

NYU Stern
Langone Part-time MBA Online Chat
Tuesday, May 4, 2010
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. EDT

Admissions_James Hi, this is James from Admissions. I look forward to answering your questions!

Admissions_Rabia This is Rabia from Admissions. I am looking forward to chatting with you this evening!

Langone_Student_Ankan I earned a BS in Computer Engineering Honors from University of Maryland at College Park before joining a start-up firm (Alarm.com) as a Software Design Engineer. After gaining valuable technical experience, I moved to MicroStrategy—a leader in Business Intelligence software—and joined their consulting team in New York, where I am currently a Project Manager. At Stern, I am involved in Student Government (Scarp/PTLF) as VP of Finance, hold board positions with the Graduate Marketing Association (GMA) and South Asian Business Association at Stern (SABAS), and am an active member in the Management Consulting Association (MCA) and Social Enterprise Association (SEA). I am specializing in Strategy, Marketing and Finance.

Langone_Student_Pam I was born and grew up in Houston, TX and earned a BS in Chemical Engineering from Georgia Tech. My career has been in progressively different roles within the pharmaceutical industry. I started in pharmaceutical sales, moved into sales training, then into marketing, and now I am in a Global Sales Training role looking to move into sales management. I am studying Product Management and Leadership & Change Management. At Stern, I serve on the Student Government (PTLF) board as a Career Service co-chair and the Torch Committee. I am also a member of Stern Women in Business (SWIB), Stern Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Association (SPHA), and the Legacy Committee.

CCWP_Diana I am an Associate Director at NYU Stern's Career Center for Working Professionals (CCWP), where I provide individual career coaching and design and deliver career development workshops to Stern Part-Time MBA students, Executive MBA students and all Stern Alumni. I began my career at Marakon Associates, a boutique strategy consulting firm, after receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University. I graduated from the University of Michigan's (Ross School of Business) MBA program, and transitioned to the world of brand marketing. I spent the next several years working in the consumer packaged goods industry at PepsiCo's Quaker Oats Division, Cadbury Schweppes and Unilever's Home & Personal Care Division. Ultimately, I identified counseling, training and development, and recruiting as my true passion and interest, leading to my current role at NYU Stern as an MBA career counselor (since 2007).

Admissions_Stephanie Welcome to the chat! Please submit your questions.

12345 How many hours outside of class do students typically spend on study or group activities per week? Obviously this varies by class and schedule, but a range would be useful.

Langone_Student_Ankan It usually depends on course, professor and individual. I would say assume 5-10 hours on average based on readings and group work.

divya What is the hardest thing (for you) about the part-time MBA?

Langone_Student_Pam The hardest thing about being a part-time student is finding the delicate balance between school, work, family and personal life. Finding that balance is individual for everyone depending on your priorities, but once you can leverage that balance it's an amazing experience!

nel How many credits are needed to complete this program?

Langone_Student_Ankan You need 60 credits to complete the MBA program.

CWS If you begin in the part time program, do you have the ability to transfer into the full time program?

Admissions_James Once you have begun the Langone program, it is not possible to transfer to the Full-time program. This is because the two programs are structured quite differently. Whereas the Langone program offers maximum flexibility (allowing you to speed up and slow down as necessary), the Full-time program has a lock-step design, making it impossible for students to transfer in and complete pieces of the program that they may have missed.

Jeff Hi...could a current student please elaborate on how actively involved part-time students are in club activities and when they usually meet?

Langone_Student_Pam PT students can be actively involved in many club activities—from the part time student government to industry/job clubs, sports clubs, and social clubs. There are board members in each club that hold the title of VP of PT students and many times other officers are PT students as well. Each organization has different meeting times, but they can vary from afternoon to evenings. Even if you can't attend meetings, most activities are late afternoons, evenings or sometimes weekends. The best way to stay active if you can't attend meetings is to connect to the VP of PT students of that club or other officers to stay in touch.

rjmilmine Without access to the same career services as full time students, are part time students at a disadvantage in their job search?

CCWP_Diana The Langone program is not designed for career switchers. Those part-time students who are searching for new opportunities must prioritize and ensure they have enough time to commit to their job search process in order to be effective and competitive.

Jeff In terms of socializing and networking opportunities with other students, is there a meaningful difference in the weekday program versus the weekend program? or does it really just depend on the individual's desire to get involved?

Langone_Student_Ankan It really depends on the individual and how much effort you are willing to make to get involved in school and all it has to offer. A lot of events do take place during weeknights, so you need to find the time and balance your schedules. The opportunities are available to all students.

tchlerna How many team projects do you do during the semester?

Langone_Student_Ankan It really depends on the course and the professor. Some classes will have many and some classes will have none.

Alex_Seguín If I have not submitted my application yet, do I have a chance of getting accepted for the Fall Part Time program?

Admissions_Rabia Hi Alex, the deadline for submitting an application for classes beginning this fall is May 15th.

Sue Between holding a full time job and being enrolled in Stern Langone, how challenging do you find it is personally to get involved with the various social and networking opportunities at Stern while maintaining a healthy balance? Do the full time and part time programs share the same groups? If so, do they take the schedules of both full and part time students into consideration when organizing events?

