**ESSEC Business School - ESSEC-Mannheim Executive MBA**

* This program is for people who are about 38 years old, with an average of 8 years of work experience and 2 to 3 years in leadership. Usually the recruitment team receives about a 150 applications and takes about 25 persons for the module and 40 for the weekend program. The budgetary responsibilities you held help the faculty to understand the context in which you have evolved, but it does not influence your application.
* One third of the group has technical skills and wants to get more general business skills, but there are also people coming from business fields who want to deepen their knowledge.
* The faculty tries to keep an individual attention to each participant as well a focus on personal leadership development (team building exercises, a military seminar…). The objective is also to help you create a strong network.
* All the classes are taught in English: usually the recruitment team will determine whether you have a sufficient level to follow the classes through the interview.
* Regarding your application: you will need to detail your career and your motivation, but there is also essays about your professional goals, your leadership potential, your international experience, your extra curriculum interests…
* Then the interview is divided between first a discussion with a headhunter who is appreciating if your career matches the program and then a second meeting with some representatives of the faculty. A tip: the interview should be a dialogue. They want people ready to share things, to participate actively to the class. Be ready to speak about your experiences and what your learnt through the years.
* The partnership was built to reinforce the French-German couple, but in fact the two schools are quite complementary as the Manheim business school is focus on BVS (law, accounting, finance…), which goes well with the management skills of the ESSEC. The value added of Franco-German program is to mix two types of thinking and of practice. The objective is to permit you to adopt a flexible and creative thinking allowing you to work in a multicultural context.
* The program will provide you with a toolbox (i.e. fundamental business classes). However, in order to develop your leadership skills, you will evolve in groups through exercises, coaching sessions… One example is the MCT (multi competence teams) about 5 people team, teams are as diverse as possible and a group coach will help you go through the projects.
* Another advantage: with this program you don’t just get one stamp, but two from very international schools.
* The program also gives you the chance to follow five days seminars in different cities: company visits, speaker events, and meetings with entrepreneurs… The objective is to broaden your scope of action.

* Another quite interesting element is that the program is flexible and therefore if you ask to lay stress on some subject, the teaching team will listen to you and adapt the program.
* Another plus: there is no dominant culture, the participants are coming from various countries and the faculty organizes different moment for participants of the two campuses to meet.
* Some participants are sponsored by their companies who want them to develop certain skills and deepen their capacities before a promotion, but there are also instances of people who want to explore different areas outside of their sphere
* The entrepreneurial project gathers everything you have learnt in the program: you build up your team around a project. It lasts one year and you have a tutor. About 10% of the projects become real companies.
* Last but not least: you will have the chance to work on a social class project. Concretely it is a project involving everyone in the program. The objective is to teach you how to manage large group and prepare you for real life challenges!