

# WISCONSIN EVENING & EXECUTIVE MBA LIVE CHAT: JAN 18, 2017

*Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 12:00 pm*

If you haven't registered for this web chat, please [click here](#).

The Wisconsin Evening and Executive MBA Programs welcome the opportunity to connect with you online on Wednesday, January 18. We invite you to learn more about the University of Wisconsin-Madison's [Evening](#) and [Executive](#) MBA Programs. Our virtual events provide you with the flexibility you need while answering your questions about our MBA Programs.

During Wednesday's session we will answer questions from prospective students, applicants, and newly admitted students. We have staff present representing admissions, career management, faculty, global education and student support.

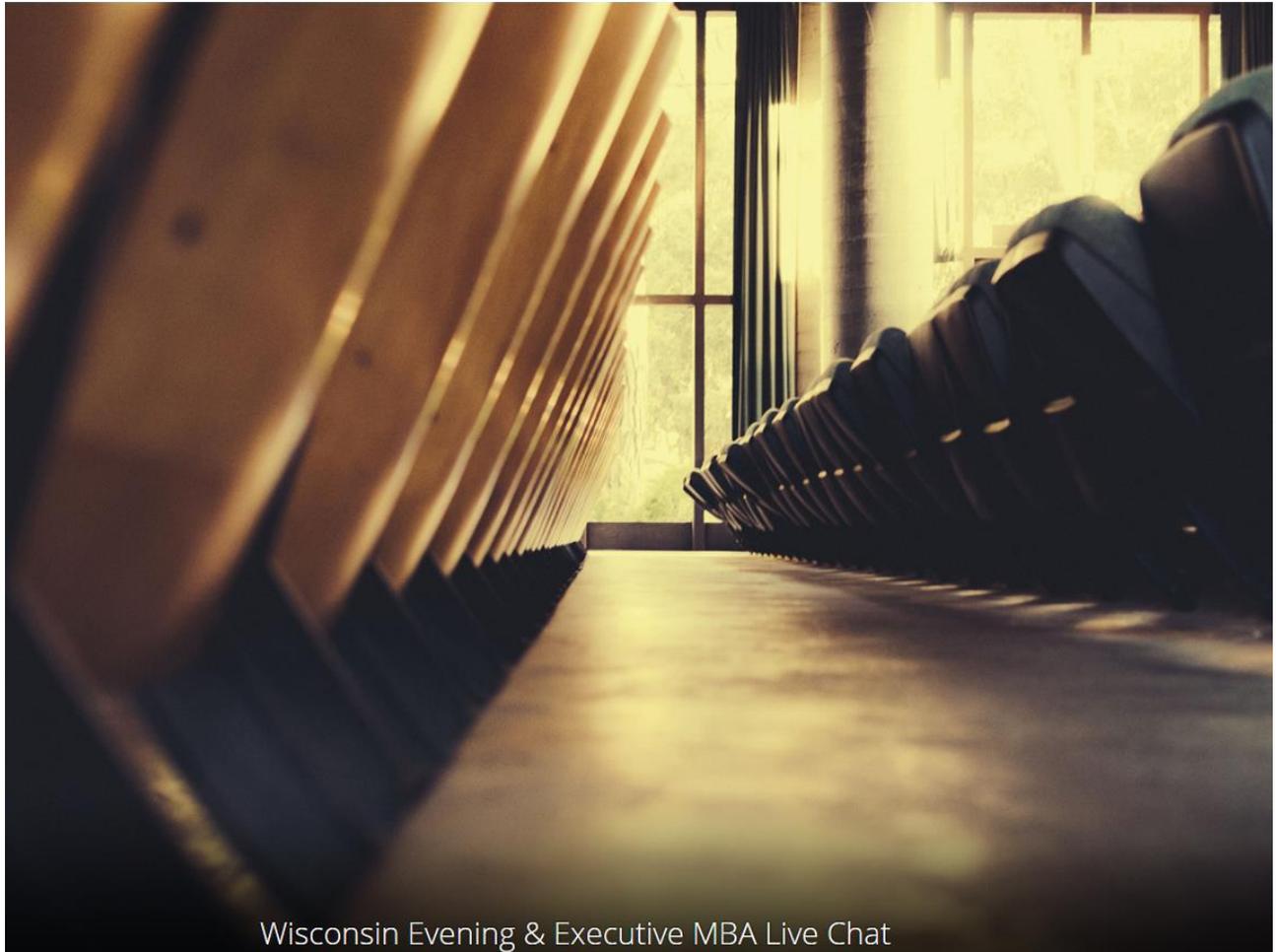
Additional information on the student experience in the Wisconsin Evening & Executive MBA Programs can be found on these websites:

- o [Wisconsin Evening MBA](#)
- o [Wisconsin Executive MBA](#)

If you are ready to begin your application, please visit [admissions.bus.wisc.edu](http://admissions.bus.wisc.edu)

For Evening MBA applicants who still need to take the GMAT, you can register online at [www.mba.com/us/the-gmat-exam.aspx](http://www.mba.com/us/the-gmat-exam.aspx)

If you are interested in attending a future event, please visit our [Wisconsin Evening MBA](#) or [Wisconsin Executive MBA](#) event websites.



**University Communications:**

Lots of topics covered today-- thanks for joining us, everyone! Hats off to our panelists for their fountains of knowledge.

This concludes the live portion of our web chat today. A transcript will be available for you to replay immediately following this message.

Have a great day and On, Wisconsin!

1:00



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

It's been great chatting with you all - best of luck in your research and investing in your future. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about the programs. I can be reached at [ksweeney4@wisc.edu](mailto:ksweeney4@wisc.edu) and am happy to discuss any time.

1:00



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Thank you to Katie, Mallory, Mary, and Doug for attending today's chat as panelists.

On behalf of the Wisconsin Evening & Executive MBA Programs staff and students, thank you for attending today's Live Chat.

We hope to connect with you soon.

[emba@wsb.wisc.edu](mailto:emba@wsb.wisc.edu)

608-263-1169

12:56



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Please feel free to friend me on Facebook or add me on LinkedIn (i'm the only Mallory Prouty out there) and i'd be happy to assist you in this process and answer any other questions about the Evening MBA program that you have!

12:56



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

In the remaining five minutes, I'll ask our panel to share any parting advice, recommendations, or comments about their experience in the program.



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

The diversity of knowledge provided in the Executive MBA program is second to none. And the Cohort truly does become your second family - Networking with many folks from many areas of the corporate world gives many opportunities to learn and grow to that leadership position your striving for.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

This is really a great program and terrific career move for you to make! it may seem like a lot to take on as you work full time, but it really isn't and you couldn't get networking opportunities like this elsewhere. I highly recommend it!

12:55 What next step(s) do you plan to take?

Complete an application

( 0% )

Schedule an admissions meeting

( 80% )

Schedule a class visit

( 0% )

Discuss with my employer

( 20% )

Not planning to pursue MBA this year

( 0% )

Other

( 0% )

12:55



**University Communications:**

5 minute warning – there's still time to get your last minute questions answered!

12:54



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

If you'd like to review more about our programs, visit our pages at...

Evening MBA: <https://wsb.wisc.edu/progra...>

Executive MBA: <https://wsb.wisc.edu/progra...>

12:53



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

Veterans/Military education benefits - Our programs qualify for military/veterans to use their education benefits. The Veterans Services & Military Assistance Center provides support to our students. Learn more at <http://veterans.wisc.edu/> or reach out to our main contact (see below).

Joe Rasmussen  
Veteran Services Coordinator  
Office of the Registrar  
333 East Campus Mall, Suite 10301  
Madison, WI 53715-1384  
[veterans@em.wisc.edu](mailto:veterans@em.wisc.edu)  
(608) 265-4628

He will be able to assist you with specific questions about your situation.

12:53



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

As you review today's Q&A, if you have additional questions, we welcome the chance to meet with you (via phone or in-person).

A list of current dates and times are available at <https://inquire.bus.wisc.ed...>

12:52



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

You are invited to join us next Wednesday evening (6-7:30 pm) in Madison for an information session. We have a panel of current Evening & Executive MBA students who will be attending to answer your questions.

To register, visit <https://inquire.bus.wisc.ed...>

12:52

**Comment From Susan**

What kinds of support does the Executive MBA supply for career development for their students?