CCWP_Diana There is no doubt that going to Stern as a Langone student while working full time is challenging and will require you to do a significant amount of time management to determine how much time you can devote to social/networking opportunities while you are in the program. My advice is the more you can get involved outside the classroom, the more rewarding your Stern experience will be.

sitido For the work resume to be submitted, I know that NYU is only concerned with our full time work experience; however, as I have been working for close to only 2 years i feel as if the experience from my internship carries some weight. especially since it is doing something different than what i currently do. I have the room on the resume but is it worthwhile or would it be completely disregarded or even to my disadvantage?

Admissions_James While it is true that we focus closely on your full-time work experience, you are by no means discouraged from including part-time work or internships on your resume--especially if you feel they will strengthen the professional experience component of your application.

lisamarie What advice do you have regarding choosing the weeknight option versus the weekend option?

Langone_Student_Ankan Choose the option that works best for you in terms of ability to make it to class. I started as a weekend student and 2 years into the program I switched into weeknights. One of the pluses of Langone program is that it offers you the flexibility to take classes that fit your schedule.

ILoveNYU Is it common for out-of-state students to apply for the part-time MBA program?

Admissions_Rabia Yes- we have students in the program who are not currently in NY. Since you can complete the program on weekends, students can come in to the city on Saturdays to take classes.

johntotten Could you tell me about the student culture at Langone? What percentage of students have their own lives and don't interact much, and what percentage are actively involved outside of class with extracurricular activities and social activities?

Langone_Student_Pam The culture at Langone is positive, collaborative, and community-oriented, with strong camaraderie among those students who choose to be actively engaged with the program and extracurricular activities. The PT program is a large program, so for those who do not choose to participate in activities outside of class, the percentage can vary from year to year. For any given class anywhere I would estimate 25% of the new class will participate in outside Stern related activities and up to 50% for social activities.

Rebekah_Gilbert Are there designated study groups for core classes?

Admissions_James Hi Rebekah- you will work in study groups in your core classes. These study groups are established during Pre-term orientation.

Mike776 Do the part time students have access to the same professors as the full time students?

Admissions_Stephanie Yes- the same professors who teach FT classes also teach PT classes.

caramellagirl Can those who are enrolled in the Westchester program take weekend courses in Manhattan as well, or must all classes be taken in Westchester?

Admissions_Rabia Students admitted to the Westchester program must spend their first year in Westchester. Following their first year, students can take classes in the weeknights or weekends program at the Washington Square (Manhattan) Campus. In fact, Westchester students must complete at least 25% of their coursework outside of Westchester in order to complete the degree.

JJ Where do the part-time MBA graduates usually end up after achieving the MBA? Do many stay at their current jobs?

CCWP_Diana As the Langone program is designed to help part-time MBAs manage their career development and advance on their current career trajectory, many Langone graduates negotiate promotions and job changes within their current companies.

Mike776 Typically, how long do the part time students take to finish their degree?

Admissions_James Hi Mike776- the Langone program offers extreme flexibility. You can complete the program in as little as 2 or as many as 6 years. On average, Langone students take 3 years to complete the degree.

MsolB What is the avg GMAT score for the Part Time program?

Admissions_James There is no minimum GMAT requirement, but the middle 80% of our applicants score between 610 and 730. This means that 10% of our applicants score 600 or below, while 10% score 740 or above.

Alex_Seguín Diana, Currently I work in a global environment with Home and Personal Care and Industrial formulators and am looking to stay at my company. Do you feel that NYU gives you additional competencies regarding strategic global marketing?

CCWP_Diana NYU absolutely can expand your competencies in global marketing—both through the academic experience, GMA (Graduate Marketing Association), and student clubs—as well as networking with other Stern students and alumni in your field.

jrg24 Can a current student elaborate on how difficult you find it to balance schoolwork and your job?

Langone_Student_Ankan Success in the Langone program is about finding that delicate balance between school, work, and personal life. It really differs from person to person. You definitely want to have flexibility in your schedule to be able to adjust when things do get busy. But it is definitely manageable.

jin I'm planning on applying for next fall. Meanwhile I want to take a class at nyu stern. If accepted, will the class I took prior to admission be transferred?

Admissions_James Hi jin, while it is not possible to take courses at NYU Stern as a non-matriculated student, you can always try the NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS). Please note that we do not accept transfer credits, but you may be able to waive some core requirements and replace them with electives as a result of prior coursework.

divya Are you more impressed by a creative submission for Essay # 3 than a written one? Do I stand a better chance if I do something creative?

Admissions_Rabia Divya, when evaluating essay 3, we are looking for applicants to highlight aspects of themselves that otherwise were not addressed in the rest of the application. We receive all sorts of submissions, including many essays. The most impressive essay 3s are the ones which showcase a different side of the applicant—regardless of the format they choose.

PaulWrapp What percentage of part time students participates in student clubs?

Langone_Student_Pam Hi PaulWrapp-From a leadership perspective, you should know that there are at least 1-2 PT students serving as officers in every club. As for the clubs themselves, there are typically many PT students that attend the activities organized. I cannot give you a percentage.

