

McDonough School of Business
Consulting Chat
December 9, 2009

Raja_MBA Student

Hi everyone, My name is Raj, I am 2nd year MBA student, I come from an accounting background, and post MBA I look forward to getting into Strategy Consulting. I'm from New Hampshire and am a diehard Red Sox fan!

Alex_MBA Student

Hey everyone! Just to introduce myself, I am a first year MBA coming from a background in corporate finance. I am looking to switch careers and I plan to pursue strategy and operations consulting.

Grace_MBA Student

Hi everyone! I'm a first year MBA as well and worked in investment banking for three years in NYC. Before I started here at MSB I also worked in nonprofit for a year. I'm looking to pursue a career in strategy/management consulting.

Raja_MBA Student

We would be happy to take your questions

Subhadip

Hello everyone, I am Subhadip from Bangalore, India. Can you please briefly mention some of the activities taken up by consulting club?

Natalie Fabe

Hi Raja and other current students -- can you tell us a little bit about your experience so far with the consulting track at Georgetown? For second-year students, did you do an internship in consulting over the summer?

Raja_MBA Student

To address the internship question...I worked for a small government consulting firm in DC

Natalie Fabe

Raja -- that sounds interesting. What kind of work did you do with the small government consulting firm? Did you enjoy it? Do you plan to work for the same company after graduation?

Raja_MBA Student

Thanks Natalie for attending today -- I did mostly an IT project working on the implementation at a government agency, I am not going back to that firm because I want to work for a larger firm

Natalie Fabe

Raja -- thanks. Was your background in IT? Why did you decide to get into consulting?

Raja_MBA Student

I wanted to get into consulting because I really enjoy working with clients and solving their problem, I also love the dynamic nature of the work -- yes I had an IT background

Ash

Just to get a sense of who's hosting the chat: Since, this is a consulting chat, are you all members of GSCG?

Alex_MBA Student

Ash, yes, we are all members of GSCG

MattC

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us. Which consulting firms hire the most McDonough grads and what sectors do grads tend to go into?

Alex_MBA Student

Matt C, due to our location in the heart of the Federal Government, a large number of grads go to public consulting. Firms in that areas include Deloitte and Booz Allen Hamilton.

Igor Mamut

Can you guys address the current state recruitment at Georgetown? Has the economic downturn played a significant impact on consulting recruiting? What consulting opportunities are available in terms of focus (strategy, ops, risk, financial, etc?) Who are the major recruiters on campus?

Raja_MBA Student

As regards to the economic downturn, in my opinion has not hurt us that much, the same firms are still recruiting and offering jobs

Alex_MBA Student

Igor, I would say that the current economy has been a boon to consulting hires in DC (the federal area is growing strong), which is a plus for Georgetown. Grace mentioned the major companies, but the Federal practices recruit for all areas.

Grace_MBA Student

Major recruiters on campus include Deloitte, Booz Allen Hamilton, Price Waterhouse Cooper, FBI

Ash

What types of professional backgrounds are represented in your group; is it mostly management consultants or fairly diverse?

Grace_MBA Student

GSCG has been great- we are all active members and participate in the many events/activities throughout the year including consulting day/consulting week/chats like this/informational sessions

jimeet

Hi all current students... the consulting corps arranges a set of 5 students to work with a company for about 10 weeks... do sufficient companies take part in it such that all interested students get a chance to work on that

Grace_MBA Student

Jimeet- consulting corps starts next year. We are currently working with firms to come up with projects for students to get involved in

Subhadip

Thank you Grace. Are all of these initiated and led by students?

Jen

How many members are in GSCG? How large is the club compared to other clubs at Georgetown?

Alex_MBA Student

Jen, there are approximately 160 members between 1st and 2nd years. We are one of the largest, about the same size as Finance club.

Nick

Could you speak to some of the specific projects that you consulted on for your internship?

ashu

What are the opportunities does Georgetown offer to someone looking to get into Technology Consulting after MBA??

Alex_MBA Student

Ashu, a number of large and small consulting firms come to Georgetown for their Tech consulting areas.

Subhadip

How much does the faculty get involved in these activities?

