About

The University of Virginia Darden School of Business delivers the world’s best business education experience to prepare entrepreneurial, global-minded and responsible leaders through its MBA, Ph.D. and Executive Education programs. Darden’s top-ranked faculty is renowned for teaching excellence and advances practical business knowledge through research. Darden was established in 1955 at the University of Virginia, a top public university founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819 in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Darden At-A-Glance

Founded in 1955

67 world-class full-time tenure and tenure track faculty members

9 dual degrees offered

10 research centers and initiatives

895 MBA, EMBA, GEMBA and Ph.D. students

Facts & Figures

Get to know us better.

Student Body | Class of 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MBA</th>
<th>33%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Minorities</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class size 345

International (born outside U.S.)

Average Age of Entry 27

GMAT Score 712

Undergraduate GPA 3.5

Executive MBA Formats (EMBA and GEMBA)

120 Class size (94 EMBA/26 GEMBA)

10% International

10 Countries Represented

17 US States/Regions Represented

24% Domestic Minorities

25% Women

35 Average Age

Alumni Network

As a Darden student, you gain immediate access to:

15,000 alumni from 90 countries on 6 continents

28 international alumni chapters and community groups

23 Domestic chapters and community groups

220,000 You also have access to UVA’s alumni network, which include more than 220,000 alumni

Employers

Some of the most prestigious companies in the world are hiring Darden students.

TOP COMPANIES HIRING AT DARDEN

Boston Consulting Group, Inc., The (BCG)

McKinsey & Company

Microsoft Corp.

Accenture

Bain & Company, Inc.

PwC

Amazon.com, Inc.

Deloitte Consulting

J.P. Morgan

Strategy& (formerly Booz & Co.)

A.T. Kearney, Inc

Anheuser-Busch InBev (ABI)

Citi

Credit Suisse

Deutsche Bank

Rankings

Darden consistently ranks among the top business schools in surveys of MBA programs.

DARDEN FULL-TIME MBA

No. 3 The Economist (Global & North America) 2016
No. 12 Bloomberg Businessweek 2015
No. 14 Financial Times (U.S.) 2016
No. 16 Forbes 2016

MBA SPECIALTY

No. 1 Education Experience (The Economist 2011-16)
No. 1 Student Satisfaction (Forbes 2015-16)
No. 1 General Management (Financial Times 2016)
No. 1 Career Placement of Top 20 B-Schools (U.S. News & World Report 2016)
No. 3 Best Professors (The Princeton Review 2016)
No. 3 Entrepreneurship (Financial Times 2016)
No. 4 Best Campus Environment (The Princeton Review 2016)
No. 5 Open New Career Opportunities (The Economist 2016)
No. 5 Greatest Opportunity for Women (The Princeton Review 2016)
No. 5 Placement Success (Financial Times 2016)
No. 7 Best Career Prospects (The Princeton Review 2016)

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION (Financial Times 2016)

No. 2 Open-Enrollment Programs (U.S. Schools)
No. 4 Open-Enrollment Programs (Global)
No. 1 Faculty
No. 1 Course Design
No. 1 Preparation
No. 1 Teaching Methods and Materials
No. 1 Food and Accommodations
No. 1 Facilities
About Exchange

The Exchange Program at Darden is run through the Darden Center for Global Initiatives, Darden’s hub for global academic programming and partnerships. Trisha Hongcharti manages the incoming and outgoing exchange program and will be your main contact as you apply to Darden. You will primarily work with the following people:

Exchange students may study at Darden for either 1 or 2 quarters in the fall (late August – mid December) or spring semester (mid-January – mid May). Exchange students are considered Second Year (SY) students at Darden (students in their second year of the full-time 2-year MBA program). **Exact term dates will be released in February 2017.**

While there is no set nomination deadline, partner schools must email Trisha Hongcharti the name and email of exchange students with enough time for the students to meet the application materials deadlines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2017 Term:</th>
<th>Spring 2018 Term:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 1: Late August – mid-October</td>
<td>Quarter 3: Mid-January – mid-March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 2: Mid-October – mid-December</td>
<td>Quarter 4: Early April – mid May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are applying to attend Darden during Quarter 1 and/or 2, application materials must be received by **March 27, 2017**

