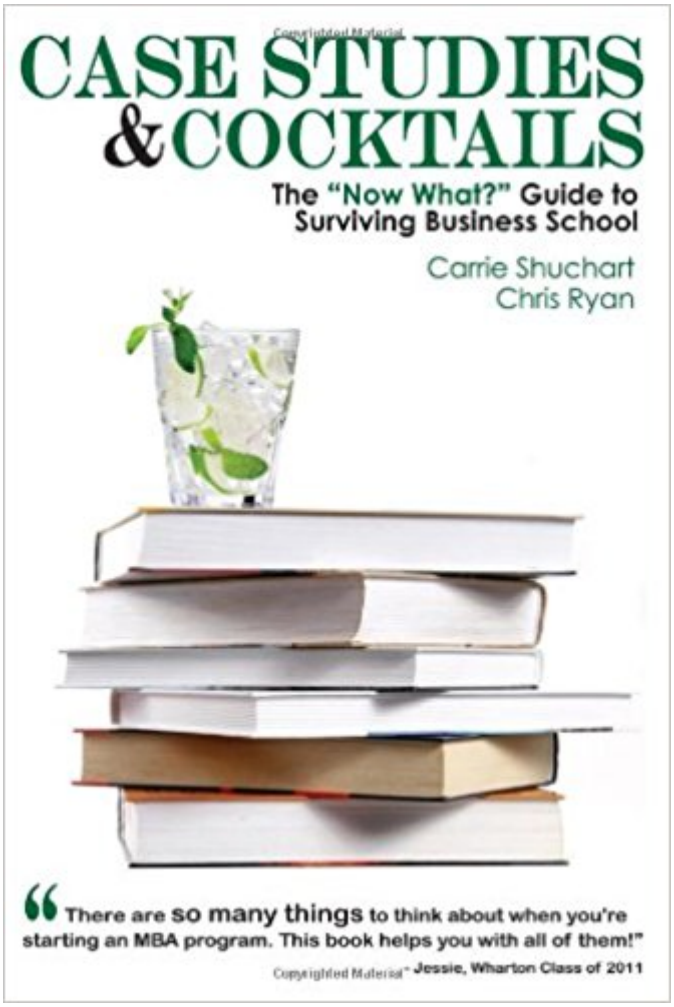
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Case Studies & Cocktails: The "Now What?" Guide To Surviving Business School



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Synopsis

After all the hard work on your application, you're finally in to business school. Now what? The acceptance letter is just the beginning of your MBA experience. Even before classes start, you'll face all kinds of new challenges: financing your degree, readjusting to homework, schmoozing recruiters. Now you can turn to this book, produced by Manhattan GMAT--one of the leading names in GMAT preparation--to ready you for the challenges you'll face as a newly-minted MBA candidate. Case Studies & Cocktails will be your go-to guide as you prepare to enter your MBA program and throughout your time at b-school. The authors--MBAs themselves--have drawn on their own experiences and interviewed current students for the inside scoop on every aspect of b-school, from telling the boss you're going back to school to balancing wine and cheese in one hand while networking. The result is both a handbook for the social side of school and an academic primer on the material you'll have to master. The book even includes a glossary of need-to-know jargon, so you won't feel lost when classmates start slinging around acronyms. What Faculty & Students Are Saying: "I think this is an awesome idea. There are tons of books out there about how to get in but nothing about how to survive business school." -Dr. Tim Flood, Assistant Professor of Management and Corporate Communication, UNC's Kenan-Flagler School of Business "This is a totally underserved market. The elation of getting in is awesome but then reality sets in. You have to make a decision. Then you send in your thousand dollar check and you get this giant book of stuff to do and a t-shirt and its overwhelming. You're proud to wear your t-shirt, but it's tough to get through the rest. No one tells you when to quit your job, when to stop traveling, how to find roommates and a place to live. I would definitely have read [Case Studies & Cocktails] if I knew it was around. I might have even read it as an aspirational thing before I applied." -Matt, Ross '11, President, Student Government Association "I love what this book is talking about. There's a real need for this. I'm so glad to see that someone is getting this done -- I just wish we'd thought of it." -Al Catrone, Chief Administrative Officer, University of Michigan's Ross School of Business "Any insight is great. Read all of this advice and it will make you more wide-eyed and ready to absorb. Be ready to take it all in because you never know what's next." -Liz, Berkeley - Haas '11, President, MBA Association

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Customer Reviews

Congratulations! You've just been admitted to business school! Now what? Have no fear, Case Studies & Cocktails has you covered. This all-in-one guide provides the tools for living and working as a business school student. Whether you're stressed about paying tuition, valuing bonds, repairing a dysfunctional team, or mastering the ins and outs of recruiting, the solutions are in this comprehensive guide: - Follow a structured game plan that takes you from your acceptance to your arrival on campus. - Use game theory to split the rent with your roommate. - Demystify the math side of the b-school curriculum with thorough introductions to quantitative topics. - Get the scoop on common MBA career paths--and not-so-common ones. - Manage your life and your money with numerous downloadable calendars and worksheets. - Look up need-to-know jargon in the handy glossary. The authors are b-school grads who've "been there and done that." Plus, they teach for Manhattan GMAT, the best in the test-prep biz, so you know they can break down complicated material. Current students and staff from over a dozen top programs have also contributed their insights and suggestions.