Raja_MBA Student

Faculty can get involved with consulting club if students request them

Raja_MBA Student

All the consulting club events are student run

JP

Can you list some of the best courses you've had? Also which courses have specifically helped as it relates to consulting?

Raja_MBA Student

JP - thanks for coming, Consulting is such a broad market all courses help -- I specifically recommend Finance -- Measuring and Creating Value, and Advanced Marketing Strategy

Sarah

For the second years, what classes from your first year did you find most useful/relevant during the internship?

Raja_MBA Student

Finance - Measuring and Creating Value is the best class at Georgetown hands down

Raja_MBA Student

It is taught by Prof Pinkowitz who is one of the best professors at this school

Jen

Thanks Alex. So how much of your time would you say is dedicated to club activities? (Are any of the GSCG board members on the chat today? Apologies if I missed the intros.)

Alex_MBA Student

Jen, I will take over as the Director of Career Development in January. Raja just led the Consulting Trek this fall. I would say that there are numerous ways to stay involved, but general activity for GSCG members is only a few hours each month. That can vary depending on what you want.

ElynnChen

What is Georgetown's primary consulting focus? How about the placement in the function of strategy consulting?

Grace_MBA Student

People are really interested in all different areas of consulting- it, risk, ops, strategy, human capital

Ash

Is the consulting corps like an internship? Paid/unpaid? Of the 160 members how many actually participate as part of the corps?

Ash

And how are you selected for consulting assignments (as part of the corps)?

SMS

Hi, can you please discuss the resources that are available for case interview preparation and how the career center is involved in helping obtain and prepare for consulting interviews?

Grace_MBA Student

Case interview prep is certainly available- through the club or career management

Grace_MBA Student

You can also do mock interviews and resume reviews

Matt C

What informed your decision to attend G-town?

Alex_MBA Student

Matt C, I chose Georgetown due to its brand, location and collaborative learning style. Their emphasis on case based study is also a major attraction.

Pete

Do many strategy consulting firms hire at Georgetown? Are there firms that offer international engagement opportunities?

ElynnChen

Any projects on management consulting? Could you please give us a case you've solved? Thanks

vishal

thanks raja

ashu

Thanks Alex for the reply... also what activities does the consulting club offer to help students know more about the industry and the role they plan to do after MBA?

Alex_MBA Student

Ashu, there are a number of ways that GSCG and career management communicate about the industry. These include Consulting Day, Consulting Trek, informationals, company presentations..... In addition, alumni and second years are extremely helpful.

Raja_MBA Student

Consulting Day is an event that takes place in the first MOD that really allows students to learn about the industry and network with some of the major firms in DC

Raja_MBA Student

Consulting Week is a more focused event which allows students to prepare for interviews and visit specific firms they are targeting

Subhadip

Current students, Can one of you please share what are the long term career prospects in consulting? Do people return to industry post their stints with consulting?

Grace_MBA Student

At MSB as at most schools there are many career "switchers" and many career "enhancers" as well.

Jen

How would you all rate the depth and quality of Georgetown alum at the major consulting firms?

Alex_MBA Student

Jen, this depends on what you mean by "major". Size wise, Deloitte, IBM, etc are larger globally (and very interactive with current students) and if you mean the MBB (McKinsey, Bain, Booz), there are a number of Georgetown Alums, but not necessarily MBAs.

Jen

Thanks Alex. That answers my question--just wanted to get a feel for how widespread Georgetown alum are in the consulting world generally, and it sounds like they're everywhere. :)

Alex_MBA Student

Jen, you're right, between undergrad and MBA alumni, we have a wide network. The undergrad alumni are also very willing to speak with us.

Robyn

I am a consultant in NYC right now and I am thinking about getting my MBA. Can you talk about your decision to do a full time MBA instead of part time? I guess all of you are doing career switches so that makes sense. I am worried about interrupting my career going full time but I really want to complete experience as a full time student.

Grace_MBA Student

I was in the same boat as you Robyn

Grace_MBA Student

I wanted to get my MBA and knew that I wanted to do it full time- while I'm biased, I think part time is extremely challenging in terms of balancing time on top of not really getting the full experience

Grace_MBA Student

of course it's painful not to receive a bi-weekly paycheck anymore though!

vishal

Raja, can you name few major consulting firms of DC

ElynnChen

How could G-town consulting career track help for a person who's already in the industry?