JaneDoe I've been spending months studying for the GMAT exam and didn't quite achieve my goal. How much weight does the GMAT truly carry in the application process? What is the range of accepted candidates?

Admissions_Stephanie Our admissions process is holistic, so no one component of your application is more important than another. The GMAT score range (middle 80%) is 610-730.

Travis_Pham Can you apply to both the full-time and part-time program and decide which one to pursue upon acceptance?

Admissions_Stephanie Because the Langone and Full-time programs are distinct programs with very different goals, we do not allow students to apply to both FT and PT programs at the same time. We encourage you to thoroughly research each program before making a decision on where to apply.

AJ I have a question about career placement. Does NYU facilitate the placement services? If yes, how about if my company is sponsoring part of my mba?

CCWP_Diana The CCWP is not a placement resource in that we do not act like a search firm or head hunter. Rather, our role is to help facilitate students' job search and provide you with tools, resources and techniques to guide your search along the way. This can be done through 1-on-1 individual career coaching sessions with our staff, online virtual resources, or through multiple career development workshops, seminars and panels we organize throughout the year. If you are seeking a career transition, you should consider applying to the Full-time program.

RyanR How heavily is the undergraduate transcript weighted in the application?

Admissions_James Hi RyanR, thank you for your question. Your previous academic performance (including undergraduate and graduate work, if applicable) is an important part of our holistic review process. We do not assign a specific weight to any component of your application. Rather, we look at the complete picture of your academic background, your professional experience and aspirations, and your fit with Stern and the particular program for which you've applied.

NYU_Stern_Fan How are study groups organized? Are they randomly assigned or do groups of students choose who they want to work with?

Langone_Student_Pam During orientation, you will create a study group of 5 individuals that you will work with in your first few classes at Stern. After the first semester or two, every professor sets groups differently. Some are assigned, some you choose; it varies class by class and by professor. I would say about 50% of my classes were assigned vs. my own selection.

MBA_Prospect When is the deadline for Spring 2011?

Admissions_Stephanie The deadline to apply for classes beginning in Spring 2011 is September 15th, 2010.

tchlena How intensive is homework during the intensive Summer or Winter courses?

Langone_Student_Ankan Intensive classes do tend to be intensive (as they are labeled). The fact is that you are completing a semester's worth of work in 2-3 weeks. The content of the course does not change. Therefore your coursework would also double or triple during those weeks. However, almost every student goes through it—and it is not something that one needs to be intimidated by.

vishal How important is the GMAT score in the overall admissions process? In other words, if I have a lower GMAT score but 6 years of experience, would that work?

Admissions_Rabia Vishal, the Admissions Committee uses a holistic approach to application evaluation. The GMAT is one component of the application that we look at, in addition to your undergraduate record, work experience, recommendations and essays.

psaunders how long after the application deadline does it take until you receive a decision (on average)?

Admissions_James You will receive your initial notification no later than August 1st (if applying for fall admission) or December 1st (if applying for spring).

mnyu25 What are some of the best courses that you have taken (so far)?

Langone_Student_Pam I've really enjoyed my strategy and brand strategy classes. I've also enjoyed my leadership development and organizational theory classes, but that might be because of my focus. I did not take many finance classes given that finance is not my career focus, but many finance electives are popular. I have also heard that Game Theory, Foundations of Entrepreneurship, and Digital Marketing are great classes.

spring2011 Does taking the GMAT a second time affect admission?

Admissions_Stephanie We look at your overall highest GMAT score. If you submit your application and then retake the GMAT, your application will be held aside until we get the new score.

adeleye What is the average GPA required for admission?

Admissions_Stephanie The average range (middle 80%) for those applicants with a 4-point GPA is 2.9-3.8.

12345 James -- do you take the GMAT's AWA section into account?

Admissions_James Hi 12345- we look at all portions of the GMAT as part of the admissions process. We focus on your highest overall score(s) for any one test date, so feel free to re-take the test if you feel you can improve.

Mike776 How much opportunity do you have to take classes in other departments? Can you mix part-time MBA courses with other graduate level courses?

Langone_Student_Ankan Yes. You can take up to 15 credits in pre-approved courses outside of Stern if you wish to do so.

Gobes Do you accept GRE scores? If yes, what is the average GRE score for the Part Time Program?

Admissions_Stephanie We are now accepting GRE scores for MBA applicants. Since this is the first year, we cannot yet provide you with an average.

Shawn It seems as though many part-time students these days are looking for a career switch. Is NYU Stern addressing this with any new programs to assist part-time students other than the LPDP?

CCWP_Diana The Langone program is designed to help part-time MBAs advance on their current career path, while the full time MBA is really geared and targeted for students pursuing a career transition—either functionally or in a new industry. That said, our office does support Langone students seeking career transition via 1-on-1 counseling, career fairs, job postings, networking opportunities, and numerous online resources. The Full-time MBA program is a better fit for career-changers.

JJ what is the maximum number of credits that you can take during the part-time program on the weekends?