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

For both programs we have a career advisor team, Amanda and Taura, and they can assist you in your career movements, changes and resume questions and such. I am currently interested in leaving my current employer and changing industries which is a huge step, and I am meeting with Amanda today to start getting to know what i need to do and what my options are out there. It's hard to make the move but i know a lot of my cohort members have used their services and love working with them. One has even successfully changed careers with their help!!



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Outside of one on one career advising, there are also free workshops available led by the advisors on a variety of topics such as interviewing, resumes, LinkedIn and general career pathing. I've taken advantage of several and they've been great.

12:50

**Comment From Ray**

My Employer has a \$ cap on MBA programs which is below the cost of your EMBA. Is there a standard strategy to address the delta?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Tuition reimbursement programs tend to fall with the calendar year. The executive program touches three calendar years; the evening program touches four calendar years. Candidates sometimes hadn't considered that additional disbursement.

Other options I've seen made:

Reallocating a budget line item for additional professional development or conferences toward the program for the duration of the time in the program

Proposal for additional sponsorship, after making a case for the employer's benefit

Higher performer development - some organizations have additional funds to develop high performers who are being groomed for executive leadership roles

We also have students who utilize federal financial aid (loans only to those who qualify), military/veterans education benefits, scholarships, and/or self-funding.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

To add to what Jean says, usually an employer requires reimbursement requests be submitted prior to your actually having received your final grades, but Tammy Weisensel can help you get a preliminary grade prior to receiving your final and most employees accept those as well. That way you don't miss out on extra reimbursement because it was received the following calendar year

12:48



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

I would like to mention our Tablet Initiative-

We are moving our Wisconsin Evening and Executive MBA Programs to a more sustainable model and last fall issued iPad Pro 9.7" tablets and Apple Pencils to our incoming Executive MBA students. This fall we are expanding this initiative to include the incoming Evening MBA students. Each student will receive a tablet and will be able to access their course materials via the cloud.

12:47

**Comment From Jeff**

What advice/experience can you offer for selling to an employer the benefits to them of your pursuit of an eMBA?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Jeff, it is important to frame the benefit to the employer, not only for return on investment but also the return on learning (impact that is harder to measure). We have students who have also submitted proposals after a semester in the program who have been demonstrating the application on the job. Some frame the application in terms of specific projects or skill development, others tie the learning to the mission and deliverables in the organization. Students and alumni have also recommended to talk with those who have MBAs in the organization (or to connect with those in our program) for advice.

12:46



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

I think what surprised me the most about the program is that I didn't realize what a family I would get from my cohort. We are all very close with one another and spend a lot of time outside of class networking and talking. I can go to many of them with questions about my current job situation that I wouldn't be able to go to anyone else with. They understand what I deal with on a daily, and I am very grateful for their support and expertise.

12:45



**University Communications:**

We have 15 minutes left in the chat - go ahead and ask what is on your mind!

12:44



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

To begin your application, or to complete and submit it, visit <https://admissions.bus.wisc...>

The next deadline is Wednesday, February 1st. The following deadline is Wednesday, March 1st.

12:41

**Comment From Tim V**

If by chance our work/life balance shifts before or during admission to UW, do you allow transfer from evening or exec mba to full-time mba?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

All three MBA programs at Wisconsin - evening, executive, full-time - are cohort programs. Once admitted to the program, you would have to reapply for entry into the program and start with the incoming cohort. We work with students to ensure right fit, as best we can, before they apply or accept their offer.

We have candidates who apply to more than one UW MBA program and who seek advisement during their research. If you are researching more than one MBA program, I'd encourage you to meet with the admissions staff.

After those meetings, candidates may still apply to more than one program. Ultimately, you'll need to decide which best fits your goals.