Raja_MBA Student

Elynn, thanks for asking the question, I think with the Georgetown brand you open yourself up to many opportunities, and the courses can augment your career

Dan

One of my central career interests is general management/internal consulting/corporate business development - does the GSCG support these career paths in addition to more traditional, external consulting tracks?

JP

Can you mention how international students have fared with consulting recruiting?

Raja_MBA Student

I think most consulting firms (not government related) hire a good number of internationals

Carol

how do the career tracks affect your Georgetown experience? will selecting consulting over general mgt produce a very different skill set upon graduation? and, do you feel that the career tracks heavily affect your post grad opportunities?

Alex_MBA Student

Carol, the career treks offer some advantages to those who are looking to pursue a career in the industry, but they do not preclude a student from changing that decision later. The major influence of the trek will be the depth of industry knowledge, contacts in the industry and the network with current students interested in that area.

Subhadip

Please shed some light on long term prospects of consulting as a career.

Grace_MBA Student

Georgetown is a "general management" MBA program which means you are not required to choose a specific sector/concentration

Grace_MBA Student

this is one of the main reasons I am here- the breadth of courses and flexibility is great- you learn so much about so many different things

Ash

Anybody here pursuing the International Business Diplomacy (IBD) certificate? How difficult/competitive is it to cross-register with the School of Foreign Service? My background is in private equity and am thinking of switching to an international career with organizations such as the World Bank or International Finance Corporation - does the IBD help for this?

Grace_MBA Student

IBD would be beneficial for almost any consulting position you pursue

Grace_MBA Student

that being said none of us are going for it

Grace_MBA Student

it's a very rigorous certificate that does not enable you to take other electives but at the same time it's obviously a very great thing to have on your resume

Raja_MBA Student

Dan, sorry to miss your question, but yes GSCG has relationships with other types of consulting

Raja_MBA Student

Internal, Government, bus development

JP

How helpful have Georgetown MBA alumni been?

Raja_MBA Student

JP -- Alumni have been invaluable to my career search

Raja_MBA Student

they have helped me immensely regardless of the firm

JP

Raja can you give examples as to how alumni have helped you?

Raja_MBA Student

JP - alum at a firm who does not recruit here at Georgetown put me in touch with important people who led to me getting an interview, I would not have gotten that without him

Raja_MBA Student

Also the small firm I worked for was started by a Georgetown alum

Sashisekharan

Hi.. I am looking for a career in IT Strategy Consulting. What kind of profiles can a student expect after graduation? I have 4 years in IT and 6 months in International Systems Consultancy. Realistically speaking, I don't expect myself to jump into the Big three. I am looking for profiles in the bigger IT companies after graduation. How helpful will Georgetown be in helping me towards that career? Is sustainability a strength in Georgetown? I am not worried about the breadth of learning. How much depth does the consulting program provide?

Shash

for career switchers in the program would you say it's difficult for one to enter a consulting career in an area in which one doesn't have expertise, like a change from IT to non-profit mgmt?

Raja_MBA Student

I think recruiters and companies realize that MBAs are switching functions and careers, you should highlight what you are gaining from your MBA

Saad

so what consulting companies actively recruit at Georgetown?

JP

How have the new facilities helped?

Raja_MBA Student

The new facilities are awesome!

Raja_MBA Student

you guys will love it

Alex_MBA Student

Shash, difficult could be a general term. What kind of non-career experiences do you have in the area of interest? There are a lot of ways to apply your background to the industry focus that you want.

Jimmy F

Could you guys tell us about any summer internships you participated - how was the experience and how did Georgetown help you prepare for them?

Prats

Are internships necessary for part-time students?

Alex_MBA Student

Prats, part timers do not need to have an internship.

Rishu Chaudhary

Which companies recruit for IT consultants specifically?

Alex_MBA Student

Rishu, all of the major companies have Tech areas. It's a matter of researching the company and taking action to go to that area.

Knight

I would like to know if the MBA would help make a great career change/not? I'm a business analyst working for a computer major already, Do you think doing an MBA can get me into Senior Level Manager with 8 years or exp? Or would it make more sense to invest 3 more years in the company to get that position??

