

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT KNOXVILLE

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Type of school | Public |
| Affiliation | No Affiliation |
| Academic calendar | Semester |

SURVEY SAYS...

Good social scene, Cutting-edge classes, Happy students, Smart classrooms

Solid preparation in:
Teamwork, Presentation skills,
Computer skills

STUDENTS

| | |
|--|--------|
| Enrollment of parent institution | 25,418 |
| Enrollment of MBA Program | 149 |
| % male/female | 72/28 |
| % part-time | 0 |
| % underrepresented minority | 17 |
| % international | 8 |
| Average age at entry | 26 |
| Average years work experience at entry | 3.0 |

ACADEMICS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Academic Experience Rating | 84 |
| Profs interesting rating | 84 |
| Profs accessible rating | 81 |
| Student/faculty ratio | 5:1 |
| % female faculty | 37 |
| % underrepresented minority faculty | 3 |

Joint Degrees

MBA/MS Business Analytics - 2 years; JD/MBA, 4years;
MBA/Masters in Engineering, 2 years + 6 week summer session;
MBA/MS Sport Management, 2 years; MBA/ Masters in Agricultural Economics, 2 years; MBA/ PharmD, 5 years

Prominent Alumni

Ralph Heath, VP & COO, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics; Kiran Patel, CFO, Solectron; Kevin Clayton, President & CEO, Clayton Homes; Bob Hall, CEO, Jewelry Television by ACN; James Gower, President & CEO, Rigel Pharmaceuticals

Academics

You'll be glad for the opportunity to join "an institution steeped in tradition and pride" and to "get an excellent education at an affordable price from professors who care, in an environment that promotes a full student life," but you'll have to work for it. Packing a full MBA program (including a required internship) into an intense three semesters is a challenge, but it is one students welcome thanks to educators who "are passionate about teaching their subject matter. There is not the overwhelming emphasis present in the classroom that they are 'too busy' to teach or help students that need it outside of class." The key is in making the subject matter engaging and interesting. "They have real world experience that they apply to the classroom, and they are very informed in all areas of business." These "very engaging" professors "have a great sense of humor, which makes the material 100 times more interesting."

Notably, "the professors all have lengthy experience working in industry prior to teaching, so the lessons are very well grounded in what actually takes place outside of academia." Even more important, these educators "continue to remain active in their previous fields, so they continue to infuse current lessons learned from industry into their classes." This means "they teach you skills that you can use in the real world." Those skills come through an education Knoxville students can tailor to suit their own needs, choosing to either focus on a single concentration or to pursue a dual major. Supply chain management "is the program's flagship area of study," but majors in areas like engineering, sports management or business analytics, and academic concentrations in entrepreneurship and innovation, finance, operations management, and marketing are all on the agenda.

While "there have been a few communication issues between the professors and staff," by and large students praise the accessibility of their teachers and the work of the administration. "The administration works hard to make everything easy for potential and current students," while professors "are very easy to contact and very willing to help." Indeed, "faculty and staff are always available to talk about our career paths and advise us for the future." None of it comes easily—in the classroom, students "are challenged and expected to give maximum effort in order to succeed"—but students wouldn't have it any other way. One student sums it up: "Overall, this program has been a great academic experience and I learn something new about myself and my leadership skills every day."

Career and Placement

Connections and opportunities abound. "The program emphasizes career placement and devotes a lot of time to teaching business skills needed for effective job search and interviewing." The staff can be "instrumental in making professional connections." The program here provides "a lot of networking opportunities in the southeast." In addition, the faculty "are very active in helping find internships as well as providing interview prep and resume writing assistance. They provide a lot of networking lunches, dinners, and other opportunities as well as interesting speakers like the CEO of Walmart."

Most students find placement in the South (about 50 percent) and the Midwest (about 20 percent), with 40 percent of graduates taking jobs in logistics or operations. In recent years, graduating UTK students reported a mean base salary of about \$75,000, with a salary range between \$33,000 and \$100,000.

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Student Life and Environment

Expect a “positive, high energy atmosphere” here driven by a “very friendly and helpful” student population. In part because “we take a lot of classes in a short period of time, which always keeps us on our toes,” students here are quick to support one another. “Everyone is very friendly and willing to help in any way they can.” The “fun college town” offers plenty to do, with football being one of the biggest draws, while the “very diverse academic and professional backgrounds (of your classmates) adds to the collective learning.” That diversity may be surprising to some. Between 25 and 30 percent of the class is from Europe and Asia, adding a broad mix of viewpoints to the “fast-paced and enjoyable” Knoxville culture.

“There is a very professional culture amongst my classmates that has proven to be quite contagious,” but don’t mistake that as meaning students don’t know how to have fun. “It is not uncommon for a group of more than 20 MBA students to go out together on weekends or attend a cookout together. Overall, everyone gets along very well.” Students find that their classmates are “fun to work with in class as well as great to be around outside of class. Everyone has very different backgrounds and stories, which makes our class diverse and interesting.”

Admissions

A completed application form, undergraduate transcripts, a GMAT score report, two letters of recommendation, and four personal essays are required when applying for University of Tennessee at Knoxville’s MBA program. A personal interview is also recommended. Students from the United States are required to have a minimum GPA of 2.7 to be eligible for the program, while international candidates must have the equivalent GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Incoming students tend to be high performers; in recent years, they had an average undergraduate GPA of 3.4, an average GMAT score of 606, and average work experience totaling three years.

FINANCIAL FACTS

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|--|-------------------|
| Annual tuition (in-state/ out-of-state) | \$21,280/\$39,768 |
| Fees | \$1,000 |
| Cost of books | \$3,500 |
| Room & board (on/off-campus) | \$10,000/\$15,000 |
| % of students receiving aid | 75 |
| % of first-year students receiving aid | 75 |
| % of students receiving grants | 16 |
| Average award package | \$19,585 |
| Average grant | \$8,000 |
| Average loan | \$25,174 |
| Average student loan debt | \$36,754 |

ADMISSIONS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Admissions Selectivity Rating | 80 |
| # of applications received | 148 |
| % applicants accepted | 69 |
| % acceptees attending | 75 |
| Average GMAT | 608 |
| Range of GMAT | 570–640 |
| Average GPA | 3.40 |
| TOEFL required of international students | Yes |
| Minimum TOEFL (paper/computer) | 600/250 |
| Application fee | \$60 |
| International application fee | \$60 |
| Early application deadline | 2/1 |
| Regular application deadline | 2/1 |
| Deferment available | No |
| Transfer students accepted | No |
| Non-fall admissions | No |
| Need-blind admissions | Yes |

EMPLOYMENT PROFILE

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|--|-----------|---|----------------------|
| Career Rating | 92 | Grads Employed by Function | % Avg. Salary |
| Percent employed at graduation | 62 | Marketing | (20%) \$60,000 |
| Percent employed 3 months after graduation | 80 | Operations | (43%) \$84,500 |
| Average base starting salary | \$78,029 | Consulting | (16%) \$107,500 |
| Primary Source of Full-time Job Acceptances | | Finance | (14%) \$71,000 |
| School-facilitated activities | 21(48%) | Other | (11%) \$74,125 |
| Graduate-facilitated activities | 23(52%) | Top 5 Employers Hiring Grads | |
| | | Deloitte (4), Ernst & Young (3), Scripps | |
| | | Network Interactive (3), Caterpillar (2), | |
| | | CROSSMARK (2) | |