Yale School of Management

Application Tips Chat

August 27, 2013

som.yale.edu
CHAT LOGISTICS

• This is an audio presentation
  – Make sure your speakers are turned on or you’re using a headset
  – If you have audio issues, try resetting your connection

• The audio will be one-way
  – You will be able to hear the presentation but will not be able to speak

• If you have questions, use the chat function on your screen
  – But please make sure your questions are generally relevant and have not already been addressed in the chat
  – Wait to ask questions related to the topic we are discussing
TOPICS TO BE COVERED

• Academic Record
• Work Experience
• Activities
• Essays
• Recommendations
• Test Scores
• Video Questions
• General Strategy Advice
Educating leaders for business and society
A new model for global collaboration

Traditional model

Global Network for Advanced Management model

INTERNATIONAL PARTNER SCHOOLS

LEADING BUSINESS SCHOOL

Yale School of Management
# First Year Overview

## FALL 2013

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## SPRING 2014

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FROM APPLICANT TO STUDENT

3,000 applicants

Yale SOM

1. Deeply integrated with Yale
2. Distinctively global
3. Best source of leaders for an increasingly complex world
4. Students who are broad-minded and intellectually curious

300 students
ACADEMIC RECORD

• Used to gauge potential for academic success
• We look beyond just the overall GPA
• By now, largely set in place
  – Consider taking additional classes if your quantitative profile needs enhancing
• Make sure we have your academic transcripts
  – You can upload copies online; no need to send us official versions
  – If you attended more than one school, upload all transcripts unless your grades from one school are on another transcript
WORK EXPERIENCE

• Predictor of post-MBA career success
• Lay out your career path for us
  – Help us understand motivations and transitions
• RESUME:
  – Keep it to one to two pages
  – Focus on achievements rather than merely responsibilities
  – Highlight leadership and strategic thinking experience
  – Include activities and interests
  – Should be clean, clear, and easy to read
  – No typos!
ACTIVITIES

• What do you do outside of work?
• Shows level of engagement and “citizenship behavior”
• You don’t need to overwhelm us with activities
  – We understand that work takes up a lot of time
  – You don’t need to have cured cancer in your spare time
• Don’t do it just to look good for the application
  – Activities should be things that genuinely interest you
• Does it reinforce/validate your career goals?
ESSAYS

• Take time to think and outline before you write
• Answer the questions!
• Write about what’s important to you; don’t try to guess what we want to hear
  – This is an opportunity to differentiate yourself
• Remember: This is a business school application, not your personal diary
• Have family and friends read the essays
  – But don’t let anyone edit the essays for you
• Use the optional essay if you have anything to add
RECOMMENDATIONS

• Choose recommenders who know you well
• Don’t just choose based on title
• Make sure they can write a strong recommendation for you (ask them!)
• Discuss future plans with recommenders
  – But don’t give your recommenders anything you’ve written
• Give recommenders time to complete the recommendation
TESTING

• No English language test (TOEFL/IELTS/PTE) requirement
• No preference for GMAT or GRE
• Don’t take GMAT or GRE cold
• Ideally, leave enough time to take the exam again (if you choose) before the deadline
• Look at the quant and verbal section breakdown, not just your overall score
  – Make sure there is some rough balance between sections
• Forward official score reports to Yale SOM (school codes 3TJ-BX-45 (GMAT) and 3986 (GRE))
VIDEO QUESTIONS

• An opportunity for you to speak directly to us
• Helps us gauge qualities that may not come through on paper and “meet” people we may not otherwise hear from
• Consists of three questions to answer in interview-like fashion
• Questions are behavioral in nature – past experiences and decisions – as well as one “thought question”
• No trick questions or attempts to stump you; questions will be straightforward
  • No separate preparation necessary. You will be prepared for them by having gone through the application process and thought about your past experiences, successes and failures, and why you want an MBA.
GENERAL STRATEGY

• Start application process early to avoid rushing
• Two keys:
  – Choose your recommenders wisely
  – Pay attention to the essays
• Make sure your quantitative skills show through
• Don’t hide from your weaknesses
• Be yourself to stand out