12:41



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

Many prospective applicants decide to come to campus for a class visit. These visits are a great way to network with current students, experience the program environment, and get a taste of the curriculum. These visits take place on Mondays and Wednesday evenings for the Evening Program and Fridays for the Executive Program. To sign up, follow these links:

Evening: <https://inquire.bus.wisc.edu...>

Executive: <https://inquire.bus.wisc.edu...>



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

I did a class visit which was great, but I also did a full day information session which included a class visit, you can have an ambassador show you around and answer your questions in more detail, and it really gives you a great feel for the program. I definitely suggest you do it if you are really interested! It's a full day on campus, but worth it :) And to elaborate, I met a guy that day and we stayed in touch throughout our whole process and became friends and we both got in together.. definitely helps to have a buddy system

12:37

**Comment From Hank B.**

Is there a document or resource that can be shared about best strategies for working with employers to cover the program costs?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Hank. We have a couple examples from students who have applied for sponsorship (financial, schedule/hours, or both). If you'd like to request a copy, please send an email to me at [jean.sink@wisc.edu](mailto:jean.sink@wisc.edu).

12:37

**Comment From Susan**

Can you comment on the global trip experience? When does that take place and will we know the dates and place in advance?



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

In the Evening MBA program this takes place in early June. We had our class schedule for the full program (through graduation) before the first day of class. The dates can change slightly but it made it very easy to plan. The global experience takes place at the end of your 2nd year.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

We found out where our global trip will be going on Orientation day. We found out for the class of 2019 we will be going to South Africa in June of 2018! Very exciting



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Sorry just a follow up, Executive program also travels 2nd year but it's earlier in the spring.



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

You learn your global experience date window when you are accepted into the program. The exact timelines are delivered the semester before the travel.

12:37

**Comment From Mandy R**

As far as the evening MBA program, are the classes pre-determined or are there options to chose from? Will you stay with your cohort through to graduation?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Excellent question, Mandy! The program (both for Evening & Executive) is a cohort format, meaning you will traverse the program with the cohort of students with whom you start. Our students and alumni tell us this format ensures the building of deeper networks, friendships, relationships.

The curriculum is set for you, except for determining which elective you'll take in spring of your 2nd and 3rd years - either advanced marketing, advanced finance, or healthcare management. Topics are different each year so you could take the same area both years.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

I can confirm exactly what Jean says, everyone in my Cohort LOVES being together for the full three years. It took us half a semester to finally be comfortable with everyone, and now we are like a family. We all know each other really well after only a semester and a half!

12:35



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

While I've made several connections within my industry of healthcare within the program, I've truly seen the value of networking and learning of experiences in a setting with a diverse work background. I've taken many of the tools learned in class and applied them directly (leadership, accounting, strategy, etc) and this has been recognized by management. It's not difficult to look at the curriculum and find what could benefit you in your area and don't underestimate the value of the connections and relationships you will build as well.



Polls

Delete All

12:35



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

My employer is benefiting from my increased knowledge of how to manage a team, keep them inspired and motivated and help them to become innovative. It is extremely beneficial for me to be a stronger leader!

12:35



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Have you visited an Information Session to learn about the Evening & Executive MBA Programs? We hold sessions in Madison monthly and in the metro-Milwaukee area in the spring and fall.

To view session dates and locations, visit <https://inquire.bus.wisc.edu...>

12:34



**University Communications:**

We are about 1/2 way through the chat - we welcome additional questions!

12:33



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Selling the Evening MBA program to an employer is quite easy. With classes not starting til 6:15pm, most employers will find it doesn't conflict with work at all. The only days that required any kind of change are the two weekends in January, and i just used a vacation day for each of the Fridays which was worth it to take advantage of the morning activities too.

12:31



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

If you're considering Evening or Executive MBA program, I really recommend visiting a class if you have the opportunity. The information sessions and these panels are great resources as well. The class visit is where I was able to see the program in action and talk to current students to get a feel for what life would really be like as a student again!

12:31

**Comment From Mandy R**

If I completed my undergraduate degree from UW Madison is it still necessary to furnish an official transcript with my application?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Mandy, we can pull your official UW-Madison transcript when you apply to the program. Thanks for asking!

12:30

**Comment From Alex**

Could you please tell me what's the typical cost for evening MBA? Tuition and books etc?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Alex,

Tuition & fees for the Evening MBA program this year (2016-17 academic year) is \$22,526.04. Estimates for the incoming class (for all three years) is \$74,564 which includes everything except books. It includes parking on campus, materials for class including the tablet, the global education abroad experience (flight, hotel, transportation, some meals), meals and refreshments during class, networking events, and all University amenities.