Admissions_Stephanie For weekends, because there are only two timeslots, you can take 6 credits.

tchlerna Do you have any big term projects to work on independently?

Langone_Student_Ankan It depends on the course and professor. Certain courses might ask you to work on big term projects independently. For many other classes, you tend to work in groups.

NYU_Stern_Fan Is it the highest overall GMAT score that is considered in the decision-making process, or is it the highest individual verbal and quantitative scores?

Admissions_Stephanie We look at the highest overall GMAT score from any one test date.

lescovar Hi, I have started my application process and I'm not sure where I should mention professional certificates I have.

Admissions_James Hi lescovar, you may wish to include these kinds of credentials in the Data Forms (especially Data Forms 2 & 3) of our application—or on your resume.

LangoneHopeful21 Do some applicants get waitlisted? Is there a time frame in which these applicants are notified by?

Admissions_Rabia Your initial notification is typically an offer of admission, a waitlist offer, or denial of admission. Because we consider all waitlisted applicants as space becomes available, the waitlist process can continue until new student orientation.

rjmilmine For current students, what is one thing you would change about the program if you could?

Langone_Student_Pam One thing I would improve about the program is the engagement and communication to our new students to expose them to all the offerings at Stern and get them involved early. Oftentimes the first semester is a tough transition, and students do not get involved in clubs or organizations because they did not do it from the start and by the time they graduate they may not have had as amazing of an experience as they could've. My advice to any newbie is to get involved and get involved early if you want to get the most out of this MBA experience.

joy I just finished taking the GMAT and may not have the official essay score by May 15th. Should I still go ahead and submit the application if I don't receive it on time?

Admissions_James Hi joy, you may submit your application without your official essay score. Please email the Admissions Chairperson (admchair@stern.nyu.edu) to let us know the date of your test and your verbal/quantitative scores.

JenetaHot Does submitting your application long before a deadline have any effect on your chances to get into the Langone program?

Admissions_Stephanie There is no advantage to submitting your application long before the deadline, as the Admissions Committee will only begin reviewing applications after the deadline.

Shawn Is there a strong U.S. military veterans group at NYU Stern?

Admissions_Stephanie Hi Shawn, there is a strong veterans group at Stern. The student group is called the Military Veterans Club (MVC). If you are interested in speaking to a current member, you can reach out to them directly at mvc@stern.nyu.edu.

Victor_F in the mba program, are there any classes or specializations focused the pharmaceutical industry?

Langone_Student_Pam Hi Victor_F- you found the right person! I took pharma marketing last fall (it was the first time it was offered) and there are a few other new classes on the healthcare industry (e.g. economics of healthcare). There is no specialization at this time.

anonymous-955 when do you guys interact with each other socially, considering that the classes are 6-9 or a whole day on saturday?

Langone_Student_Ankan There are many opportunities for you to interact socially with your classmates: during breaks, happy hours after class, social events at school, competitions, the Langone Retreat, and club events, to name a few.

JenetaHot Do I have to declare a specialization before I start taking classes in the Langone program?

Admissions_James While we do ask for your academic interest(s) as part of the application, this information does not affect your admissions decision and you are not required to declare a specialization prior to enrolling.

JJ My job is fairly flexible. I am wondering what is the maximum number of credits you can take on the weeknights at the washington square campus?

Admissions_Stephanie The maximum number of credits for the weeknight option is 9 credits.

NYU_Stern_Fan Are there any upcoming information sessions or events for prospective students?

Admissions_Stephanie You can join us in Washington Square on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, and in Westchester on Tuesday, July 20, 2010.

ms What are some of the unique features of stern's Global Business programs? What are the students' options for study abroad for a semester?

Admissions_Rabia Langone students are able to take 15 credits outside of Stern at another NYU school or abroad. A popular study abroad option is the "Doing Business in..." program (DBi) which is a one- or two-week intensive course offered between semesters in January and May—or during breaks. Past DBi locations have included Australia, Argentina, Italy, and India.

PaulWrapp When do you begin reviewing applications for Spring 2011 start?

Admissions_James Hi PaulWrapp, we will begin reviewing Spring 2011 applications following the application deadline, which is September 15, 2010.

aspiringNYUgrad From the website, it states that part-time program does not provide on-campus recruiting services. How does Langone assist students with career placement?

CCWP_Diana The Langone program is not the best choice for career switchers. The Full-time MBA program is a better option. But, the CCWP (Career Center for Working Professionals) assists students with their job search across all dimensions of self-assessment, job search strategy, job postings, resume critique, Stern alumni networking, mock interviews and job offer negotiation. We offer these services online and through our 1-on-1 counseling services.

MBA_Prospect For an applicant that took the GRE as opposed to the GMAT, does the Admissions Committee wonder why they did the GRE and not GMAT??

Admissions_Rabia No. Since we accept both the GRE and the GMAT, both tests are given equal weight in the admissions process.

JDM Have any of the students participated in the DBi courses? If so, was your employer supportive of the experience or was it difficult to get the time off?

Langone_Student_Ankan I did participate in DBi last January and since my vacation carried over, it was easy for me to get time off. NYU Stern offers 3 credit (2 week) or 1.5 credit (1 week) DBi options. Based on your interest and your ability to take time off, you can take what fits the best for you.

julieb789 Can you be an officer of a club in your first year? How time consuming is it?