Raja_MBA Student

I think an MBA is an individual decision; you need to make sure it makes sense for your career

Ash

Thanks Grace - just out of curiosity, does the School of Foreign Service competitiveness have anything to do with folks not pursuing the IBD or is it just a matter of different priorities?

Grace_MBA Student

I would say definitely a different matter of priorities

Grace_MBA Student

I considered it myself but with all the different options/clubs/etc that are available I opted not to

JP

Name 1 thing you would want improved in the MBA program?

Raja_MBA Student

1 improvement -- better relationships with the other grad programs at Georgetown (School of Foreign Service, Law, Public Policy)

Ash

What about the consulting corps? Is that a subset of GSCG?

Raja_MBA Student

Consulting Corps is not a part of GSCG...sorry we do not have all the info

Raja_MBA Student

But Consulting Corps is a program allowing students to get work experience with a firm while in school

Sarah

Grace and Alex, at what stage are you in right now, with regard to internship recruiting? What has the process been like?

Dan

What role does the consulting club play in consulting case competitions and other learning opportunities outside of the classroom. I competed in many such cases in undergrad and I think there were extremely helpful in rounding out my education - are there many such opportunities at Georgetown MBA?

Raja_MBA Student

The GSCG is hosting its first case competition in April, and supports members participating in other case comps

Alex_MBA Student

Dan, there are a number of case competitions for which Georgetown is a contestant. Each one is slightly different in how students take part. GSCG is organizing our own competition here in April.

Pawas

How is the contribution of Georgetown alumni in the program?

Jen

What kinds of things are you all looking to do next year to help make the club better?

Alex_MBA Student

Jen, we are working to create a Georgetown Case book, increase corporate contacts, increase the number of company site visits. We are also looking for better ways to share consulting project opportunities between clubs.

Knight

Alright.. Raja/Grace, then I would like to rephrase my questions in a diff way. How many alumni have you seen graduating directly to work in Senior Management position?? How about your own job prospects to move into a Senior role if you carry 8 years of exp?

Grace_MBA Student

knight- that's a hard question to answer. a company will consider the experience you had prior to business school as well as your credentials at MSB

Pawas

Raja what are the opportunities available as soon as you become part of consulting group?

Raja_MBA Student

Pawas, once you join the club, it is up to you how involved you want to be, there are always events that need people to help

Aqeel

Raja, if a specific Consulting company does not recruit from Georgetown, how does the Consulting Club help that student in getting into that specific company?

Raja_MBA Student

if a company does not recruit here, we will try to connect you with alumni in that company, you can also work with career management on that

Rishu

I am interested in doing consulting for non-profit. How would Georgetown MBA program help me?

Pawas

How many of your peers took a sabbatical before joining MBA?

Raja_MBA Student

I think everyone takes time off, it's a personal decision though, so for me I took 1 month off to rest

Dan Brooks

Hi Raja, Jen, and Alex... you might have addressed this earlier, but how strong are Georgetown's connections with consulting firms outside of DC? Have seen a lot of talk so far about Booz, IBM, government firms, etc... which is great, but what are the prospects for someone who might want to end up somewhere else on the east coast? Do the treks play a large role in that?

Alex_MBA Student

Dan, there are a number of firms which are in DC that hire for other locations. There is a strong pull to places like NY and Boston. I believe a few of this year's grads are headed west and south as well. There are a lot of opportunities for full-time hire outside of the DC area.

Grace_MBA Student

along with GSCG there is a very active group on campus called net impact that is involved in nonprofit type work. there are also a number of classes available that center around this subject

Jen

Thanks Alex--that sounds good. It would be cool to connect the consulting club to maybe Net Impact or emerging markets club for folks looking to do non-profit consulting. I also imagine Georgetown's movement up in the rankings has helped with bringing more companies to campus.

Alex_MBA Student

Jen, in my new office in January (Career Development for GSCG) I have a goal of setting up those links.

Jen

Are you all originally from the DC area? How do you like living in DC?

Raja_MBA Student

Jen -- I am from New Hampshire, so I moved to DC 1.5 yrs ago for the first time and love the city

Grace_MBA Student

I'm originally from Boston, went to school in Pittsburgh, worked in NYC and am now here in DC

Prats

how is general management different from a specialization?

