



Texas Executive MBA Virtual Chat Transcript January 23, 2012 12-1 p.m.

Kurt Mitschke: Welcome to the Texas Executive MBA Admissions Office Hours Chat. Please review the notes to the left side of the screen. We will start accepting questions at 12 pm CST.

Kurt Mitschke: We're ready to get started now. Please use the Q&A box to enter your questions.

Shane: I don't have a softcopy of my undergrad transcript - is it acceptable to take a digital picture for the informal/unofficial transcript submission online?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: Shane - Thanks for your question. Yes, this is fine for the unofficial upload. Just be sure it is legible and all-inclusive (meaning that it captures every class). If you're admitted to the program, you will then need to provide official copies.

June: Do many people commute to the EMBA program from surrounding areas or does everyone mostly live/work in Austin?

Bethany Thomason, MBA Admissions: Hi June. About 30-40% of our Executive MBA students commute from outside of Austin, several of these students from Houston and Dallas.

Matthew Benson: Do you have any information on expected salaries before and after going through the MBA program. I am trying to get a feel for the ROI of going through the EMBA program.

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: This isn't something we track, as everyone's definition of 'return' is different. A recent graduating class indicated that their salaries increased by 1/3 while in the program, but that was an average. Surely not everyone's salary did experience an increase, nor was that everyone's goal. In short, I would hate to make any promises. Too much is out of our control, such as the degree to which students take advantage of what we offer.

Nell Kennedy: Re: the GMAT. In the information session that I attended, John indicated that if an applicant looks good, but their GMAT score is less than desirable, the applicant will be advised to take the test again. At what point would that recommendation occur? After the full application is fully submitted or while it's in progress?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: Hi Nell - Thanks for your question. This could happen at any point in the application process. If we feel your file can be improved by a higher score, we will try to let you know as soon as possible as to give you enough time to study and retake.

June: Does everyone who applies get an interview or do you have to be invited to interview? Who conducts the interviews?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Everyone who is admitted is interviewed, but not everyone who applies is interviewed.

Shane: How long does it tend to take to get the official GMAT results delivered to the University? Trying to schedule the test, but don't want it to be too late for an admission deadline.

Bethany Thomason, MBA Admissions: Hi Shane. We can accept your unofficial GMAT scores and consider your application complete at that time. We will still need your official GMAT scores, but not in order to move forward with your application.

Kori: Good afternoon. I have a question regarding the letters of recommendation. Is there information I can send to my evaluators (ahead of the email trigger in the application) to help them to know what to expect?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: Kori - your recommenders can either fill out our form or send in a free-form letter. The form asks questions such as how they know you, leadership skills, etc. If they want to see the exact questions prior to getting the email, we can send you a copy of the questions in advance.

Shane: In the on-line application, "work experience" section, my current employer shows up as "Employment History Item #1". That leads me to believe that I should enter previous employment as well, but I don't see the option to do so. Please advise?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: Shane - In the online application, we ask you to enter your current employer information only. We look at your resume to give us info on all past employers.

June: What is the minimum amount of work experience required to be eligible for the Executive MBA program?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: June - The minimum # of years work experience is 5 while the average is around 14.

Matthew Benson: Is there any program available for those who are not able to attend classes on Fridays because of job requirements?

Bethany Thomason, MBA Admissions: Hi Matthew. We also have the Evening MBA program which is considered a working professional program. This program has a minimum of 2 years work experience and the average is 6 years. The classes take place on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 6-9pm, and this is a 33 month long program.

Curtis: What is the best round to apply in?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: Curtis - I wouldn't wait until the final deadline - last year, we were full at the final deadline. It's definitely better to apply earlier rather than later as there are more seats available earlier in the season. We operate on a rolling admissions system, meaning we review and make decisions on applications in order of receipt. This means you do not have to wait for a particular deadline to apply - go ahead and apply as soon as you feel you've prepared the strongest file possible.

Suresh Prajapati: Hi, can anyone please update me with the application deadlines? Thanks!

Bethany Thomason, MBA Admissions: Hi Suresh. You can see the deadlines on our website: <http://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/MBA/EMBA/Admissions/Apply.aspx>

Matthew Benson: Is there easy access to campus and parking for class days that fall on UT football home games?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Parking is in the building in which we have class. Since you get to class before 8am, I have never heard of there being an issue.

June: Is the EMBA faculty the same that teach in the full-time MBA program?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: June - yes, the faculty that teach in the executive and professional MBA programs are the same that teach in our full-time program.

Curtis: Do students in the EMBA program get to participate in MBA+ projects?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Yes they do, on a purely voluntary basis. MBA+ projects are a wonderful opportunity to gain experience in an area that may be lacking on your resume, or to bring a team of EMBA students to your own organization to work on a project that may lack the necessary resources.

June: How much time is required on average per week for the program, outside of the classroom (for studying, homework, etc)?

Shannon Chapman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions: June - it will vary based on your study habits and will also vary from semester-to-semester, but I would say on average you can expect to spend anywhere from 20-25 hours outside of class time preparing for your classes. This includes group work, studying, reading, etc.

Matthew Benson: From your experience, how do employers value an EMBA in relation to a full-time MBA?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Both programs receive the same degree, so in that sense, it won't make any difference whatsoever.

June: Do EMBA students get any assistance from the career management team or have access to any resources?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Our career management team helps students with career management; either enhancing their career within their current organization or looking for a position in another organization.

Neil: Can EMBA students concentrate in different areas?

Bethany Thomason, MBA Admissions: Hi Neil - the EMBA program is considered a general management MBA program, with no concentrations. You do, however, have the opportunity to take 6 elective hours throughout the duration of the program.

Kurt Mitschke: JUST A REMINDER THAT WE HAVE 10 MINTUES LEFT - THIS CHAT WILL END AT 1 PM. BE SURE TO GET YOUR QUESTIONS IN.

Nell Kennedy: What is the start date for the upcoming fall entry semester?

Bethany Thomason, MBA Admissions: Hi Nell - you can actually view the class of 2014 program calendar here:

<http://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/MBA/EMBA/~media/Files/MSB/MBA/EMBA/Program%20Calendar%20C2014.ashx>

Kurt Mitschke: WE'RE GOING TO WRAP UP THIS SESSION NOW. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS THAT DID NOT GET ANSWERED TODAY, PLEASE EMAIL US. THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR ONLINE CHAT!