



## Interview with Duke Admissions

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**Q:** What is special about your MBA program? In addition to its' excellent reputation, what differentiates it from other Top MBA programs?

**A:** The Duke MBA-Daytime is a full-time MBA degree program that combines rigorous academic training that combines classroom instruction and experiential learning opportunities alongside a diverse group of peers - people from different countries, experiences, and viewpoints. This integrated approach helps students to develop skills to analyze options, an open mind to appreciate other perspectives, and a new way of working based on drawing out strengths in others. At the core of our curriculum and community is the term [Team Fuqua](#). Our students believe it is important to draw out strengths in others to move a team forward toward a common goal and is the secret to success as future business leaders. Bringing out the best in others isn't just a nice approach to work, it's a winning business strategy.

Our unique curriculum allows students to gain a solid understanding of many subjects through 13 core courses while providing the flexibility to customize your MBA experience through 100+ elective courses, 16 concentrations, two certificates, one track, and five dual degree options. In addition, our track in [Management Science and Technology Management \(MSTeM\)](#) allows students to earn a general management MBA with a stem designation. [International students](#) are also eligible for additional work authorization post-MBA if they chose to pursue a stem-designated role in the United States.

The program begins with a month of orientation and immersion in a rigorous, hands-on program of three courses that emphasize leading and managing in an uncertain world. The rest of the academic year is organized into 6-week terms of MBA classes, with the ability to take electives sooner to prepare students for their internship.

Extensive recruiting and career programming are just one of the many resources we offer here. Our Career Management Center has specialized coaches to help you define your career path—and enables more than 200 companies to recruit our students. From interview training to resume reviews, our career coaches help to [prepare students to work in all major functions and industries](#).

Fuqua ensures students gain hands-on management experience outside of the classroom by putting much of student life in the hands of its students. 100% student-run, the MBA Associations supports students in managing [50+ active student clubs and organizations](#).

**Q:** Are there any recent changes in the programs or in the admission process?

**A:** Program Changes:

Fuqua recently redesigned parts of the Daytime MBA curriculum to provide additional content focused on three themes: creating common purpose, examining the transformational role of technology, and adopting a lifelong entrepreneurial mindset.



This required updating summer courses and adding new course in the spring. Leadership, Ethics and Organizations (LEO), held during the summer, now includes more content on creating common purpose in an increasingly polarized world. In addition, students take a course that examines the transformational role of technology, as well as a class focused on developing and acting on an entrepreneurial mindset.

Faculty also created a new course for the Spring Two term on “Capitalism and Common Purpose in a World of Differences.” Students will spend time in robust and candid discussion about differences that can be difficult and awkward.

**Q:** Can you share some details about the atmosphere in the school? Amongst the students? Between students and faculty? How do students spend their free time?

**A:** Students, faculty, and staff create a collaborative, diverse, and supportive environment at Fuqua. In addition, we are partner and family friendly. The culture our community creates is called, “Team Fuqua”. There is a strong sense of camaraderie, but also an expectation of a high level of performance. Understand that you’ll have others to help you and push you to be the best you can be. The faculty here are very in-tune to the students because they want them to succeed both in, and outside the classroom. Students spend their free time doing a variety of activities that the school and the city of Durham provide. There are an abundance of professional, social, cultural, clubs that we encourage students to join to add to their MBA experience.

**Q:** Can you share some details about the area the school is located in?

**A: About Durham:**

In Durham students have the best of city, suburban, and rural living. Durham is an eclectic city, with a diverse mix of historical and cultural places, offbeat shopping, sports venues, arts festivals, houses of worship, and great restaurants. Known for everything from laid-back Carolina BBQ joints to charming donut shops and trendy microbreweries, Durham was voted America’s foodiest small town by Bon Appetit.

Within just a few hours’ drive from campus are the Blue Ridge Mountains for hiking and mountain activities, the Atlantic coast for beaches and water sports, or the NC Sandhills area for champion golf. Washington, D.C., is just 4 hours by car—or hop a 1-hour flight to New York City or a direct flight to London or Paris.



## Economy:

Durham is a global economic player driven by knowledge-based enterprises—including everything from software and information technology to film and TV production. It is also home to one of the oldest and largest science parks in the U.S., the Research Triangle Park (RTP), which houses more than 250 companies—from Fortune 100 multinational operations to university spinouts and start-ups. In fact, Inc. Magazine ranked Durham as one of the 7 of the hottest start-up hubs outside of Silicon Valley, and Forbes Magazine ranked the area as #2 among the best places for business and careers.

