Texas Tech University  
Jerry S. Rawls College of Business Administration

**Academics**

“Academics are on the rise” at Texas Tech University’s Rawls College of Business, where the main attraction is a slew of special concentrations and unique joint-degree programs. One future attorney says, “Texas Tech is one of the few schools that offers a 3-year joint JD/MBA program, [in which] I am currently enrolled. Most schools offer these degrees in a minimum of 4 years.” The health organization management specialization and MD/MBA are also huge draws for many students (not to mention the school’s “great facilities” and “reasonable price”). Rawls’s proximity to the School of Law and School of Medicine facilitate these partnerships. Joint-degrees are also available in architecture, foreign languages, personal financial planning, and environmental toxicology. Other notable concentrations include agribusiness, entrepreneurship, and statistics. Students gave less than rave reviews to the accounting department, which one student says “has completely ruined my chances of becoming CPA-eligible, as I am an MBA student, and they no longer allow MBA students to take graduate accounting courses.”

The Rawls faculty consists of many “well-published, tenured, and highly regarded members of the academic community”—“passionate” teachers who “are interested in the students, not just [in] the research.” The faculty “comes from all parts of the world,” and “Their experiences and industry knowledge bring a complete understanding to the subject matter.” One student cautions that “some male professors are still outdated in their ideas about women. They are not against women in power positions, but they sometimes make assumptions about women.” Professors are “accommodating” to students who “lack a business background” and “are always willing to put in the extra hour for anyone who needs extra help.” Students had mostly positive things to say about the administration, noting that it has done “everything possible to ensure that students can be enrolled in their appropriate classes. It has made registration a breeze.” Some students wish the administration would make “more inclusion of other cultures, ethnicities, and women” in the faculty and classroom a priority.

**Career and Placement**

“TTU has a strong alumni base that tries to hire new graduates,” students say. “It is not uncommon for several alumni to be employed at the same company.” The Career Management Center serves both undergraduates and graduates, and “Many students, even graduate students, find jobs” thanks to the center’s services. Some students complain that the CMC “does not put much effort into obtaining job opportunities for [international students]” and that when grad students ask about working in companies with little or no relationship to Rawls, “We are often told that . . . it is out of the question.” Eighty percent of Rawls MBAs take jobs in Texas and the Southwest. The vast majority of grads enter the finance industry, but the highest-paid grads are the 5 percent who go into manufacturing jobs. Top employers include Cintas, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, ExxonMobil, Halliburton, JPMorgan Chase, Lockheed Martin, National Instruments, Plains Capital, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Rolled Alloys, Sherwin Williams, Southwest Bank of Texas, Texas Bank, Texas Tech, USAA, Wal-Mart, and Wells Fargo.
**Student Life and Environment**

“Texas Tech has the best people in the world, hands down,” students say. “People are very laid-back, friendly, and always willing to help. That is what I love about Texas Tech and Lubbock.” Another student agrees, “You can’t walk across campus without someone saying ‘hello.’ Everyone is always smiling, which makes life on campus much more enjoyable.” One student asks, “Where else can you meet a total stranger on campus who is willing to walk you to the building that you just cannot seem to locate??”

Grad students tend to be “conservative,” “friendly, charismatic” Texas Tech grads who “are still in their early 20s and enjoy partying and going out” and often have little work experience. Some students say “The social scene is much more important than working.” While this is great news for students who fit the party mold, one student complains, “I went Greek in undergrad and I loved my sisters in the Tri-Deltas, but I don’t want to relive those days again.”

Rawls students love the “secluded west Texas” city of Lubbock, “a very social town” where everyone is “supportive of Texas Tech and the students.” Students say that “nightlife around the campus is great for after-school networking,” Lubbock may be “in the middle of nowhere,” which makes landing internships difficult, but most students feel the advantages far outweigh any inconveniences. In particular, “The cost of living is extremely cheap”; “three-bedroom/two-bath homes rent for under $1,000 a month.” In addition, “The weather is fair, which makes a lot of outdoor activities.”

**Admissions**

The outlook is good for applicants to Rawls, which has an 82-percent MBA acceptance rate. Successful candidates boast a mean GMAT score of around 526, a mean GPA of 3.4, and 2 years’ average work experience. Those who’d like to get a taste of Rawls before committing can take up to 12 credit hours as nonmatriculated students.