Alex_MBA Student

Prats, Georgetown MBA is a general management MBA, it is your own courses that allow you to specialize. As far as specialized consulting (i.e. Tech, International Development, etc.), that would be an area where your coursework would allow you to gain further knowledge.

Lisa

Hi everyone, I'm Lisa from New York. I work in corporate retailing and am hoping to transition into strategic consulting. Anyone have any specific courses to recommend?

Jen

Grace -- how does DC compare to all the other cities you've lived/worked in?

Grace_MBA Student

it's definitely not New York but it also has some great qualities

Grace_MBA Student

I had enough of the big apple and wanted a smaller city

Grace_MBA Student

I think dc is a great place to be at school- the network here is tremendous

Raja_MBA Student

The first year is mostly core courses but for electives any class can help with consulting, I enjoyed many of the finance and marketing electives

Prats

in that case all the universities offer core classes

Prats
and some electives

Prats
then how different is it from say the University of Maryland ?

Alex_MBA Student

Prats, I would say Georgetown was more attractive to me due to its international brand, immersions, and alumni network.

Alex_MBA Student

Prats, the immersion information is on the website, but they are week long, intensive career development classes.

Lisa

Thanks Raja. Anything specifically geared toward corporate strategy that you would recommend? Or maybe a particular professor?

Alex_MBA Student

Lisa, there are a lot of great courses. From my own experience, the first two mods are core courses, but I plan to take corporate strategy, measuring and creating value and advanced competitive strategy this spring.

Raja_MBA Student

Lisa -- yes take Finance -- Measuring & Creating Value -- Prof Pinkowitz (best prof here) and Marketing Strategy (Prof Homa)

Pawas

Are there opportunities to interact with political dignitaries at DC?

Grace_MBA Student

yes pavvas- there is a distinguished leaders series

Grace_MBA Student

we invite a number of very distinguished leaders in the community to speak

Alex_MBA Student

Pawas, yes, I have been told that every President (including Barack) for at least the past 100 years has spoken on Georgetown campus. There are regular speaking events by world and business leaders through many of the programs.

JAlmeida

Have any of you taken classes from Georgetown's school of Foreign Service (SFS)?

Raja_MBA Student

I have not taken any SFS courses, but many of my classmates have so it's definitely an option

Pawas

great; what are three major takeaways of the Georgetown MBA?

Raja_MBA Student

3 major takeaways: Community, Education and Fun

Nick

Can you speak to some non-IT related consulting projects that students have worked on, be it recent grads or interns?

Aqeel

reiterating prats question. Mostly all universities offer core courses in the first year. But then you move towards a specific area. e.g. Finance/Marketing etc. How different is Georgetown from other universities in this aspect

Grace_MBA Student

Georgetown is a general management program

Grace_MBA Student

there are core classes and then a very large number of electives you can choose from

Ash

academics and extracurricular aside, what do you guys do for fun?

Raja_MBA Student

Ash - we have a lot of fun, regular happy hours, sporting events, etc. people definitely enjoy it here

Igor Mamut

How has the class curriculum changed to help students in consulting reconcile the events of the past two years?

Grace_MBA Student

events of the past two years have affected all industries and not just consulting. professors try to incorporate whatever current information they can to make it more real-time

Rishu

How has your overall experience at McDonough School been? What's the best and worst part of the school overall?

Raja_MBA Student

best part of the school are my classmates, many best friends have been made over the last 1.5 yrs

Raja_MBA Student

worst part is that I have to leave here in May!

Aseem

Hi, could you please elaborate a little on what kind of consulting roles in IT domain are offered to students in Georgetown....

Ash

Probably too early in the year, but any of you 2nd years know what you'll be doing and where for your global residency?

Raja_MBA Student

I am going Sao Paolo, Brazil the other options are Shanghai, Johannesburg, Prague, Vietnam

Raja_MBA Student

in Brazil, I will be working for a renewable energy firm working an investor pitch

Prats

do part timers have any fun or is it all work and no play

Alex_MBA Student

Prats, all three of us are full-timers, so we might not be the best people to ask about that.

Lisa

Oh one more course-specific question... Anyone heard of or taken any retail-specific courses?