Langone_Student_Pam Depending on the time you enter the Langone program, you could be an officer in your first year—but typically the presidents will want someone who has been in the organization longer and has demonstrated their dedication to the club. The time commitment will depend on the club. However, as a new student, you can serve as a core group leader (this is the cohort of 50 students in your first 4 classes) which you can leverage as a leadership experience in your later years at Stern.

tchlerna Are there any online classes in the Langone program?

Admissions_Stephanie At this time, Stern does not offer online classes.

Brad If you've underachieved in your undergraduate studies and must explain your low marks in the optional essay - what are some important factors to consider and what should be avoided?

Admissions_Rabia Brad, essay 4 should be used to provide brief explanations to clarify any trends or gaps in your application. Since it is optional, feel free to bullet out the main points.

lisamarie Do many PT students take advantage of study abroad options?

Langone_Student_Ankan PT students don't tend to do typical study abroad as an exchange student due to the time off required from work, but many PT students do participate in DBi courses at Stern.

Faizal How strong of an alumni network do you have? How strong is it on the west coast (being an east coast school)?

Admissions_Rabia Hi Faizal, the Stern alumni network is 75,000 strong with alumni concentrated all around the world. In California, we have active alumni groups in San Francisco and Los Angeles. The regional alumni groups put on a variety of events throughout the year to encourage networking amongst fellow alumnae.

E_Y I have been working for 20+ years. Is GMAT still required for admission?

Admissions_Stephanie The GMAT (or GRE) is required for all applicants, but you may wish to contact our Executive MBA program for more information. You can email them at executive@stern.nyu.edu.

tchlerna If you are in the Langone program and signed up for weekend classes only, can you transfer to weeknights in following semester?

Admissions_Rabia All admitted students must complete their first year in the program they were admitted to. Following your first year, you can take classes in other program options.

isles12 How strict is the admissions committee when it comes to the 250 word limit on essays 1 and 2?

Admissions_James While our application system may allow you to submit a longer essay, the Admissions Committee strongly prefers that you submit essays that are within our stated word limit(s).

BizWizard Please name some of your favorite classes (core and electives) and professors.

Langone_Student_Pam Earlier I mentioned some of the classes I've enjoyed. From my core I really liked my marketing professor, Jeffrey Carr, and accounting, Larry Dryer. In my electives, Brand Strategy taught by Scott Galloway is one of my top recommendations and my Women in Leadership professor, Sheila Wellington, is renowned for her work.

Ak78 Are the career placement stats for this year published somewhere? Is there a way to know which companies hired part time students and in what roles/job classification?

CCWP_Diana The Full-time MBA program is the best fit for career switchers. So, career placement stats for 2009 are publicly available for Full-time MBAs only.

lmeade Does the Langone program accept students from neighboring cities, such as Philadelphia?

Admissions_James Absolutely. We encourage students who are within commuting distance to apply to the Langone program. Coming from Philadelphia, your best option is most likely the Washington Square-weekends program.

Applicantus_anonymous Does each essay carry equal weight in the decision making?

Admissions_Rabia Our application process is holistic. No one component is more important than another.

DC What happens during the Pre-Term orientation?

Langone_Student_Ankan Pre-Term orientation is your introduction to your experience here at Stern. It is your opportunity to meet your Core Group (students you will be taking classes with during your first year) and form study groups for the semester. It also gives you an opportunity to meet the entire PT class that is joining the Langone program with you. You meet many current students, learn about the Stern community and how to get involved, hear from senior administrators, and experience what Stern life is all about.

anonymous-955 can you take 9 credits on weeknights in Westchester too?

Admissions_Stephanie Yes, you are able to take 9 credits in Westchester.

ms I have been doing independent consulting for a while. Would it be good to have recommendation letters from my current clients, or should it be from a previous supervisor?

Admissions_James Hi ms, we do prefer to have a recommendation from someone who has been in a supervisory role to you. However, some of our applicants do not have current direct supervisors (or have not had one for some time) and therefore choose to submit client recommendations. In your case, you may wish to submit one of each (i.e. past supervisor and current client). It is up to you.

rajaniss Are the part-time students not sponsored by their employees allowed to participate in on-campus recruitment?

CCWP_Diana Langone students do have access to select on-campus recruiting interviews provided they complete the required components of the Langone Professional Development program. These select opportunities are targeted at associate level opportunities within Investment Banking, Management Consulting, Marketing and General Finance.

Shawn Can you tell us more about the Langone Professional Development Program (LPDP)?

CCWP_Diana The LPDP program is a highly intense career development program comprised of skill building and preparatory workshops to enhance students' career development, career transition and job search skills. It is targeted at Langone students one year prior to their expected graduation date from Stern. Those who complete the program get access to select on-campus opportunities.

Gobes Is the Langone Professional Development Program open to all Part Time Students? Are there any eligibility criteria?