If you are applying to attend Darden during Quarter 3 and/or 4, application materials must be received by **October 2, 2017**

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**Estimated cost to attend Darden for one quarter (about 2 months):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roundtrip economy airfare between IAD and Zurich, Switzerland</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
<td>Average airfare of all cities in which partner schools are located</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent + utilities</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
<td>It is often harder to find housing in the fall semester since more full-time residential students study abroad in the spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Students have free use of Charlottesville buses. This cost will increase if you take cabs or rent a car.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Materials Fee</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Covers copyright permissions, course syllabi, required cases and technical notes, articles, reprints, handouts, and certain computer-based learning packages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UVa Aetna Health Insurance</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>May be cheaper if you buy insurance elsewhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,650</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total does not include visa costs (if any), immunizations (will vary), and miscellaneous expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*Last updated 1/20/2017*
Exchange Process
Click on a step to learn more

1. **Partner university nominates student for exchange**
2. **Trisha emails student exchange application**
3. **Student mails Trisha required application materials by deadline**
4. **Trisha will send application materials to Linda**
5. **Linda will ship DS-2019 Form to student**
6. **Student will take form to U.S. Embassy in home country to obtain J-1 visa**

- **Student sends course selections to Amanda**
- **Student works on required health forms**
- **Student sends Trisha electronic headshot and resume/CV**
- **Student tells Trisha if they'll need to borrow a loaner laptop (no charge)**
- **Student searches for and secures housing near Darden**

- **Student sends Trisha travel itinerary when finalized**
- **Student attends 3 mandatory orientations at Darden**
- **Enjoy Darden and Charlottesville**
- **Take advantage of the resources at Darden**

_Last updated 1/20/2017_
Required Application Materials

The following documents are needed to officially enroll as an exchange student. Please send these all at once via overnight courier to Trisha Hongcharti at the following address:

Trisha Hongcharti
University of Virginia
Darden Graduate Business School
Center for Global Initiatives
100 Darden Boulevard
Charlottesville, VA 22903 U.S.A.

☒ Darden Incoming Exchange Student Application
   This will be emailed to you shortly after you are nominated by your home institution. It is important to use the full name that is on your passport. All documents should have the same full name.

☒ Academic Transcript from your Academic Institution listing courses and grades
   Request form included on page #3 of Darden Incoming Exchange Student Application

☒ Financial Documentation
   You will continue to pay the tuition and fees at your home institution (and not to Darden) during the period of your exchange, as that is part of the exchange agreement Darden has with its partner schools. However, in order to receive the DS-2019 Form for a J-1 Visa, you need to submit evidence that you have the financial resources to cover your cost-of-living budget. For a single semester, this amount is $12,000 USD. For a quarter, the amount is $6,000 USD. Evidence to this effect includes any one of the following (i) affidavit, in English, of support from sponsor, such as a parent or legal guardian; (ii) personal bank statement, indicating that you have the minimum funds available; (iii) scholarship letter from home institution or other organization that includes full amount of the award and the dates it will be available to you.

☒ Letter of Endorsement from your Institution
   Your academic institution is required to submit a letter of endorsement on your behalf. This letter’s content should include a confirmation that you are registered through your school’s exchange program, a confirmation of which term or terms you will be studying at Darden, and a positive endorsement of your request to attend Darden.

☒ Copy of your TOEFL/IELTS score or a letter from your home institution if the program is taught in English

☒ Transcript Release Form
   Included on page #4 of Darden Incoming Exchange Student Application

☒ Photocopy of front page of your passport
☒ Your current resume/CV
Course Information

Darden Course Contact Hours:
A course that meets 14 times for 85 minutes each time has a credit hour value of 1.5 credit hours. A course that meets 28 times for 85 minutes each time has a credit hour value of 3.0 credit hours.

Thus, a course that meets 14 times for 85 minutes has approximately 20 contact hours (19 hours & 50 minutes) and a course that meets 28 times for 85 minutes has approximately 40 contact hours (39 hours & 40 minutes). In addition, each class normally requires 2 hours of preparation.

