

Doctor of Education

in Organizational Leadership



INSPIRATION
for change

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Education and Psychology



DR. JUNE SCHMIEDER-RAMIREZ

Program Director, Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership

“The Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership program provides more than a degree; it imparts a new way of seeing, of analyzing, of interacting. Our graduates have the strong personal, technical, and conceptual tools necessary in a constantly changing global environment. They also have the ethical framework that goes hand in hand with the Pepperdine mission.”

Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership (EDOL)

Organizational Leadership is a values-based doctoral program designed to strengthen and develop leadership skills while preparing students to work in a wide range of settings. Doctoral students are equipped with the knowledge and ability to recognize, harness, and channel forces of change to transform organizations for optimal success and growth. EDOL is ideal for current leaders who are looking for relevant skills to expand their career path; it is also designed for rising executives who would like a doctoral degree to advance their academic and professional goals.

Courses/Curriculum

Scholar-Practitioner Model


The Organizational Leadership doctoral program embodies the scholar-practitioner model of professional training and prepares students to take on leadership roles in a variety of professional settings.

Humanistic Approach

The course curriculum emphasizes a humanistic approach to leadership, management, and change to prepare students to be visionaries in their organizations. With courses on leadership theory and practice, organizational behavior, qualitative research and analysis, and transforming organizations in a global community, EDOL prepares students for successful careers in the public and private sectors, including health care, private consulting, training and development, nonprofit organizations, and higher education.

Cohort Model

Graduate students will begin and complete the EDOL doctoral program with a cohort of business and academic professionals from diverse fields. The cohort model enables students to build personal relationships and advance their leadership while sharing ideas, experiences, and expanding their professional network. Our students and alumni forge valuable relationships with their colleagues that will last a lifetime.

A close-up portrait of a Black woman with dark, wavy hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a white collared shirt and a vibrant, multi-colored patterned scarf. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be a bookshelf. The overall tone is professional and positive.

Profiles of Success

Shanetta Robinson, EdD '13
Chair and Founder
Southern California Diversity in Leadership Conference
2013 Alumna, EdD in Organization Leadership

"The Organizational Leadership program gave me the opportunity to engage with professionals in different industries. It opened my eyes, improved my capacity to network, and made for a fuller learning experience."

National and International Policy Experience

Pepperdine University offers a challenging learning environment which examines the complex and global issues that affect organizations. To provide EDOL students with a well-rounded perspective, students engage in firsthand travel experiences which supplement and enhance the classroom experience. As part of the curriculum requirements, students participate in two required travel expeditions, the National Policy Experience and the International Policy Experience.

National Policy Trip to Washington, D.C.

The National Policy Experience involves a three-day trip to Washington, D.C. (or similar location), where students gain practical knowledge of policy development at the federal level. Students will meet and converse with policy makers, lobbyists, and leaders in government and national associations.

International Policy Trip

The International Policy Experience is designed for students to gain an international perspective of policy development and leadership in other countries. With the influences of multiculturalism, ever-changing technologies, and globalization, organizations of today are becoming more complex. Successful leadership within diverse and varied environments calls for a dynamic leader with a global perspective. During a five-to-10-day trip, students will visit an international location to meet with local and national leaders to strengthen their global awareness of organizations and workplaces in other cultures. Students gain the opportunity to observe and examine industries and institutions such as health care, schools, universities, and manufacturing in order to contrast them with those of the United States. In the past, destinations for the International Policy Experience have included China, Mexico, Costa Rica, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Belize, and India.

Types of Legal Systems

■ Two contrasting legal systems:

- English Common law system which reflects a conscious decision to in favor of a limited government and a judiciary that constrains the power of executive and legislative branches – Stare Decisis
- French Civil Law system which favors creation of a strong centralized government in which legislator and the executive can grant preferential treatment to special interests – a system vulnerable to unpredictable changes to property and contract laws
- Unpredictability in the long-term increases risks and slows economic growth

GSEP Faculty

GSEP is committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic quality and excellence with faculty members who are accomplished scholar-practitioners in the field. Most classes are structured with an open-forum format to promote faculty-student collaboration, and to provide a challenging and competitive learning environment. In addition, the course curriculum is regularly evaluated to comprise the leading perspectives in the field and is always relevant.

Unique relationships are cultivated at Pepperdine through faculty mentorship. Professors take a vested interest in student progress and success. Pepperdine faculty members guide, advise, and strengthen our students' leadership skills. Upon completion of the program, students are ready to lead and be agents of change in a wide range of settings.

Traditional and Global Access Course Formats

To better meet the scheduling demands of our students, the Organizational Leadership doctoral program provides two distinct course formats: Traditional and Global Access.

Traditional Format

The Traditional format is best suited for students seeking a more conventional style of learning in which classes meet regularly on campus. Program classes are offered one evening a week at the West Los Angeles Graduate Campus, with occasional classes meeting on the weekends.

