they need to prepare them for their post MBA job. Also our community! Johnson has a close knit collaborative community which is invaluable as well.

I have heard repeatedly that adcoms take into consideration your ability to achieve your goals. However, you have students applying from different backgrounds. How do you evaluate student resumes and students' chances when these students come from different backgrounds, considering these different applicants have similar post-MBA career goals

Chelsea: Many full time two-year MBA students are looking to transition industry, function, or both, so changing careers is common. We will do our best to support you in your career search, though ultimately, it is the student's responsibility. Candidates should have clear

goals with well thought out strategies for recruiting and resources that you want to take advantage of to help with your transition.

An important aspect of any MBA program is the clubs and societies. Since the Cornell clubs/societies are all based in Ithaca, would students choosing the Tech MBA be missing out on these crucial opportunities?

Jade: There is limited options to be able to join any clubs at the Tech campus, so it's true you wouldn't have the same club opportunities as those based in Ithaca. However, I would encourage you to ask those Tech alums you've spoken to about their options as students. You can also reach out to current Tech students as well.

Would one of the immersion programmes that Johnson has be helpful in advancing career goals if the MBA candidate has no prior experience in that particular area?

Chelsea: The immersions are ideal for this purpose! It's a great way to gain hands on experience in a new industry in advance of your internship.

For the back of the resume essay, candidates have an option for a video. If I am very involved in community and have impacted some lives significantly, is it okay to include snippets from the people whose lives I have impacted?

Chelsea: We encourage you to be creative with this submission! Include whatever you think is helpful for the admissions committee to know about you in your video.

I am an international student interested in finance .How is Cornell's recruiting for private equity jobs and Investment banking for internationals considering the tighter restrictions on firms hiring non-US natives

Jeremy: Our students generally do well in placement, but in order to be successful we encourage students to be flexible on the bank/firm and the location. We encourage students to do research on the different firms, so they know more specifically what they are looking for in new hires. Here is a link to our latest 2 yr employment report: [https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/career- ... year-mbas/](https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/career-...year-mbas/)

If a candidate does not come from a corporate or industrial background what are the basic skills that you recommend she take on prior to joining the programme?

Chelsea: We look for leadership, communication, and teamwork abilities as interpersonal skills for our incoming students and for academics we want to see strong analytical and quantitative skills to make sure that you can successfully handle the core coursework.

Moderator: I think that is all our questions! Jeremy, Jade, and Chelsea, thank you for being here today and answering our questions! This has been very helpful

Chelsea: Thanks everyone! Great questions today. Please feel free to follow up with us with other questions: mba@johnson.cornell.edu.

Jade: Thanks for joining us today!

Jeremy: Very welcome, thanks for having us!! Good luck to you all.