

Hailing from the heart of Europe and interacting with a world that is rich in culture and ways of life, I had always dreamt of a life beyond the confines of a single nation or culture. Perhaps that is why I had such an affection for social sciences and business. Impressed in all aspects by the European Union as an economic and socio-political success, I graduated from high school with a major in economics. My major helped me understand how the world's trade, economic, and business practices had evolved in the face of globalisation and how it would take shape in the future.

Internationalism has been such a core part of my identity that I learned English early in life, as it would broaden my horizons considerably. This, coupled with spending a year in the United States when I was ten, made me more adventurous and cherish diversity. Upon returning home, I found that outlet through my family's foreign wholesale trade business, an opportunity that allowed me to not only interact with people from all corners of Europe but the entire world. I saw how business connected people, forging ties that transformed not just their personal lives but also their communities and society at large. Over the years, as I gained a better understanding of economics through my schooling, I became more confident in engaging with my family's business. This culminated with me working at my family's office for two years, managing documents and carrying out quality inspections.

While immensely benefiting from practical experience at my family's business, I sought other prospects to acquire an overview of the world of international business. One such opportunity was my time at the Boston Consulting Group, where I learned about a different yet indispensable aspect of business: management. At BCG, I studied, at length, about management styles, leadership strategies, and business planning. This knowledge proved invaluable when I eventually took the bold step of moving halfway around the world to Hong Kong, taking up an apprenticeship at M-Tek Ltd., an Electronics Manufacturer. It was a completely different environment than I had been accustomed to, yet the novelty and diversity of the experience were exactly what I always preferred.

The past year in Hong Kong has been an unparalleled learning experience and the most instrumental to my development as a potential business leader. Aside from my 9 to 5 job at M-Tek, I have undertaken several extracurricular activities, including volunteering for local charities with the Malteser. Every week, I assist young individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who often have challenging family histories, offering them emotional support by sincerely listening to their woes.

These experiences have taught me a great deal about communication with individuals and fostering empathy. At the same time, all these commitments taught me to effortlessly manage multiple responsibilities simultaneously- a quality intrinsic to great managers.

Having accumulated considerable knowledge and experience to excel at university, I have found it most sensible to pursue my undergraduate degree in management. With university being the first step to building a full-fledged career, I consider the Bachelor in Management at the École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ESCP) to be that fortuitous step. The choice has required little deliberation on my part, as I believe I possess the intellectual proficiency and commendable experience to shine in a multicultural environment as at ESCP. In essence, I consider myself as internationally oriented as the institute itself, thereby cementing my chances for a memorable, fruitful learning experience.

Aside from the excellent opportunity to study in three different cities that harmonise with my explorer's spirit, I feel the course offering is also bespoke tailored to my aspirations. Courses such as *European Institutions and Comparative Political Systems* and *Contract and Business*

*Law in Europe* shed light on the legal and political ties of businesses, whereas modules like *Statistics and Probability* and *Accounting* offer a more analytical insight. Combined with internship opportunities, the programme leaves no stone unturned in its attempt to create a well-rounded manager with all the bearings of an effective leader. Furthermore, the forward-thinking nature of the programme has resonated with me deeply, as the emphasis on liberal arts will allow me to address the changes in the business landscape, focusing on issues such as sustainability, ESG, minority rights, and how we can create a more inclusive space for people from all backgrounds. Ultimately, just as the more conditions a phenomenon possesses, the lower the probability of its existence, similarly, the innumerable stellar qualities of the programme make it singularly unique for someone of my disposition.

Looking back at my life, I feel that my experiences have shaped me into an ideal student for your programme. My academic background in economics and professional background in business will help me excel in relevant courses, while my time in different countries and cultures will empower me to contribute to the erudite community. Moreover, as a continuous learner, I am confident I will be able to teach a great deal to my peers and equally learn from them. I am already on my way to becoming fluent in Mandarin, which will allow me to connect deeply with other Mandarin speakers as well as open up new opportunities in other parts of the world. As I aspire to start my own enterprise, such skills are as indispensable as they are distinctive.

I view the Bachelor's degree in Management as the first step in becoming an effective leader and building a successful business. It will help me develop the key skills to participate in an innovative business environment and continue to grow as a leader and a liaison between cultures. Therefore, I am eager to contribute to the ESCP community, as it is the perfect home for a cosmopolitan, open-minded and committed candidate who wants to bring together people to continue the tradition of creating something remarkable through diversity and inclusion.