CCWP_Diana The Langone Professional Development program does have specific eligibility and participation requirements. All Langone students can elect to participate, but can only do so once and must participate within the year prior to their graduation date. The program kicks off in January and extends through the following November.

julieb789 How much time does the LPDP program take per week?

CCWP_Diana I can't calculate an exact number of hours required per week to participate in the LPDP program, but I will say it is intense and varies depending on where you are in the program. The program kicks off in January and extends through the following fall, with differing amounts of time required from week-to-week.

NYU_Stern_Fan What percentage of Langone students take advantage of the LPDP program?

CCWP_Diana Every year we have around 150-200 students who elect to participate in the LPDP program and fulfill all of the requirements.

ravikath I am interested in doing an MBA with respect to the pharma and the healthcare field. Is it possible to create a concentration as there is nothing like this offered by Langone Program?

Langone_Student_Pam There is not a specialization for the pharmaceutical field as this time, but there are various classes you can take that relate to the industry. Speaking as someone who has been in the industry for almost 8 years in various capacities, I have enjoyed seeing how marketing and strategy is done in other industries so that I have a broader knowledge base. The classes you take within your specialization can focus on the healthcare field, and the Stern Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association (SPHA) is also one of the fastest growing student organizations on campus—and is very active with local companies.

jrg24 In terms of recommendations, if you submit more than the required amount, do you read all of them?

Admissions_James While we will read every piece of your application, we generally expect additional recommendations (beyond the required 2) to add a new dimension to your application. In other words, it is not advantageous to have multiple recommendations with very similar content.

hyun I'm very interested in the Luxury & Retail Club because I have a retail operations background. Is the organization well connected with job openings?

Admissions_Rabia All student clubs have contacts with various organizations around the city and continue to develop relationships. As part of the organization you can participate in networking events and conferences which often include prominent luxury/retail companies.

MBA_Prospect What is the average applicant age and years at the workforce?

Admissions_Stephanie The average age is 28 and the average amount of full-time work experience is 5 years. However, the range is very broad. Some of our students have one year of FT work experience, while others will have 10+. There is no minimum requirement for work experience.

LightRail Why did you choose the part-time program at Stern?

Langone_Student_Ankan I chose Stern because of the great reputation of the Langone program and the flexibility it affords working professionals. One thing that separates NYU Stern from other schools is the collaborative community you will find here.

Guest In terms of admissions criteria, how important are extracurricular activities vs. other factors of the resume?

Admissions_James Extracurricular activities give us a sense of your passions and interests outside of the home and workplace. I would recommend quality over quantity-- that is, it is just as good to list a few activities that you are heavily involved in as it is to list many in which you are only superficially involved.

Ak78 Per Businessweek, the CCWP is very successful in helping Part Time program students with their career development. Is that true? Can you provide some specifics OR numbers?

CCWP_Diana The CCWP has helped countless Langone students to navigate career changes within their current company. This could be the student who transitioned from pharma sales to marketing, or the technology analyst who moved closer to the business side. There are also Langone students who successfully transition to new opportunities at different firms and/or in different functions and industries using our resources and guidance.

Shawn Do you offer application fee waivers for U.S. military veterans?

Admissions_Stephanie Hi Shawn, We do offer application fee waivers for U.S. military veterans. Please write into the admissions chairperson at admchair@stern.nyu.edu to request a waiver.

johntotten Is there a competitive process to participate in DBi (or certain destinations)? Or is everyone interested able to participate?

Langone_Student_Pam You are eligible to enter a lottery (register) for DBi classes after you have taken all of your core classes. Registering for DBi is the same process as regular classes. All the DBi destinations are popular destinations; it all depends on how you rank your preferences.

Matt_NYC When does the Pre-Term orientation typically start?

Langone_Student_Pam A week or two before classes start. It's an entire weekend—all day both days—and is required for all incoming students. It is a useful and fun experience.

Faizal If you have already applied in a previous year, would that information be considered for review on future applications? Or is each application a fresh slate?

Admissions_James Hi Faizal, if you have previously applied within one year, you need only complete a brief re-application process. We will still have your transcripts, scores, and other information on file. We ask that all re-applicants (regardless of when you last applied) use Essay 4 to discuss what has changed since you last applied—and how you believe your candidacy has strengthened.

Laura_Bailey What does an international student need to apply? What if the undergraduate degree is from overseas?

Admissions_Rabia Laura, international students whose undergraduate study was in a language other than English must take the TOEFL examination. They must also submit a translation along with their transcripts and degree conferral. Also, please note that part-time study does not provide student visa eligibility.

Victor_F Langone_Student_Pam, would you say that the pharma marketing class is as good as other pharma specializations that are available in New Jersey (Rutgers)? Does this pharma mktg class involve OTC products or cosmetics developments?

Langone_Student_Pam The pharma marketing class is new and is still evolving. I'm not aware of how the Rutgers program is structured/focused. The class I took was focused on HCP marketing; consumer marketing of branded pharmaceutical agents.

Success Hello James, can a student take night and weekend classes at the same time?

Admissions_James Hello Success! Yes- after one year in the program to which you are admitted (i.e. weekend or weeknight), you may begin taking courses at other times of the week.

johntotten can you tell me more about the Langone retreat?

