DBA

Doctor of Business Administration

Developing faculty for teaching institutions

ANDERSON UNIVERSITY

Falls School of Business

GENERAL INFORMATION

What are the program goals?

- Promoting rigorous scholarship
- Pursuing teaching excellence
- Propagating a network of Christian business educators

Why choose this doctoral program?

- **For mid-career professionals:** Designed for those with business experience and family or career commitments, offering the flexibility to balance education with life.
- **Ideal for second-career seekers:** Perfect for those transitioning to college teaching, allowing credentialing while still in a current career.
- **Focus on teaching and values:** Emphasizes teaching and research, with a unique focus on integrating ethics and faith in the classroom.
- **Practical for teaching careers:** Tailored for aspiring educators, focusing on practical application and pedagogy.
- **Flexible and accessible:** Offers a primarily online format with just one week of on-campus residency per year, making it ideal for busy professionals who need flexibility without the need to relocate.

What the Anderson University DBA program is:

- **The AU DBA is** a Doctor of Business Administration designed for the unique needs of a group of business instructors who need to be more effectively served by current doctoral programs.
- **The AU DBA is** a program that will link the applied nature of an MBA with the conceptual framework and research traditions that support business practice.
- **The AU DBA is** a program that offers the unique advantage of high-level thinking and discussion about the integration of a Christian worldview with learning.
- **The AU DBA is** a program that brings together students and faculty aspiring toward greater effectiveness in undergraduate and graduate classrooms.
- **The AU DBA is** a program that will familiarize students with research methods, quantitative analysis, and equip students to use appropriate tools to conduct research.

What the Anderson University DBA program is not:

- **Not just a research doctorate:** While it values quality research, the AU DBA focuses on training educators, not researchers for major universities.
- **Not a fully online program:** While offering the convenience of online classes, the AU DBA enhances learning with one in-person, week-long residency per year to foster connection, collaboration, and networking.
- **Not a non-traditional program:** While it incorporates innovative educational approaches, the AU DBA remains grounded in the traditional academic framework of a business doctorate.

What is the program design?

The Anderson University DBA is a professional degree program designed to be completed in as few as four years. It requires 90 credit hours of graduate-level business coursework, divided into three components:

- 45 hours of doctoral coursework from Anderson University
- 15 hours of dissertation research
- 30 hours of additional graduate business coursework (typically fulfilled by a previously completed master's degree in business)

The 45 hours of Anderson University coursework consists of two main components:

CORE (27 hours)

Research Methods ..... 9 hrs.
Higher Education & Teaching Methodologies ..... 9 hrs.
Conceptual Foundation Courses in Business Disciplines .... 9 hrs.

MAJOR (18 hours)

Available in accounting, finance, management, and marketing. Major courses also include seminars, business analytics, advanced ethical applications, and classroom applications.

After completing coursework, students take qualifying exams and then begin the dissertation process, which includes proposing and defending their research.

Each year, a cohort of students are admitted. The program combines synchronous (live) online sessions, asynchronous (self-paced) learning, and independent studies. Students attend a one-week, on-campus residency each May during the first three years, featuring intensive classes and project presentations, with related assignments before and after.

Students can finish the program in four years, with flexible options to extend to five or six years if needed.

What are the admission standards?

Admission to the DBA program is selective in nature. It is essential that admitted students be capable of doing doctoral-level work. A DBA admissions committee, consisting of faculty of the Falls School of Business, along with the DBA director, evaluates each applicant.

Program Admission Requirements:

- A completed master's degree from an institution that is regionally accredited.
- A completed DBA program application.
- A minimum of 30 hours of graduate coursework in a business-related field.
- Additional requirements as outlined at *anderson.edu/dba*.

Final decisions concerning a student's acceptance into the program rests with the DBA admissions committee.

What are the graduation requirements?

The following requirements must be fulfilled before the candidate is awarded the degree:

- All coursework must be completed within six years of when the first doctoral course is taken at Anderson University.
- All coursework must be completed with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better. A maximum of two grades below B- in coursework taken at Anderson University can be counted toward fulfillment of requirements.
- Successful completion of qualifying exams.
- Successful completion of a dissertation proposal defense.
- Successful completion of a dissertation in the student's major field.
- Dissertations must be completed within three years of the date when the student advanced to the status of doctoral candidate (ABD). Students may petition the program director for an extension.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

CORE (27 hours)

Research Core **9 hrs.**

- Applied Statistics ..... 3 hrs.
- Research Methods ..... 3 hrs.
- Advanced Research Methods ..... 3 hrs.

Education/Teaching Core **9 hrs.**

- Development and Role of Christian Higher Education ..... 3 hrs.
- Best Practices in College Teaching ..... 3 hrs.
- Foundations of Applied Ethics ..... 3 hrs.

Conceptual Foundations Core **9 hrs.**

9 hours for core, 3 hours toward major

- Conceptual Foundations of Management ..... 3 hrs.
- Conceptual Foundations of Marketing ..... 3 hrs.
- Conceptual Foundations of Economics ..... 3 hrs.
- Conceptual Foundations of Accounting/Finance ..... 3 hrs.

Major Coursework **18 hrs.**

- Conceptual Foundations in Management, Marketing, or Accounting/Finance ..... 3 hrs.
- Seminar in Management, Marketing, Accounting, or Finance ..... 3 hrs.
- Business Analytics in Management, Marketing, Accounting, or Finance ..... 3 hrs.
- Advanced Applications of Ethical Reasoning in Management, Marketing, Accounting, or Finance ..... 3 hrs.
- Teaching Practicum in Management, Marketing, Accounting, or Finance ..... 3 hrs.
- Advanced Topics (Discipline-Based) ..... 3 hrs.

Dissertation ..... 15 hrs.

Additional Graduate Hours (Transferred in at start of program) ..... 30 hrs.

TOTAL HOURS: **90 hrs.**

To request more information, visit *anderson.edu/dba*

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