As for books, some rent them, others buy new or used, so you might imagine the cost can vary. Katie shared that renting books was \$50-75 per book. Mallory shared that she's had books between \$50 to \$200. Many Evening MBA students have shared they spend between \$200-400 per semester, again depending on renting or buying new or used.

12:29



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Cost of books: Last semester the biggest was Accounting, the book was around \$200 (which i'm hoping to sell back.. you can rent it too). The other two books for Leadership Management was less than \$50 for both. This semester so far i have not had to buy a single book for my Managerial Communications, Risk Management, nor Economics courses. It's very nice!! Most of the time we focus on local news and articles, and the professors provide those for us.

12:25



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

For my student panel, what advice to you have for those considering the program? What led you to choose Wisconsin, and your specific program?



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Regarding why I chose Madison: There was never any other choice to me than Wisconsin. Having lived in Madison since 2009 I've always wanted to join the great group of people at this institution and be a real Badger. The program was an easy choice for me because I'm very interested in the global business market and this program focuses on that a lot. I also learn very well from interactions with others, and the cohort aspect of this program is great for that! Having been working full-time since 2010 I didn't think I could go back to doing school full time. I like working and learning in tandem, and wanted a program that would allow me this flexibility. For me I preferred the 3 hours on Monday and Thurs versus giving up full Fridays and Saturdays since i have a very active social life in the community and travel alot.



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

I chose WI because of reputation and locality. I specifically chose the Executive program because it fit my work/home life schedule and offered the global experience I was looking for.



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

I chose Wisconsin because of the reputation of the Business school and after visiting an Evening MBA class and seeing the opportunity it would offer me. Outside of the curriculum The cohort system has allowed me to build relationships with my peers in several industries that I wouldn't otherwise have. The experience in teams have given me valuable tools that I apply daily in my career as well.



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

My advice is to remember, everyone is working for the same goal- there are enough hours in a day and flexibility is key component to have to survive.

12:23



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Hank B. - the biggest determining factor for me between evening and executive was the class hours. I found my work day lasting from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. currently and didn't think I could exert the extra hours during the week to attend in evenings. I communicated with my boss and taking Fridays for school was a much better fit for my work environment. (I am a project manager with ATT)

12:23

**Comment From Tim V**

As a follow up to Christine's question, if I have an interest in changing career paths toward immersion in life sciences venture capital investing, does UW have curriculum and/or workshops/internships geared toward this field?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Tim, it might be helpful to chat more about the path you've mentioned. We have students on a variety of paths, some who also take an additional course or two outside of the Evening MBA or Executive MBA program.

If you'd like to talk about that path and the various resources at UW, consider requesting an admissions meeting at <https://inquire.bus.wisc.ed...>

12:22

**Comment From Ray**

Is Executive MBA fee \$91K?



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

Hi Ray,

The estimated tuition and fees for an Executive MBA student that starts this fall is \$91,000 for the entire program. This is an estimate based upon a 5% annual increase each year, which is controlled by the State Legislature and Board of Regents.

12:21

**Comment From Alex**

Thanks Jean. I have a master degree in materials science and engineering from WPI in MA. I have about 4 years working experience in manufacturing as engineer now. And I am from China. What would you think are the top 3 factors to affect the admission of my application? Are they school grades? years of working experience? Or something else? Can I waive the TOEFL test for my application?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Alex, the admissions committee conducts a holistic review of all applicant materials including transcripts, GMAT (for Evening), essay, career experience, professional recommendations, and the admissions interview. As someone with four years experience, you would be looking at the Evening MBA program. It would also be important to articulate your goals and how you'd both contribute to and benefit from the Evening MBA program. You may be able to request a TOEFL waiver. Let's chat more offline about that request. I can be reached at [jean.sink@wisc.edu](mailto:jean.sink@wisc.edu) or you can schedule an admissions meeting to discuss (<https://inquire.bus.wisc.edu...>).

