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SYLLABUS

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The Yoho GMAT Preparation Course

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Introduction

The GMAT is a test of general reasoning ability. Luckily, the types of reasoning tasks on the GMAT are limited in number and so the test is *highly* predictable. In essence, the questions with which a test-taker will be greeted on test day simply are modified versions of the same GMAT questions that are available on practice tests.

Proper preparation, then, has the following components:

- * Coming to understand why the right answers are right and the wrong answers are wrong.
- * Applying a sensible procedural approach to the test that will maximize one's score. And,
- * Practicing applying these procedures after the course to *real* GMAT questions until one's practice scores peak.

A *good* preparation course supplies information about the first two of these. A good *test-taker* handles the third.

About the Instructor

Dr. James Yoho has been teaching well-regarded test preparation since 1996 at the request of such institutions as Penn State, La Salle, Lehigh, Marist, Binghamton, Rutgers, and Temple. Now a full-time coach on standardized tests of general reasoning ability (like the GMAT), he has 12 years of experience teaching at colleges and universities, including professional schools. He holds a law degree from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. in

government from the University of Virginia. Well-published in law, political science, and test preparation, his principal research interests are in the areas of American constitutional law, interest groups, and the strategic dynamics of standardized tests.

Course Outline

First Quarter

- * The nature of the GMAT and how it fits into the larger picture of MBA admissions
 - * The keys to success on the GMAT
 - * GMAT-taking and MBA application trends
 - * Factors in MBA admissions
 - * The basic structure of the GMAT
 - * The order of the GMAT
 - * What types of scores are given on the GMAT
 - * What sort of GMAT score is necessary for admission
 - * The relationship between the total scaled score and the percentile
 - * The relationship between the subscores for the Verbal and Quantitative sections and the percentile
 - * How many right answers are necessary in order to get a certain score on the GMAT
 - * The relationship between the Analytical Writing Score and the percentile
 - * Grade inflation over the years
 - * Undergraduate grades and MBA admissions
 - * A suggested procedure for obtaining letters of recommendation
 - * Suggestions for your personal statement

- * How to use the computer and approach test questions in general
 - * How the computer works
 - * General strategies —including pacing —for the GMAT
 - * The components of a GMAT question
 - * The four most common mistakes on the GMAT
 - * Suggestions for managing the text
 - * Suggestions for managing the question directions
 - * Suggestions for managing the answer options
 - * How to practice and improve
 - * How to control anxiety

- * Start on the Critical Reasoning question type
 - * The four most common types of questions in Critical Reasoning
 - * The nature and structure of arguments
 - * A primer on assumptions and inferences
 - * Review of sample questions

Second Quarter

- * Finish the Critical Reasoning question type
 - * Review of additional sample questions
- * The Reading Comprehension question type
 - * Types of Reading Comprehension questions
 - * The rules for Reading Comprehension
 - * How to tackle a Reading Comprehension passage
 - * Review of sample passages
- * The Sentence Correction question type
 - * The procedures for Sentence Correction questions
 - * The most common types of errors in Sentence Correction sentences
 - * Review of sample questions

Third Quarter

- * The Analytical Writing Assessment and how it fits into the larger picture of MBA admissions
 - * Basic information about the GMAT Analytical Writing Assessment
 - * The Analysis of an Issue essay
 - * The Analysis of an Argument essay
 - * Concerning writing mechanics
- * Start the Data Sufficiency question type
 - * So how much math do I need to know?
 - * The ground rules of Data Sufficiency
 - * The Data Sufficiency drill
 - * A couple of pacing scenarios
 - * Review of sample questions

Fourth Quarter

- * Finish the Data Sufficiency question type
 - * Take a 25-minute timed section
 - * Review 25-minute timed section

- * The Problem Solving question type
 - * The ground rules for Problem Solving
 - * Review of sample questions

- * Conclusion: What should happen from now until test day