

Case study

Yu-Feng, Lin is from Taiwan. He explains why he chose the UK and, in particular, the University of Greenwich Business School in London to study for an MBA...

Why did you choose to undertake your MBA at the University of Greenwich?

When I first decided to study at postgraduate level, I realised that most of the MBA courses on offer were in different countries, with many candidates going either to the USA or the UK. In the USA, an MBA course takes at least two years and so I decided to choose the UK because full-time courses mostly take one year.

Why did I choose Greenwich? Because it has a very good reputation for connecting students with businesses and organisations both during study and afterwards when it comes to working. The campus is also a lovely place, and well located within London.

What do you like most about studying at the business school?

The professors, tutors and academics that run the programmes are very professional and the majority of them have significant professional experience within the business environment. This helps because some of us in the class are not from an academic background so when we are studying we sometimes need a lot of case studies or examples to understand the key issues of a specific topic. But the tutors always know how best to improve our knowledge of the subject.

How would you rate the facilities at the University of Greenwich?

The facilities are very good. Obviously MBA students need to do a lot of academic research for the course, but the e-resources, including journals and business papers, on offer, are fantastic. That's without mentioning the library. All of these resources really help with the demands of studying for an MBA.



What interests you most about your programme?

Everything we learn is really interesting, and what makes it more so is that it's all interlinked and relevant to real-life business situations.

I also like the way the programme moves forward in sequence, step-by-step. It makes it much easier to understand and develop your skills when you are following a well-planned, logical programme.

How will the MBA programme help your career?

I have five years' work experience prior to studying for the MBA, so my prospects were already fairly good. However, this MBA course has greatly expanded my general business knowledge, which means I'm confident I'll be able to work and succeed in any business environment.

It has also encouraged me to think more about the next step in my career and ambitions for the future.

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What are the main differences between undergraduate and postgraduate life?

At undergraduate level students are still young and there's a sense of uncertainty about the nature of studying and what it all means. Speaking from my own experience, I felt like I just attended the classes and tried to gain as much knowledge as I could. But as a postgraduate – particularly on this kind of course – it feels more like a step into the real world.

With postgraduate study, especially an MBA, we are required to have at least three years' work experience, so your fellow students at this level are much more experienced and all know what they want from the course.

What are the benefits of postgraduate study?

You gain a more intense knowledge of the business environment, which really helps you to put together a better picture of your future career plans.

Learning about the many different business areas that exist means that someone might find a subject particularly interesting that they hadn't considered before. This could lead to them deciding to opt for a career in that area.

What advice would you give to others who are considering studying at postgraduate level?

I think it's good for people to have one or two years' work experience prior to starting a course so that they have already narrowed down what they want to do with their career.

In addition, you need to be dedicated. When you decide to go back to university, you have to be absolutely sure you want to start learning again, as you need to be very disciplined at postgraduate level.