Distinguish yourself as a business leader

The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) can help you develop a mindset of change and innovation that breaks the sea of sameness. In our DBA program you’ll gain a strategic vision and business acumen that can position you to be the business leader your industry needs. If your goal is to become an expert who can step in and make that difference, this degree might be for you.

This Doctor of Business Administration program prepares you to:

• Solve organizational problems
• Become a business subject matter expert
• Position work environments for success and growth
• Design and conduct research studies
• Introduce innovative business ideas to the industry

Distinctive learning model

Our unique Scholar-Practitioner-Leader℠ model separates us from other doctoral programs. It fits into every aspect of your doctoral studies, preparing you with the advantages of:

• Scholarship – you’ll understand how to design research and use its data to solve root problems
• Practitioners – you’ll learn how to apply your skills to solve problems in your organization or community
• Leadership – you’ll develop leadership skills that help you change organizations and communities

Better doctoral experience

In 20 years of delivering doctoral education, we’ve come to realize that the doctoral journey can be very focused and personal, yet also lonely. That’s why we’ve restructured our programs to create a more supportive, motivating environment for doctoral students.

Here’s how it works:

• You’ll move through courses with the camaraderie and support of a cohort of students.
• You’ll have dedicated faculty to explain the doctoral journey and provide feedback as you go.
• You’ll research, write and defend your dissertation in manageable chunks throughout your program.

What sets us apart?

When you choose our Doctor of Business Administration program, you can:

Spread your dissertation out
You’ll research, write and defend your dissertation in manageable chunks throughout your program rather than saving it — and stressing about it — until the end.

Partner with dedicated doctoral faculty
You’ll work with the same Dissertation Chair and University Research Methodologist (URM) throughout your program, allowing for critical feedback along the way.

Work with a cohort of students
You’ll enjoy the camaraderie and community of being in a student cohort. Your cohort will move through the program together with the same Chair and URM.
Projected job growth: 8%

According to Bureau of Labor Statistics

Job opportunities

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job growth for top-level executives is projected to be 8 percent between 2016 and 2026. A Doctor of Business Administration can help prepare you to be a:

- Chief executive
- Business teacher, postsecondary

Networking opportunities

Access powerful networking tools through our PhoenixLink™ career services platform. Take advantage of personal career coaching. Search and apply for jobs, or make your résumé visible to employers. And connect with employers and alumni through career fairs and mixers or with peers through the school's Facebook® group for doctoral students. It's all about connections. And we help you make them.

Learning outcomes

Along with the knowledge and skills related to the University Learning Goals, graduates should gain program-specific knowledge, skills and abilities. Each college or school creates a set of Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs) to describe the knowledge, skills or attitudes students will possess upon completion of the program of study. By the time you complete your Doctor of Business Administration, you should be able to perform these learning outcomes.

Program accreditation

The Doctor of Business Administration has been reaffirmed for accreditation until 2027 by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), ensuring the quality of your education.

What does that mean in real life? ACBSP-accredited business programs are committed to quality standards. The quality of the program is continuously benchmarked against specific criteria that prepare students for their industry of choice. Accreditation occurs on a 10-year cycle with regular quality reviews.

View the completion and first-year persistence rates for all ACBSP-accredited business and accounting programs.

Institutional accreditation

Regional accreditation is an institution-level accreditation status granted by one of six U.S. regional accrediting bodies. Accreditation by more than one regional accrediting body is not permitted by the U.S. Department of Education.

University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), hlcommission.org. Since 1978, University of Phoenix has been continually accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and its predecessor.
Doctor of Business Administration

Course length: 8 weeks
Total credits required: 54
Max. number of transfer credits: 27

Requirements and prerequisites

You’ll need 54 credits to complete this program. Required courses may vary based on previous education or transferable credits.

Dissertation requirement

You’ll begin your dissertation in your third course and follow a schedule of milestones throughout your program. This makes your dissertation doable in smaller segments and helps identify any research methodology challenges early, so there are no surprises or delays at the end.

Symposium

While some doctoral programs require on-campus residency, we’ve shifted to an 8-week online Symposium. In the required course you’ll:

• Receive a detailed overview of each milestone in the doctoral journey
• Understand what the University expects from doctoral students
• Understand what doctoral students can expect from the University

Doctoral students may also enroll in an optional, zero-credit, zero-tuition/fee one-weekend seminar in Phoenix, Ariz. The seminar provides an opportunity for personal interaction with faculty and peers as well as instruction around the framework of your dissertation.

Transfer credits

Earn your degree faster. Current doctoral students from an accredited university or college may be eligible to receive up to 27 credits based on previous doctoral coursework.

Core courses

• DOC723: Doctoral Seminar II
• DOC714S: Symposium I
• DOC741B: Doctoral Dissertation
• DOC741A: Doctoral Dissertation
• BUS721: Issues In Optimizing Operations
• MKT711: Marketing And Managing The Customer Relationship
• RES709: Research Conceptualization And Design
• DOC742B: Doctoral Project IV
• MGT711: Strategic Opportunities In An Internet-based Global Economy
• DOC742A: Doctoral Project IV
• RES724: Qualitative Methods And Design
• FIN711: Financial Measures Of Value Added
• DOC741: Doctoral Dissertation
• ORG716: Organizational Theory And Design
• DOC719S: Symposium II
• DOC988: Project Continuing Enrollment II
• DOC888: Dissertation Continuing Enrollment II
• RES710: Statistical Research Methods And Design I
• DOC742: Doctoral Project IV
• LDR711A: Leadership Theory And Practice
• DOC715: Doctoral Seminar I
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- BUS700: Introduction To Business Administration In Doctoral Study
- LDR731: Contemporary Issues In Leadership
- BUS733: Transforming The Business

While widely available, not all programs are available in all locations or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.