Langone_Student_Pam The Langone retreat is an amazing opportunity to meet other PT students and recent PT alumni. It's a weekend retreat, typically in upstate NY at a camp where you participate in team building activities, networking exercises and social activities. Last year there were over 200 participants—the most ever!

Ravi Are part time students eligible for financial aid?

Admissions_Stephanie Hi Ravi, yes- part-time students are eligible for financial aid.

cdevlin How many PT students were non-business majors as undergraduates? How much prerequisite knowledge is expected?

Admissions_Rabia The part-time student body is extremely diverse in terms of academic background. You do not need to have a business background to apply or to be admitted.

MBA2011 What is the avg. TOEFL score for the PT program?

Admissions_Stephanie We do not calculate an average TOEFL score—and there is no minimum to apply.

Hameer How was the experience of working while studying? Do you feel that you would have made more of the experience if you had done a full time MBA?

Langone_Student_Ankan I don't think doing a full time MBA would have changed my experience here at Stern. I am really involved within the Stern community and would have done the same if I was a full time student. It is true that I would have more time to do things outside of class, but as a full time student you take a lot more classes as well. So it is all about balancing your act.

hwolford Is there an opportunity to focus my attention on finance if I choose to do so?

Admissions_Rabia All MBA students have the opportunity to specialize in up to three areas. Each specialization consists of three classes. We have a number of different finance specializations. For a complete list, visit our website.

gargi Are there any guidelines for essay 4? for example, if i need to explain why i would request recommendation from former supervisor vs. current supervisor?

Admissions_James I would recommend keeping your Essay 4 concise and to the point. You may put a heading, for example: "Reason for not submitting a current supervisor recommendation", and below it write a few sentences with your explanation. You may even use bullet points if there are multiple items you wish to address.

elle800 do you have the date for fall 2010 pre-term orientation?

Admissions_Rabia Pre-Term Orientation for the Fall 2010 class will be held on Saturday, September 11 and Sunday, September 12, 2010. The orientation will run both days from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Please note that attendance is required.

caramellagirl For the DBi program, are the locations selected each term based on specializations, or are the courses taught in each location pretty similar to the next?

Langone_Student_Pam The credits from DBi class are all allocated towards Global Business. That being said, you do not have to be pursuing a global business specialization to attend. All the DBi classes have similar type of classes around strategy, marketing, global communications, etc., but just focused on that area of the world.

NYU_Stern_Fan What traits/characteristics do you look for in Langone applicants?

Admissions_James Hi NYU_Stern_Fan, that is a difficult question to answer in a small amount of time, but I'll take a shot. Our admissions process is holistic, and we look primarily for applicants with strong academic and professional backgrounds, who have well thought-out goals and demonstrate a strong commitment to and understanding of the Langone program—especially how it will help you achieve your short- and long-term goals.

Cyril Question to current students: How do you like the program and classes offered? Do you think that the curriculum is challenging?

Langone_Student_Pam I've really enjoyed my experience at Stern. It's definitely more than I could've anticipated (not really knowing what to expect when I started). Taking classes that interest me and participating in class discussions, learning from my professors and peers... it has been great. The curriculum can be challenging at times depending on the class, but I never expected it to be easy. Otherwise the degree would not be as worthwhile!

tchlana Is there any other financial assistance to PT students besides loans?

Admissions_Rabia Once you have completed 9 credits, you can work as a teaching fellow or graduate assistant, earning up to \$7,200 in tuition remission through two positions per semester. Many positions are available across Stern's academic departments and administrative offices.

Laura how is the stern community different from other schools?

Langone_Student_Ankan The Stern community is very collaborative and students really thrive on learning from each other. We also have a very active student community (both full time and part time). I have met some incredibly smart people from diverse backgrounds—people who have pushed me to do my best. It is great to learn from such a diverse group of people.

spring2011 I earned my bachelors degree in India, but have been working in the US for the past 6 years, would I still be required to take the TOEFL?

Admissions_James If your undergraduate degree was administered in English, you are not required to complete the TOEFL.

Jason_W Diana, does the CCWP have resources to help part-time students who are recently laid off but are not looking to change careers?

CCWP_Diana This past year we implemented several small job search strategy sessions for those Langone students and alumni who have been laid off and were looking to network with each other—and share best practices for a successful job search. Additionally, you can leverage our 1-on-1 counseling services to help you with your individual job search needs.

jrg24 How available do you feel the professors are after class? Do you feel you are at a disadvantage because you are part time?

Langone_Student_Ankan No... I don't feel we are at a disadvantage at all. Professors understand that you are a part time student and will make time for you whenever needed. Most of them have their office hours but will meet with you outside of that time if you email them and schedule a time.

Cyril How long (in terms of weeks) are the breaks between semesters, if any?

Langone_Student_Pam From fall to spring you have Christmas and New Years off, then depending on whether or not you take intensives you may start at the beginning of January. Otherwise you start in February and finish in early May. From spring to summer there is usually a week break, and from summer to fall it also depends on your decision whether or not to take intensives. If you wanted, you could take classes 50 weeks a year (which both Ankan and I have done).

tchlerna if you have to miss class due to a business trip, how can you get the information discussed in lectures?