Darden Grading System and Grade Points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DP</td>
<td>Distinguished Performance</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP</td>
<td>High Performance</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP</td>
<td>Standard Performance</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP</td>
<td>Low Performance</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UP</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory Performance</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Fail/No Credit</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Distribution for SY Electives (top-end distribution):

- DP: 5-25%
- HP: 15-35%
- SP, LP, UP, F (combined): 40-70%

Course Selection:
At times, the demand is greater than the capacity and we are not always able to accommodate every student. However, we save 5 spaces in each class for exchange students so the sooner you email Amanda Mills your course selections, the greater the likelihood you will receive your preferred classes. Course descriptions are available at the Registrar's website (course descriptions for the fall semester will not be available until ~April).

*You may not add yourself to a waitlist. You must wait for the waitlist to be exhausted to enroll in a course.*

Take advantage of the academic resources when you are researching courses of interest, particularly the Second Year Calendar. To view Course Descriptions, select "Abstract" under the specific course number in the course directory. When searching for courses, be sure to note whether a course meets “early week” (Monday/Tuesday) or “late week” (Wednesday/Thursday). While there are no scheduled class sessions on Fridays, conferences and programs often take place on Fridays.

*Spring semester students may take Early Quarter 4 (EQ4) classes, which are intensive 1-2 week courses that take place between Q3 and Q4 during spring break. Exchange students may not participate in Darden Worldwide Courses nor Global Consulting Projects.*

Exchange students need to have a minimum of 6 credit hours per quarter/12 credit hours per semester. Your university may require more. You may take fewer than the minimum if your school verifies that you only need a certain number to complete your degree. Most Darden students take between 4 and 6 courses per quarter. Please note: 8000 level courses are Second-Year Courses.

Last updated 1/20/2017
**Required Health Forms**

**Pre-Entrance Student Health Record**

Every new student, including exchange students, has to file the Pre-Entrance Student Health Record maintained by the University of Virginia’s Elson Student Health Center. The deadline to submit this form is listed on their website. **If you are only coming for Quarter 2, the fall semester deadline still applies to you (usually August). If you are only coming for Quarter 4, the spring semester deadline still applies to you (usually January).** It is strongly recommended that you submit all your health records well in advance of the deadline to allow time for processing. If your health records are in a language other than English, you will need to have your health provider’s office translate the records into English.

If you have any questions, contact Medical Records.

**Health Insurance for J-1 Scholars and Exchange Students:**

Exchange students are subject to the "hard waiver" requirement for international students. The hard waiver is a verification process that enables the University to verify that your insurance meets the University's standards of coverage. If your insurance does not meet these standards you will be automatically enrolled in the University's insurance program through Aetna. The bill will show up on your UVa SIS account. For more information about the hard waiver requirements and process as well as details about the Aetna insurance program please visit the [Elson Student Health Center website](https://www.elsongroup.com).

The list below includes health insurances that Fall 2016 exchange students purchased that were approved as comparable coverage. Please note there is no guarantee they will be approved again.

- **PGH Student – Global Care Preferred**
- **ISO Care-Unlimited**
- **Compass Benchmark Plus**
- **AXA – ARE policy plan (German)** (this policy must be purchased before entering the US)

For questions regarding the status of a waiver application, the online waiver site, online waiver process, or online enrollment process, please contact Aetna Student Health at 1-800-466-3027. For all other questions, contact UVa Student Health at hardwaiver@virginia.edu or call +1-434-243-2702.
Housing

All exchange students are responsible for finding their own housing for the duration of their stay at Darden. Sometimes on-campus housing will be available for short-term leases close to the beginning of the term if the apartments were unable to fill one-year leases.

If your stay will be one quarter at Darden, you may contact UVa’s International Center about lodging. They do not rent longer than 3 months. They only have six rooms, so the sooner you inquire about availability, the greater your chance is of being given a room. Email: intlctr@virginia.edu or call: +1-434-924-7983 to make an inquiry on room availability.

The following list are apartments within close distance of Darden:

- University Heights  1-888-559-9510
- Ivy Garden Apartments  +1-434-220-6650
- Jeffersonian Apartments  +1-434-977-3070
- Huntington Village  +1-434-971-9764, ext. 103
- Copeley Apartments  +1-434-924-3736
- Woodard Properties (North Grounds Arlington Boulevard locations)  +1-434-971-8860
- The Pavilion at North Grounds  +1-434-295-0070

We may also have information on sublets. When we receive information about our Darden students that want to sublet their housing while they are on exchange, we will let you know by email.