12:21



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Alex, there isn't really any ONE thing that is the most important, nor any 3. The university does a fantastic job of weighing all of your factors, and those of the rest of the chosen cohort, to make sure that the whole cohort works well together and has a good variety. It's not weighted heavily on the GMAT over grades or work experience or anything else. We've all discussed what we got on things, and it really does vary

12:21



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Jeff, Projects outside of the classroom have been papers and presentations to this point. This includes research. Early course like finance and marketing have more individualized work between classes. The program seems to be balanced with courses between heavy individual work and team work. for example I had org behavior and marketing in the same session. Org behavior required presentations on class discussions and marketing was a lot of problems/quizzes.

12:21

**Comment From Jeff**

Hello! I travel globally in my current position. While I can largely set my own schedule to make the Th/Fri eMBA program work... Could you please talk about any team assignments/projects that will require meetings between the class sessions?



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Hi Jeff - This has been common (at least in my cohort) and in my team I have members that travel internationally for work. We've found that communicating early and creating a schedule for group projects works well. We often utilize conference calls, webx meetings or class time to check in and it's worked out well.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Your team will also work with you if you travel alot and help plan meetings around your schedule. We can often choose what days our presentations are on so you dont miss them. My group uses Google Hangouts and Docs and it's great to work together on projects in real time



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18: Jeff, there are team assignments between each class meeting. The Executive MBA program is accelerated so much of the class work is outside the classroom. It hasn't been unmanageable at this point. My husband also went through the EMBA program and he didn't have issues balancing the demands of travel and classwork.



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18: Jeff, Projects outside of the classroom have been papers and presentations to this point. This includes research. Early course like finance and marketing have more individualized work between classes. The program seems to be balanced with courses between heavy individual work and team work. for example I had org behavior and marketing in the same session. Org behavior required presentations on class discussions and marketing was a lot of problems/quizzes

12:18



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12:18

**Comment From Tim V**

Jean, I am looking to schedule a campus visit in the next 3-4 weeks. I live in Indianapolis, but have family in Madison, so I have no need for lodging arrangements, but I was wondering what the best course of action is for arranging a visit?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Tim, you may want to schedule an admissions meeting (via phone) first and then we can determine a visit for you. To schedule an admissions meeting, click <https://inquire.bus.wisc.ed...>

Otherwise, you can review class visit dates at the following links.

Executive MBA class visits: <https://inquire.bus.wisc.ed...>

Evening MBA class visits: <https://inquire.bus.wisc.ed...>

12:18

**Comment From Christine**

Could one of the current students talk on the typical amount of outside work is needed during the program?



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Hi Christine - I've found that it truly varies on the course however it's typically around 2 hours outside of class per hour spent in class. Within each course it can also vary on assignments. For example, you may have several days where most activities are in class, then a group assignment that may require more outside of class time.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

I generally spent about 2 hours a day outside of class, and we have a team meeting once or twice a week that we do through Google Hangouts that last usually half an hour, sometimes an hour when we have a group project due. I generally don't do much homework on Fridays or Saturdays, if at all. I'd say roughly 10hours a week.

12:17



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Jeff,

Currently I have two team members that also travel globally for their work. We try to schedule during there lag times- waiting at airports. We also have chat rooms set up and email so we can communicate if something comes up. Time zone shifts are not strange in the executive program. Everyone is in the same boat and flexibility is key to making the program work schedule work.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

It is also great to have your teammates to work with. If we know someone will be going on a trip, we try to plan our group projects around that, and we always help pick up the slack if something comes up and someone is not able to attend class. We make sure no one ever falls behind.

12:15

**Comment From Ray**

The Executive MBA is largely structured for a 2 weeks on campus per semester and then every other weekend. Correct?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Ray, Executive MBA students attend a full immersion week each August of their program, then are on campus all-day Friday and Saturday every other week. In addition, there is a 10-day education abroad experience in spring of the 2nd year.



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Ray, the one week on site in August beginning each year of the EMBA program is an awesome time to get to know your cohorts, as you are required to stay on campus. It goes super fast and there really isn't a lot of downtime. You even have homework to accomplish with your newly formed teams.

12:15

**Comment From Ray**

Are most of the students from Madison?



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Hi Ray, Many of them are but we do have students that commute. In my cohort there are students from Monroe, Beloit, Milwaukee and the surrounding area. The commuter options, especially with the bus from Milwaukee are convenient.