Grace_MBA Student

Lisa- no. but if you find a class outside of MSB you can definitely pursue it

Nick

Can anyone speak to some of the non-IT related consulting projects that you or your classmates worked on as an internship or immediately following graduation?

Ash

nice...what are you going to be doing there?

Prats

what are the core values of Georgetown MBA program

Alex_MBA Student

Core Values: Leadership, global mindset, community of achievement, and city at center of world business and politics

Prats

if you have to define how Georgetown stands out from other program, what will it be?

Grace_MBA Student

location, location, location prats

Grace_MBA Student

also the network and community

Saad

does Georgetown spend a majority of its time teaching the case?

Sarah

Raja, what were some of the global residency projects in the other countries? Are students working with US companies in those markets, regional companies, or is it a mix?

Raja_MBA Student

mostly international companies

Raja_MBA Student

but a variety of projects (finance, strategy, marketing)

Pawas

Can you shed some light on focus on sustainability and related projects?

Alex_MBA Student

Pawas, a few of my classmates and I are working on an outside project to perform a sustainability audit on the DC Metro system

Ash

For the folks coming from a finance background - have you found any of the core classes to be repetitive/too basic?

Ash

i.e. core finance classes

Grace_MBA Student

ash- I went to an undergrad business program and then worked at a large bank for four years but the core finance classes are definitely helpful refreshers- you can also pass out if you really qualify/want

Igor Mamut

Have any of the students participated in research collaborations with your faculty or professors? if so Please describe your experience?

Alex_MBA Student

Igor, none of us have participated on any research projects with professors, but a number of our colleagues have.

Aseem

Hi Alex, could you please tell us about what kind of roles in IT consulting are offered to students at McDonough.

Grace_MBA Student

no prob- there are a lot of us here...the professors definitely manage to make it challenging enough :)

Pawas

Are any of you associated with Toastmasters International? Why there is no Toastmasters club in Georgetown? Can a student start a club?

Grace_MBA Student

none of us are associated with it but that being said, you can definitely take the initiative and start up whatever you might be interested in pawas

Grace_MBA Student

this year alone there have been a number of clubs that have started up- beer club, gourmet food club, cleantech

Alex_MBA Student

Aseem, all of the major consulting firms recruiting here at McDonough have technology areas and are more than happy to consider applicants. As far as specific opportunities, I am not sure.

Knight

Current Students: I understand you would have gone through your own experience of choosing a business school. Now that you have already joined one, I want to know how different does it feel to join one and not the others??

Knight

To rephrase that question, I want to know if getting into a different business school with better rankings really help or does it boil down to your hard work and not the school when you graduate?

Alex_MBA Student

Knight, it's a "fit" thing (you'll hear that a lot from recruiters on campus as well). If you feel your own working style and personality work better on a different campus, then that is a choice you have to make. We are very collaborative and team oriented here.

Igor Mamut

Guys, every MBA school speaks of its culture...Can you help me better understand what Georgetown culture is?

Alex_MBA Student

Core Values here at Georgetown: We mean business!! Leadership, global mindset, community of achievement and city at center of world business and politics

Ash

Anybody willing to share their "Georgetown means business" experience?

Alex_MBA Student

Knight, it feels good to be here at Georgetown.

Raja_MBA Student

I am glad I chose Georgetown because of the friendships I have made

Grace_MBA Student

Knight- we only have experience here at MSB - hard to speak of other schools without having gone through it

Pawas

How is the cost of living in DC and Georgetown?

Grace_MBA Student

cheaper than nyc

Grace_MBA Student

depends on what are you looking at- just like any other city

AJ

What % of students who applied for consulting internships actually got a summer internship in 2009?

Raja_MBA Student

AJ - I don't have a % but my friends who wanted an internship were able to land something

Raja_MBA Student

there are opportunities with companies nationwide and globally

Jeff C

I am currently working in the consulting industry. I am interested in broadening my consulting exposure while earning my MBA (community consulting, small business consulting, non-profit consulting, etc.) Can you please share your experiences if you have been able to get involved with these types of projects while at Georgetown?

Raja_MBA Student

Jeff--there are def subsets of those in Georgetown, the club tries to form sub committees to address them

MEM

Does the intense traveling and work associated with a new Consulting career affect individuals who are new to that profession after an MBA?

