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Every week, education expert Sanjeev Verma will answer your queries on studying abroad. E-mail queries to features@gulf-times.com

"I am keen to pursue an MBA abroad. I am still considering where I can study and am more

inclined towards London. Could you give me some advice?"

— Gerald Thompson

Among the post-graduate courses in Business, MBA is by far the preferred choice and there are a large number of institutions where you can obtain one from. I cannot comment on any particular option being the best as it is primarily dependent on the match between the student and the institution. There are more than 200 institutions in North America, the Pacific and the UK that are highly ranked, however, they are still not for all. At this point you must also take into consideration the admission and entry criteria of each to point out the ones that actually match your aspirations and qualifications. A number of institutions, primarily

the ones in North America have made the GMAT, the IELTS/TOEFL mandatory. Some institutions on the other hand, waive these requirements. You might also have to shortlist a specialisation, unless you want to pursue a general MBA. You have a variety of options in Strategic Management, Human Resources, Marketing, Supply Chain Management, Finance, Accounting, Tourism Management, Public Relations, International Management, Electronic Business or other fields of business. A lot of graduates are entering the job market with a bachelor's degree and to maintain that competitive edge in the job market it is always advisable to develop your career professionally and academically by upgrading your qualifications. A graduate programme mandates a commitment

in terms of time, funds and effort. You must be certain about your need for progress and therefore you should be able to excel in your studies. It is understood that a MBA in one of the aforementioned fields would be a huge accomplishment, but so would a good score and degree from a well-ranked institution. While London provides an ideal metropolitan feel it is more a question of which school in London that will decide on whether or not you get the ideal type of education.

(Sanjeev Verma began with Ernst & Young and progressed to set up the Gulf operations of IDP Education Pty. He now leads Intelligent Partners, developing a wide range of solutions in areas of international education)