Feel free to visit these Charlottesville sites for other housing options:

- craigslist
- Airbnb

A Fall 2016 exchange student recommended that Chinese students can contact the Chinese Students and Scholars Society for housing assistance and advice about student life in Charlottesville.
Getting to Charlottesville

Flight to Charlottesville Albemarle Airport
One of the easiest ways to get to Charlottesville is to fly directly into the city and then take a taxi to your destination or rent a car if you need a vehicle for more than one day. One advantage of flying directly into Charlottesville is that it does not require as much coordination with other forms of transportation, which can be a huge plus if you are traveling with a lot of luggage when you move here. It is also generally faster (although layovers in connecting cities can sometimes make the travel time longer). The main disadvantage is that flights to Charlottesville can sometimes be quite a bit more expensive than flying into either Washington, D.C. or Richmond, and there are fewer non-stop flights.

Flight to Richmond International Airport
The Richmond Airport is about an hour-and-a-half drive from Darden. Flights into Richmond are generally cheaper than flights directly to Charlottesville, but this option requires renting a car or taking a Greyhound bus once you arrive in Richmond. Compared to the drive from Washington, D.C. to Charlottesville, the drive from Richmond to Charlottesville is faster and generally easier and has less traffic.

Flight to Washington Dulles International Airport or Reagan National Airport
If you are traveling cross country or internationally, it will probably be easiest to find a flight to one of these two airports. From here, you have a few options (it is advisable to book everything in advance):

- Book another leg of your trip to Charlottesville Albemarle Airport.
- Rent a car. (Avis, Hertz, and National have locations in Charlottesville)
- Take a bus to Union Station and either take an Amtrak train or a Greyhound bus to Charlottesville. If you are traveling with a lot of luggage or are not familiar with public transportation, we do not recommend this option.

Amtrak Train to Charlottesville
Please note that if you arrive at Dulles Airport and have scheduled Amtrak transportation to Charlottesville, you will be required to hire a taxi or find other means of transportation from the airport to Amtrak’s Union Station in Washington, D.C. From the Baltimore Washington International Airport, (BWI) a train can take you to Union Station in Washington, where you may catch a train to Charlottesville. The Amtrak Station is centrally located in downtown Charlottesville.

Bus - The Greyhound Bus Station is also located in downtown Charlottesville, less than a mile from UVA Main Grounds.

*A reminder that it is customary to tip a taxi driver between 10-15% of your taxi fare.*

Last updated 1/20/2017
Orientation

You will be required to attend three mandatory orientations.

1. **Darden Orientation**
   This usually takes place at Darden the Friday afternoon before classes begin. Please plan to arrive the night before as this orientation takes up about half a day. Note: The start date listed on the DS-2019 Form is the first day of classes, but the J-1 visa allows entry up to 30 days in advance of the start date. So there should be no visa requirement that prevents your arrival in order to make it for the mandatory orientation. Thus, exchange students are welcome to arrive earlier than the term start date.

2. **The University of Virginia International Studies Office (ISO) Orientation**
   The University of Virginia’s International Studies Office will have a mandatory orientation/registration event for international students that usually takes place the day before classes begin. When possible, the ISO orientation may take place on the same day as the Darden orientation.

3. **Honor Code Session**
   This short session will take place some time during the first two weeks of classes and will explain the University of Virginia's Honor Code.

Enjoy Darden and Charlottesville

- Darden Grounds
- Exploring UVa and Charlottesville
- Facts about Charlottesville
- The Good Old App
- Catch a Show
- Parks and Recreation
- Getting Around
- Athletics and Intramurals
- Shopping
- Restaurants and Groceries
Resources

Darden Social Media
Facebook Page
Twitter
Instagram
LinkedIn University Page
LinkedIn Company Page
YouTube
Google+
Flickr

Banking
Banking While at UVa and ATM Cards

English Language Support
If you would like additional support on improving your English skills once you are at Darden, you can contact the University of Virginia’s Center for American English Language and Culture (CAELC) to learn more about their services.

The Lorna Sundberg International Center
A division of the International Studies Office, we help support the University’s broader global education initiatives by offering: programs and services to enhance the experience of UVA’s international students, scholars, faculty and families and opportunities for intercultural enrichment for the University and the local community.