Raja_MBA Student

MEM - can't really answer because most of us have not done that, but alumni who speak of the travel tend to enjoy it

MEM

Have any of you all tried to research that or is it something you would rather wait and find out?

Alex_MBA Student

MEM, as far as travel is concerned, Federal is about the only area with limited travel. It's something anyone interested in consulting needs to consider, so we have probably all looked at it and consider it something that will not deter us.

Igor Mamut

Alex, so if you had add one more value to that list...what would it be?

Alex_MBA Student

Igor, probably Teamwork. We are very collaborative and supportive here.

Pawas

the companies for recruitment mostly provide the working locations at NYC and DC or the students have an option to choose the work location

bilal

do the professors have consulting experience?

Raja_MBA Student

yes -- many of the professors perform consulting projects in conjunction with their teaching, they can be a great resource

AJ

how does the consulting job market look in DC? Any idea for 2009 grads?

Aqeel

do you guys stay on campus or outside campus?? Is it advisable to stay on campus or outside?

Grace_MBA Student

there is no on campus housing for grad students

Grace_MBA Student

many students live in dupont, rosslyn, Georgetown

bilal

how small/large are the class sizes on average?

Raja_MBA Student

core classes 55-60, electives 45-50 (some smaller)

Rishu

Which companies normally recruit for IT consulting?

Knight

Thanks for that wonderful info Alex. I do agree that fit makes it better. But how do the recruiters look at a "fit" from Georgetown or a "fit" from a better ranking business school. Current students: What do you think your personal opinions/experience are?

Alex_MBA Student

Knight, I would say that you can check out the companies' websites, they tend to repeat words like "teamwork" or "leadership" quite often. Those key strengths and other attributes could be an insight into their culture.

Ash

Grace: what's commuting like if you're living outside Georgetown?

Grace_MBA Student

there are shuttles available in dupont, rosslyn

Grace_MBA Student

the public bus system is also good

Raja_MBA Student

depends where you live, parking is very difficult in Georgetown

Ash

The metro doesn't get you there does it? I think I got off at Rosslyn

Grace_MBA Student

there's no subway in Georgetown though so that's something to consider

Kristen

What is the best way of getting a feel of the campus if you are from out of state? Is it necessary to take a campus tour?

Grace_MBA Student

participate in chats like this, talk to current students, alumni

Raja_MBA Student

Kristen -- I think it's best to get here if you can, the campus and building are awesome!

Pawas

What piece of advice would you give to all the applicants and admitted students?

AJ

Raja - Any idea of the hiring stats for 2009 grads especially consulting?

Grace_MBA Student

specific stats have not been released yet aj- check online in the weeks to come

Raja_MBA Student

we are a typical college campus nestled into a large city

Rishu

Is there any kind of support (clubs etc) for the significant others of the married students?

Raja_MBA Student

yes there is an MBA Partners club

Raja_MBA Student

the wine society membership is open to partners

kristen

Hi Raja- have you moved into the new business building on campus yet? or does it open this fall?

Raja_MBA Student

we moved into the new building this year

Raja_MBA Student

I feel bad that alex and grace did not get to experience our old building! just kidding!

Pawas

Do you guys make trips to nyc quite often

Grace_MBA Student

not me specifically but many students here do- depends on where your interests lie

Pawas

Grace can you share some interests that motivates them to make trips to nyc (apart from their beloved or beau located there) :)

Grace_MBA Student

some people are seeking positions in nyc

Raja_MBA Student

Guys thanks for your questions and interest! We have 2-3 minutes left

Aqeel

How have you guys managed to get your finances for your MBA? How easy is it for an international applicant to get a student's loan from US?

Grace_MBA Student

aqeel- ask admissions that's a good question

Sarah

Grace, Raja, Alex, thanks for all the information!!

Rishu

Grace, Raja, Alex thanks a lot for this chat session. It was very insightful. I appreciate your time and efforts.

Ash

Thanks everyone for hosting. Good luck on finals, if you have any. Enjoy the holidays.

Raja_MBA Student

Good Luck everyone~

Raja_MBA Student

Happy Holidays!

Alex_MBA Student

Thank you and good luck!