Thanks to having so many enterprises just a stone's throw from campus, we're able to invite influential local speakers, connect businesses with student clubs, and tap our approximate 2,800 local Fuqua alumni as mentors for students.

**Q:** Can you share some details regarding job opportunities and summer internships for students in your school?

**A:** Whether students wish to advance within your current field or plan to seek a new challenge, the Career Management Center (CMC) works with students to oversee all aspects of their job search. Their career management team includes career coaches with industry specialties, a programming team that helps students master complex career search techniques, and other specialists who work across department lines—helping students identify synergies and career options they never considered.

Our corporate relations staff helps recruiters locate and hire Fuqua students through on-campus events, interviews, and job postings. In fact, Fuqua arranges for more than 200 companies to recruit our students each year via career fairs, presentations, and interviews. Our multifaceted approach to the job search provides resources and helps students connect with the employers they're most interested in.

Recent Careers & Employment Report:

[https://www.fuqua.duke.edu/sites/www1.fuqua.duke.edu/files/media/programs/daytime/revised\\_employment\\_report\\_2020\\_4\\_9\\_21.pdf](https://www.fuqua.duke.edu/sites/www1.fuqua.duke.edu/files/media/programs/daytime/revised_employment_report_2020_4_9_21.pdf)

**Q:** What is it that you are looking for in a candidate? Who will especially enjoy this school? Who will be a good fit to the school?

**A:** A candidate that will enjoy Fuqua and be a good fit has to be a team player. Someone with a well-rounded skill set, who knows the value of working with others to learn more, and is willing to go out of their comfort zone to challenge themselves and others, so that they all become better. We are looking



for someone who understands the value of an MBA, has career goals, appreciates the value of diversity. Successful candidates will demonstrate traits of intelligence, empathy, and decency.

**Q:** One most important piece of advice for an applicant based on your experience?

**A:** Be yourself! While reviewing your application, we want to get to know you as a person, your passions, and why you want to pursue an MBA. Take time in writing your essays, because this is where your authentic-self can shine.

**Q:** What NOT to do in the admissions process?

**A:** 1) Do not rush the process, take the time to do research, and understand the program, and you'll find the best program for you. 2) Don't write essays that are generic and don't answer the questions being asked in the application—be sure to personalize your essays.

**Q:** Are later rounds worth considering?

**A:** Applicants can apply in any round of admission, but we encourage international applicants to apply no later than Round 2 so admitted students have enough time for visa processing.

**Q:** GMAT and importance as a % of the candidacy? What is the minimum GMAT you are looking for?

**A:** At Fuqua, we do not have a required GMAT or standardized test score to be admitted because we recognize you are more than one score, and more than one test on one day. The Admissions Committee takes a holistic approach in evaluating an application. The academic component which includes your undergraduate record and standardized test score is just one component of the application, and is weighed equally to other components of the application.

In addition to the GMAT, Fuqua accepts the GMAT, GRE, and Executive Assessment test scores.

**Q:** Is there anything you'd like our candidates to know regarding the admissions process? Any tips?

**A:** We encourage them to connect with us, current students, and alumni to learn more about the Fuqua experience. There are an assortment of virtual events and recourses available on our website to learn more about our programs and our culture.

**Q:** Can you tell us more about funding – scholarship/fellowship options in your school?



MBA FAIR



Email  
[Info@MBAFair.org.il](mailto:Info@MBAFair.org.il)

**A:** Fuqua has a significant array of merit scholarships to award to admitted students with outstanding credentials. We consider all admitted students for merit scholarship awards; there is no separate scholarship application for you to complete. Awards can range from partial to full-tuition, and are applied by the University Bursar to offset your tuition costs.

Selection by the Admissions Scholarship Committee is based on prior academic achievement, demonstrated leadership qualities, impact within your community, your ability to contribute to the Fuqua community, and professional accomplishments.

**Q:** Can you share some information about resources for partners of students who are attending Fuqua?

**A:** We have a robust club on campus called Fuqua Partners that works to support partners of students in the program, and provide resources to address the needs of Fuqua families. The Career Management Center also extends to provide counseling services to partners that are eligible to work in the US.