12:14

**Comment From Ray**

How many students are in the Executive MBA program?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

The Executive MBA program ranges from 35-45 students in the cohort.

The Evening MBA program ranges from 55-62 students in the cohort.

12:14



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

My cohort gets together after class most Thursdays. A lot of the Milwaukee people can't always make it, but we usually have at least 10-20 people from our cohort. Whenever possible we schedule get togethers with everyone. We did the Madison Children's Museum from 6-11pm on a Friday evening with all the cohorts, we have a camping trip planned for this summer, and we are always getting together on the weekends to hang out more too, most often the people in Madison meet here, and MKE meet there

12:13

**Comment From Hi everyone. Although this probably varies somewhat for everyone, is there a rough estimate of time spent on work for the program outside of class that anyone could provide?**

If the GMAT is taken multiple times, is only the highest score considered or are the scores averaged?



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

We only use the highest GMAT score. We look at all of them but only take the highest.



Polls

Delete All

12:13

**Comment From Christine**

Are there any options to specialize or tailor the Evening MBA towards a specific area of business?



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Hi Christine - The Evening MBA degree is a general business degree however there are options within the program to choose elective "areas of focus". For example, current options are Advanced Finance, Advanced Marketing and Healthcare Operations.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Katie is correct. The only specialization options happen your second and third year. However you are always free to take some elective classes with the university as well during your program, I believe you get one free class per semester.

12:13



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

For the Exective program the teams are 5-6 individuals that do the class group work. We will typically meet once a week. If the assignment details require more, we set up more time to meet. On average I spend 15 hours per week on home work - including the group work. Flexibility is a must as everyone is juggling work/home balance.

12:13

**Comment From Hank B.**

I imagine there is no audio for this chat? Just making sure. Thank you for taking the time to answer some of our questions. When determining if the Evening or the Executive MBA was going to be the best fit for you, what factors did you look into and weigh most heavily? Best. -Hank



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Hank. Correct, there is no audio for the chat.

I'll ask the panel to weigh in on their decision making. You may want to consider scheduling an admissions meeting where we can discuss your background, goals, and determine which program may be a better fit. If you'd like to schedule a time to meet, click this link for details

- <https://inquire.bus.wisc.edu...>

12:12

**Comment From Hi everyone. Although this probably varies somewhat for everyone, is there a rough estimate of time spent on work for the program outside of class that anyone could provide?**

Hi everyone. Although this probably varies somewhat for everyone, is there a rough estimate of time spent on work for the program outside of class that anyone could provide?



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Hello! Very good question. It does depend on the course however I've found that the average of 2ish hours outside of class per hour in class is pretty typical. Some courses have work ahead of time so that class time is used for activities and discussion.

12:11

**Comment From Ray**

Is the program 20 months?



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

Hello Ray, The Executive MBA program is 20 months and the Evening MBA program is 30 months.

12:10



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

The Executive MBA program has many opportunities for networking and it's very easy to find the platform that works for you. My Cohort has an organized evening every Friday we have class, from Hockey games, bowling to just a casual evening at the Fluno Center.

12:09

**Comment From Hi everyone. Although this probably varies somewhat for everyone, is there a rough estimate of time spent on work for the program outside of class that anyone could provide?**

Hi everyone. Although this probably varies somewhat for everyone, is there a rough estimate of time spent on work for the program outside of class that anyone could provide?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Excellent question that we are often asked!

I'll let the students weigh in as well. In the panels over the past few years, the average time spent (that our students have shared) is 10-15 hours weekly for Evening MBA students and 12-18 hours weekly for Executive MBA students.



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

I generally spent about 2 hours a day outside of class, and we have a team meeting once or twice a week that we do through Google Hangouts that last usually half an hour, sometimes an hour when we have a group project due. I generally don't do much homework on Fridays or Saturdays, if at all. I'd say roughly 10hours a week.

12:08



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

In my cohort of 55 students I am on a team with four other individuals. We are from all different backgrounds, I work in the Retail Banking Industry and know a lot about finances, one of my teammates works for Spectrum Brand as a scientist, he has his PhD already as well, another of my teammate's family runs Steinhafel Furniture and he is the Director of IT, another is a physical graphic designer and builds circuit boards, and another is a Project Manager at a Healthcare facility. We are a great team and work VERY well together!