Langone_Student_Ankan Almost all classes at Stern are videotaped. The professors will post the link for the class on blackboard so you can watch it and get up to speed on what was missed. If you have to miss a class due to a business trip, definitely talk to the professor beforehand.

Jason_W James, is it possible to pursue the joint MBA/MA in politics on a part-time basis?

Admissions_James Hi Jason_W, part-time students are not eligible for our dual degree programs.

ravi Do you know anyone who switched careers after a Langone Part time MBA?

CCWP_Diana Every year we have a number of Langone students who successfully get hired into new roles—whether they are changing careers into a new company, function, or industry.

csjg About payments: do you need to have all the money available before starting the program? do you pay as you go?

Admissions_Rabia There are a few payment options including the opportunity to pay 50% at the beginning of the semester and 50% in the middle of the semester. For more information on payments and financial aid, please visit our website. If you need assistance in financing your MBA education, student loans are a primary source of aid. Federal and private loan programs are available to assist you.

Imeade Regarding the specializations, if you choose to do the maximum of 3, does that mean you take more classes overall?

Langone_Student_Pam You need 60 credits to graduate. Obtaining 3 specializations just means you may not have as much opportunity to take classes outside of your specializations that you may be interested in.

Shawne For those who live far from NY, do you recommend staying Sundays also, perhaps for team work?

Admissions_James Hi shawne, this is a decision that ultimately is up to the individual student. You would not be required to stay beyond your Saturday commitments, and I would imagine that much of your group work could be completed from distance (i.e. email or phone).

johntottten During what hours is the CCWP open?

CCWP_Diana The CCWP has extended hours to accommodate working professionals. We are open Mondays and Tuesdays from 10-7pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 10-6pm, and Fridays 9-5pm. You can visit us in person or make a phone appointment.

Josh_H Hi - what time do evening classes generally begin and how many nights a week does a typical student have class?

Langone_Student_Pam Evening classes are 6-9. When you start the program you have class two nights a week, either M/W or T/Th. After the first two semesters it's all individual based on the classes you register for.

BizWizard What classes and resources are available to students and alums thinking about launching a hedge fund?

Admissions_Rabia The school offers a number of opportunities for students interested in launching their own business including participation in the Business Plan Competition, the incubator program and resources offered through the Entrepreneurs Exchange Club. To learn more about entrepreneurship opportunities, please visit the Berkley Center for Entrepreneurship website: <http://w4.stern.nyu.edu/berkley/>.

C_Taormina James, I worked full time as a supervisor in retail during my last year of undergrad. Should I be counting that as work experience when I'm filling out my application? The actual work experience is different from my current career path but i feel the management experience benefited me.

Admissions_James Hi C_Taormina, I would encourage you to include this experience in your application and it may well strengthen your resume. You are also welcome to count this as full-time experience when filling out your application, but bear in mind that the Admissions Committee generally considers only post-undergrad work experience to be full-time.

julieb789 Hello, I applied about 6 weeks ago and have not gotten any confirmation that my application has been received. How can I make sure that all parts of my application have been received?

Admissions_Rabia We begin reviewing applications and sending application acknowledgment notes after the application deadline.

Nivy Ankan, what made you choose MBA with specialization in Marketing, Strategy and Finance as opposed to an MS in Integrated Marketing offered by SCPS? Are there any significant benefits from choosing an MBA?

Langone_Student_Ankan I would say the Stern network of alumni and current students and the Stern brand that is known globally are some of the significant benefits... I do not know much about the other program.

JacobCombs How manageable is the school work load when combined with your professional work load?

Langone_Student_Pam This depends on your particular job and how many credits you're taking. It's difficult to give a one-size-fits-all answer to this question. I personally have found it manageable. There are ebbs and flows (midterms and finals are stressful times), but overall I have been able to manage the work load. But this is very different from person to person and your individual situation.

Admissions_Stephanie Thank you so much for chatting with us! We will post a copy of this chat transcript on our website in the coming week.

Admissions_James Thank you all for your excellent questions! It has been a pleasure chatting with you. Good luck on your applications and we hope to see you at Stern soon!

CCWP_Diana Thank you for all of your questions. I have enjoyed chatting with you. Best of luck!

Admissions_Rabia Thanks so much for chatting with us today. We look forward to receiving your application. The deadline to apply for classes beginning in Fall 2010 is May 15 and the deadline to apply for Spring 2011 classes is September 15.

Langone_Student_Pam Hey everyone, it was great answering your questions this evening. We hope you have found this informative and helpful as you consider whether or not to apply to Stern. As my time here at Stern comes to an end, I can look back and say that I have really enjoyed my time as a Langone student. Good luck to all of you and maybe I'll meet some of you at a future alumni event!

Langone_Student_Ankan Thanks to everyone for taking part in today's chat! I really enjoyed chatting with you. The Langone program was my number one choice and, two years after enrolling in the program, I don't regret it one bit. It has been a great experience for me so far. I wish you all the best in your application process and hope to see you at Stern in the future!