A native of the First State, Chris Ryan has an A.B. in Physics from Harvard University. Before getting an MBA from the Fuqua School of Business (Duke), he taught high school science through Teach for America and later in private schools. At Fuqua, Chris was head TA of the core Statistics and Finance courses, as well as Curriculum Representative and FuquaVision co-president. After b-school, he worked for McKinsey & Co. in New York, then joined Manhattan GMAT, where he now serves as the Director of Product and Instructor Development. In his spare time, Chris writes moody music, tinkers with moody screenplays, and occasionally hangs out with his wife Kathryn at home in Brooklyn.

This book has been great for me as I head to business school this fall. I haven’t yet been there to verify its accuracy, but the introductions and tips have been invaluable so far. Or, at least, worth more than the price of the book and the time required to read it.Of course, there are plenty of things in it you won’t need, but if you needed everything in the book, you wouldn’t have gotten into business school. The only way they can give you what you need is by including everything and letting you find it.They also have a very readable style and offer "insider" tips and details, like how to pronounce all those acronyms you’re running across in MBA blogs and management literature. Sure, you know what they mean, but how do people say them? Those are the types of tips that prove to me they know what we need to hear.

The author’s quick refreshers of the background class material was somewhat helpful. Overall, this book did not have very much depth and was more focused on the fun potential and status of an MBA. It is not a title for the serious applicant.

Easy to read and with some great tips for MBA students both inside and outside the classroom. Slightly more useful for full-time as opposed to part-time students as the sections on housing and quitting your current job wouldn’t normally apply to PT students. The overview of major topics (e.g. financial accounting) encountered in any MBA program is particularly helpful as is the career building section with tips on networking and interviewing.

Once I discovered this book, I give it to every college graduate I know. And their response is amazingly positive - for example - "I think this book gave me the correct info to get into grad school" " This book has been a lifesaver!" These replies give me a reason to give a gift that is appreciated as well as functional. It’s pretty much my standard for gift giving to students. Great info anyway! and interesting reading.

You can call this book a B-school 101. That’s good if you are absolutely clueless about American B-schools experience. It is not so good if you are already familiar with B-school experience or are in your 2nd year.About 60% of the book deals with nitty gritty details of the B-school experience such as how to find a roommate, how to deal with recruiting, what you should expect from your professors and classmates, etc. In my opinion, much of the advice is common sense, such as don’t drink too much alcohol at recruiting events (although I have seen plenty of B-school students ignore some common sense advice).About 35-40% of the book provides an overview of much of first year

B-school curriculum. Unfortunately, the overview doesn't have enough depth to be any useful but takes up substantial portion of the book. From my experience, it's best to take statistics (and Calc too) prior to B-school. But you may find professors teach similar concepts slightly differently and may focus on certain areas of a topic more than others. In other words, don't bother preparing for B-school curriculum.I would recommend this book particularly to international students who are headed to American B-schools and to those who are generally clueless about B-school experience.Otherwise, you won't get much out of it.

I recommend this as a short, humorous crash course into MBA school environment and course basics. It is a launching point to much studying.

This was recommended to me by some current students in the program that I was admitted to. It's really a great book. Very informative and full of humor. A must read for anyone who is about to start a full-time MBA program.

It seems most books marketed to the prospective and current business school student population are high on price and low on value. I expected this book to be the same, but I was blown away. First off this book is 650 nearly full pages of answers to the questions you have or maybe haven't even thought of yet. The material is current and very relevant. My only concern is that there are so many date specific references in this book that it could become obsolete in just a couple years.The authors clearly have been in our shoes very recently and the many footnotes answer the exact sub question the text raises in my head. For example in the section on grades and non disclosure policies there is a footnote that most employers do not care about grades and those who do find out either way so consult second year students on how to best manage this issue. Even the humorous references are right on point with the 26-30 year old target audience. I can't say enough about how useful and even enjoyable this book is. Even if I don't end up doing things differently I feel well informed about each of the decisions I will make.

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