

# DOCTORAL JOURNEY ROADMAP

## ADVANCE YOUR CAREER. EXPAND YOUR INFLUENCE. EARN YOUR DOCTORATE

Join a community of scholar-practitioners, educators, leaders, and researchers committed to creating meaningful impact through doctoral education.



### WHY DOCTORAL STUDENTS CHOOSE UOPX

- Develop advanced leadership skills
- Conduct meaningful research
- Address complex organizational challenges
- Advance career opportunities
- Contribute to your profession and community
- Become part of a national network of scholar-practitioners

### WHY PURSUE A CDS DOCTORAL DEGREE

CDS doctoral programs are designed for working professionals, leaders, educators, and scholar-practitioners who seek to advance their knowledge, develop research expertise, and make meaningful contributions within their professions and communities.

### CDS OFFERS TWO DISSERTATION PATHWAYS

#### TRADITIONAL DISSERTATION

Designed for students interested in advancing scholarly knowledge, this pathway focuses on:

- Research grounded in theory and academic literature
- A comprehensive five-chapter dissertation
- Contribution to the broader body of scholarly research

#### APPLIED DISSERTATION

Designed for scholar-practitioners, this pathway focuses on:

- Real-world problems of practice within organizations or professional settings
- Research-informed deliverables tailored for professional audiences
- Translating findings into insights that inform decision-making and leadership

Both pathways require original research, rigorous methodology, IRB approval, and a final oral defense—ensuring the same academic standards and degree outcomes.

### WHAT CDS CENTRAL PROVIDES

CDS Central is the gateway to the College of Doctoral Studies experience, designed to support prospective students, current students, faculty, staff, and alumni at every stage of the doctoral journey.

### CDS CENTRAL IS DESIGNED FOR:

- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty
- Staff

### CDS CENTRAL IS USED FOR:

- Prospective students exploring doctoral programs and expectations
- Current doctoral students seeking guidance, tools, and dissertation support
- Faculty and dissertation committee members aligning with program resources and expectations
- Alumni staying connected to scholarship and professional development opportunities