

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Case Competition FAQs

What is a case competition?

A case competition is an event in which teams of students have the opportunity to analyze real-life business problems and make recommendations to a panel of corporate executives and business leaders. Analyzing the same case, each team competes against the others to present the most feasible, comprehensive, and creative solutions.

What are the benefits to participants?

A case competition is a great opportunity for you to:

- Use the skills that you have learned in class and strategically analyze realistic business situations.
- Present to corporate executives and demonstrate your competence.
- Gain leadership experience in a team environment.
- Practice business skills such as teamwork.
- Develop professional contacts and network.

Hiring companies value case competitions and look for students with this kind of experience. Build your resume!

Do you have a list of competitions for the 2008-2009 academic year?

Nanyang Technological University. Singapore	October 2008
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Hong Kong	October 2008
University of Arizona. Tucson, AZ	October 2008
Ohio State University. Columbus, OH	October 2008
Brigham Young University. Provo, UT	November 2008
Diversity in Business Case Competition (sponsored by Target and BEDC)	November 2008
UW IKEA International Case Competition. Seattle, WA	November 2008
University of Auckland. Auckland, New Zealand	January 2009
Concordia University. Montreal, Canada	February 2009
Georgetown University. Washington D.C.	February 2009
UW Global Business Case Competition. Seattle, WA	April 2009
Thammasat University. Bangkok, Thailand	August 2009

Where do I find out about competitions and how do I sign up?

- Register for BA 490 'Case Analysis for Competitive Success.'
- Participate in the UW sponsored case competitions (IKEA, Diversity in Business, and "Get Your Case On"). Watch the Undergraduate Bulletin for periodic postings about how you can become involved.
<http://bschool.washington.edu/undergradbull/default.asp>
- Faculty may recommend students to be on teams.

Does the Foster School pay my expenses?

When invited to represent the Foster School at a case competition, the Foster School or the sponsoring institution will cover the majority of your expenses. This includes airfare, ground transportation, meals and accommodations.

Will my professors let me out of class to go to a competition? I'm concerned that missing that much time will hurt my grades.

The Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs will write a letter for you to provide as proof of your participation in a case competition when you need to miss class. As a courtesy, the instructor often works with you to arrange for missed classes or course work. Be aware that, the faculty member is NOT obligated to do so. You should begin discussing your schedule with faculty at the earliest opportunity to do so.

I'm more of a behind-the-scenes person. Can I still participate in a case competition?

Case competitions involve a lot of planning, and volunteers are always in demand. Managing and organizing proves to be just as challenging and rewarding as participating. Volunteering is another way to gain leadership, management and real world experience, as well as build your networks. You can volunteer for either the IKEA International Case Competition or the Global Business Case Competition. Contact Andrea Gomes, Assistant Director of Undergraduate Global Programs, at agomes@u.washington.edu.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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