12:06

**Comment From Christine**

Hi Jean! I am looking into the Evening MBA program and was wondering if the GMAT test is required or can I submit GRE scores?



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

Hi Christine, the GMAT is required for the Evening MBA Program. It would be a rare exception for us to accept the GRE instead of the GMAT.

12:06

**Comment From Alex**

Hi, Could you please tell me what's the typical background of the evening class student?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Alex, welcome to today's chat!

Evening MBA students come from a variety of backgrounds - 35% from business, 35% from science/engineering/technology, 30% from government/non-profit/military.

Average experience for an Evening MBA student is 6-7 years while experience ranges from 2-20 years.

Evening MBA students are in roles - from individual contributor to supervisory to entrepreneur.

12:05



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Currently I am in a leadership course where we are discussing best methods to achieve successful performance reviews. The diversity of the cohort gives great perspectives and ideas and I know have many new ideas to make these mandatory sessions productive and beneficial to the employee.

12:04



**Katie Sweeney, Evening MBA '18:**

Hi Everyone! My name is Katie Sweeney and I am in the Evening MBA program, class of 2018. I currently work at UW Health in Madison, WI as a supervisor in Information Services.

12:04

**Comment From Tim V**

Hi, Jean. Am I the only person currently in attendance for this chat?



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hi Tim, we can see there are other individuals viewing the chat session. Typically, in our chat sessions, we have a few active participants while others choose to read the questions and responses. We welcome all participants today.

12:03



**Mary Erpenbach Executive MBA '18:**

Hi, I currently work with ATT out of Madison, WI. I wanted an MBA to provide an added edge among my peers and found the Executive MBA in Madison is a great program to do that. Meeting every other FRI/SAT fit into my busy work/family routine and the class structure was attainable to adapt to. The professors are very knowledgeable with many years of experience in the corporate world. The quality and reputation of Madison being a top notch school was the main reason for me choosing UW Madison.

12:03



**Doug Exum, Operations Mgr:**

Hello and welcome to today's web chat. My name is Doug Exum and I am the database & operations manager for Evening & Executive MBA Programs. Thanks for joining g us today!

12:02



**Mallory Prouty, EveMBA19:**

Hello! I'm originally from Chicago, IL. I went to Beloit College for my undergrad in Spanish and Anthropology where I graduated in 2009. I live in Madison now and have since 2009, but I lived in Spain in 2013 & 2014 teaching English. I have been working at BMO Harris Bank since the end of 2014 and I finally decided it was the right time for me to get my masters. I joined the program because I wanted to become more knowledgeable about business administration to help me first move up in my company, and then get me into a new industry outside of Retail Banking.

12:00



**Jean Sink, director of admissions:**

Hello and welcome to today's chat. My name is Jean Sink. I'm the Director of Admissions for the Wisconsin Evening & Executive MBA programs at University of Wisconsin-Madison.

I look forward to your questions today. Our panel includes Evening MBA students Katie Sweeney & Mallory Prouty, Executive MBA student Mary Erpenbach, and Operations & Database Manager Doug Exum who works with Evening & Executive MBA students. Thanks for joining us today!

11:55



**University Communications:**

Hello everyone, we will be getting started in 5 minutes. With us for the chat today are members admissions team at the Wisconsin School of Business, along with current Wisconsin Evening & Executive MBA students.

11:37

**Comment From Tim V**

Is this the correct forum for the 12pm cst evening/exec mba chat session, or do I need to relocate?



**University Communications:**

Hi Tim,  
Yes this is the Wisconsin Evening & Executive MBA live chat.



**University Communications:**

Please share how you heard about it by voting in the poll below.

11:34

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( 0% )

Other

( 20% )

11:33



**University Communications:**

Hello everyone and welcome to our Wisconsin Evening and Executive MBA live chat.

We will be getting started right at noon. If you haven't registered for the chat yet, please do so here: [go.wisc.edu/03t621](http://go.wisc.edu/03t621)

10:13 How did you first hear about this web chat?

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