Darden Office of Student Affairs (OSA)
Our mission and philosophy is one of integrative learning: developing complete leaders through a blend of challenge and support across the classroom, co-curricular, social and interpersonal environments.

Darden Student Clubs
The Darden School’s numerous student organizations work together to provide a complete and well-rounded experience to Darden students. They enhance and integrate students’ academic, social, cultural and professional lives by:

- Providing career support and preparation
- Organizing social, cultural and academic events
- Liaising with the professional and alumni communities
- Promoting dialogue and learning through speakers and conferences
- Interacting with and supporting the local Charlottesville community

Last updated 1/20/2017
Career Development Center (CDC) Exchange Student Policy:
As an exchange or visiting student, you may take advantage of the following services:

Career Services Library:
Complete, unrestricted access to all CDC materials on loan or reserve at the Darden Library. A comprehensive array of up-to-date resources is maintained in the library for all students to use. These resources include information provided by each company that recruits at Darden, as well as a variety of electronic and hardcopy books, self-help manuals, and related literature.

Company Briefings:
Registration and attendance all company briefings held at Darden. Company briefings will be held in the fall. Company briefings provide Darden students with general and informal information about an organization, its training programs and typical career paths.

Career Workshops:
Registration and attendance at any of the career management and skill building workshops sponsored by CDC. A variety of workshops are held each year that focus on resume development, career strategy, web-based job resources, interviewing techniques, and many others.

Individual Career Coaching:
Beginning in November, limited access to consultation and coaching with Denise Karaoli, Career Advisor and Associate Director of International Programs and Opportunities. Exchange and visiting students are limited to basic consultation time which generally centers on resume preparation and overall career strategy.

Darden Student Clubs and Activities:
Unrestricted access and eligibility to become a member of any of Darden’s student organized career clubs. Most clubs require students to pay annual dues before becoming a member. These clubs host a number of programs that assist their members in identifying jobs or careers within their selected industry. Decisions to include exchange student resumes in club resume books will be up to the club presidents and executive committee members.

Leadership Speaker Series:
Opportunity to hear leading industry experts discuss relevant business topics throughout the school year. Darden’s Distinguished Speaker Series is open to all students and provides an excellent chance to meet leading business executives representing a diverse array of industries.

As an exchange or visiting student, the following services and activities are not available to you:
• Submission of a resume to the Darden Multi-Media Resume Book
• Participation in CDC sponsored student facilitated mock interviews
• Participation in CDC sponsored student facilitated resume reviews
• Participation in the On-Grounds interview process
• Submission of resumes to CDC job postings
• Participation in any company's Office Hours
• Participation in the networking portion of company briefings
• Participation in Networking Luncheons or Networking Nights
• Participation in Darden Job Treks
• Participation in Darden-sponsored interview fairs

Last updated 1/20/2017
Feedback from Fall 2016 Exchange Students

“Whole Darden exchange experience was great. I found the students' attitude towards engaging with exchange students and the systems in place to trigger interactions were extremely supportive. Also the lectures were extremely helpful and accommodating.”

“Kristen Pappas and Trisha Hongcharti did an amazing job accommodating all my questions prior to Darden Exchange. Quality of information received was great. Well-rehearsed process and all the documents I required were given in advance.”

“I didn’t really feel any special treatment, neither advantages, nor disadvantages of being an exchange student in class. I was part of the class of 2017 as I think it should be.”

“The exchange really exceeded my expectations. I didn’t expect myself to appreciate the case method this much. Also, since Darden doesn’t have that strong of a reputation in Europe, I was positively surprised by the average intellectual level and class performance. Finally, Charlottesville as a city definitely was nicer than expected.”

“The quality of teaching and the support from every single person at Darden was extraordinary and noticeably student-centric”

“Darden gave me the courage to go out there and start my own business, which I think, I only got because I went through the Darden culture and systems.”

“As expected, in terms of workload, Darden is known to be very tough, and it’s true.”

“Being in VA I was not sure what to expect. I didn't expect to be part of the Darden community and get involved with the community as much I was able to. However, the processes which were in place and the Darden community welcomed me and made sure I was part of it.”

Last updated 1/20/2017