

On 27th February 2014, over 60 students stepped away from their usual activities to take part in the Bloomberg Aptitude Test, jointly organised by NTU Economics Society, NBS Banking and Finance Club and the Bloomberg Institute. Students entered the labs, some prepared to conquer what was ahead of them while others looking to take their first peek into what questions might arise from upcoming interviews. Soon, the relaxed atmosphere prior to the event was replaced by the intense concentration upon the commencement.

What is the BAT?



Figure 1: Pre-commencement of the BAT

The BAT is a global and standardized online test, designed by Bloomberg in collaboration with top financial professions to assess students' abilities and skills relevant to opportunities within the business world. It has a wide range of sections designed to showcase students' aptitude in the particular area which the student is keen on, ranging from Global Markets to Economics analysis. No preparation is necessary and physical sessions (1st or retakes) are currently available on campus at absolutely no cost to the test takers or the institution.

Students can take advantage of the BAT as an opportunity to identify their competitive edges and areas for improvements, and then work towards becoming a more competitive candidate for a career in highly sought after finance industry. Most of the test questions are designed by recruiters and employers and thus students who take the test will experience actual questions they would come across during interviews. Students who take the BAT can also anonymously enter the BAT database, accessible to over 20,000 companies globally. Employers use this database to contact BAT test takers regarding internship and entry-level positions based solely on the 8 key performance areas of the test that are relevant to their vacant role. The BAT database offers exposure to top investment banks, hedge funds and MNCs. Over 30,000 students have been contacted by employers in the past few months for roles in Consultancy, Investment Banking, Marketing and more!

Don't just take our word for it. Listen to what NTU students have to say about the BAT!



Figure 2: Intense concentration amongst the participants

The BAT struck a chord with several top students of NTU, who remarked, "The BAT provides a platform to showcase interests and more importantly competencies in the business world." The participants had made NTU proud, with a record number of 10 students achieving a position in the BAT hall of fame for a single month and enhancing their CV in the process! Recognised for their all-rounded excellence and grabbing themselves a potential chance to interact with industry players, it was truly a memorable session for them.

Should students be keen to know more or even partake in future BAT sessions in school, do visit the Bloomberg Institute website at <http://about.bloomberginstitute.com/> or alternatively, contact the NTU Bloomberg ambassador, Nigel Seah, at 9234 0455! See you at the next session!