Global Access Format

Alternately, the Global Access format offers a learning structure in which 40 percent of classes are conducted online and 60 percent take place in face-to-face sessions held at the West Los Angeles and Irvine Graduate Campuses. Face-to-face meetings are held two to three times each term and are four-day sessions. Global Access has been developed to accommodate the nontraditional student who prefers the freedom of online learning and a fresh academic approach. In addition, Global Access is accessible to students who live across the nation or globe, but who wish to enjoy the prestige gained from earning a doctoral degree from Pepperdine University.

Both the Traditional and Global Access formats are designed so that our students are able to continue working full-time while earning their doctoral degrees.

Course work can be completed in two years, followed by a comprehensive examination and a traditional dissertation. Pepperdine offers small class sizes which allow for personalized attention from the faculty and group collaboration. This dynamic creates an optimal learning environment for the scholar-practitioner graduate education.

Profiles of Success



Yolanda Aguerrebere, MS '83, EdD '09

President, Hispanic Outreach Task Force
2009 Alumna, EdD in Organizational Leadership

“The Pepperdine University Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership has been the most profound learning experience of my life. The professors have tremendous knowledge, expertise, and skill. They model great leadership in their interactions with students and are always available and genuinely want you to succeed. With the relationships I’ve built in my cohort, the program has changed my life and opened opportunities that never would have been possible. It has been a great investment and has exceeded all of my expectations.”

Program Benefits

Pepperdine University is well connected to industry leaders and has an expansive community network. We are committed to the lifelong success of our graduates and help them attain their professional and academic goals throughout the duration of their careers. Through our alumni relations and career services departments, GSEP works with and helps students make the contacts needed to facilitate their desired career path. The Pepperdine professional and community network exists for your continued success.


The Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership offers:

- Accessible graduate campuses located in Irvine and West Los Angeles
- Two unique program formats designed for the working professional, Traditional or Global Access (60 percent face to face/40 percent online)
- Flexible classes which meet in the evenings and on occasional weekends
- Small class sizes which provide an environment for faculty mentorship and close peer interaction for optimal intellectual and professional growth
- A supportive learning environment and faculty who have exemplary academic achievements and professional experiences
- A scholar-practitioner model which integrates theory and best practices
- National and global trips to provide a well-rounded perspective on leadership and policy
- The Pepperdine network connected to influential business leaders in the community



International Policy Trip to India

Success in today's complex environments requires knowledge and expertise for strategic leadership. The Organizational Leadership doctoral degree is transformational. When you implement the knowledge and skills learned at Pepperdine, you can advance your career to new heights. In turn, your actions will inspire and transform the lives of others, bettering your organization and community. Join a rich tapestry of leaders who have been inspired to make a difference in their professions and communities by earning your doctoral degree from Pepperdine University.



Current information and all forms necessary to apply for financial aid are available online at: gsep.pepperdine.edu/financial-aid

Financial Aid

Scholarships, grants, loans, assistantships, and payment plans are available for qualified students. More than 80 percent of students qualify for federal loans, and historically about 50 percent are eligible for Pepperdine-funded assistance in the form of grants and scholarships.

Admission Criteria

1. Complete the application for admission and submit it with a nonrefundable check or money order for \$55 payable to Pepperdine University.
2. Request official transcripts in a registrar's sealed and stamped envelope from the accredited colleges and universities that awarded your baccalaureate degree and master's degree.
3. Request that three recommendations be submitted that attest to your academic abilities, character, and professional ability.
4. Submit scores from the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), Graduate Record Examination (GRE), or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT). A Information regarding test schedules and registration may be obtained by calling 310.568.5723.
5. Submit a 1,500-to-1,750-word Statement of Interest in the Organizational Leadership program addressing such topics as your view of leadership, ability to create followers, propensity to take risks, perseverance, demonstrated achievements, future career/life objectives, and reasons for pursuing a doctoral program.
6. International applicants are required to submit TOEFL scores.

Personal interviews are required for all qualified applicants who apply to the program. A writing sample may be required.

More Information

To learn more about the Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership program, including admission requirements and deadlines, please call, e-mail, or visit us at:

Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership

866.503.5467 • gsep-recruitment@pepperdine.edu

gsep.pepperdine.edu/doctorate-organizational-leadership

GSEP Mission

The Graduate School of Education and Psychology of Pepperdine University is an innovative learning community where faculty, staff, and students of diverse cultures, perspectives, and faiths work collaboratively to foster academic excellence, social purpose, meaningful service, and personal fulfillment.

As a graduate school within a Christian university, GSEP endeavors to educate and motivate students to assume leadership roles in professions that improve and enrich the lives of individuals, families, and communities. To this end, GSEP is dedicated to exemplifying and providing inspiration for change.

Pepperdine University is accredited through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).



gsep.pepperdine.edu
West Los Angeles • Irvine



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