Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should <u>not</u> be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

BUSI 987
DISSERTATION I

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Dissertation I is the initial step for DBA Doctoral Candidates to develop and complete their dissertation. Doctoral Candidates will develop Section 1 which includes the Foundation of the Study to include a detailed Literature Review relevant to the proposed research study.

MISSION/VISION/PHILOSOPHY

The mission of the DBA program is to provide an opportunity for qualified students to attain academic, professional, and practical competence -- within the Christian Worldview -- which prepares students for opportunities, and corresponding additional responsibilities, beyond the master's degree level. The DBA program emphasizes practical and real-world applications in both the course work and the major applied doctoral research project requirements.

The vision of the DBA program is to produce graduates intellectual and professional competencies in the following areas:

- the ability to present and defend arguments based on theories, concepts and empirical evidence in matters relating to research methodology and research design as well as those relating to the business disciplinary domain in which the research is located;

- the ability to demonstrate the capacity for reflective and analytical business thinking;

- the ability to draw together relevant concepts and theories from different business disciplines in order to gain a better understanding of the organizational context in which particular problems or opportunities arise;

- the ability to analyze problems and issues arising in business and management contexts, utilizing relevant theories, concepts, and empirical findings;

- the ability to identify and analyze questions and issues in business; and

- the ability to design, implement, and successfully conclude empirical research projects.

Each of the above will be considered in light of biblical principles, and be integrated within the Christian Worldview.

The DBA program philosophy supports both the program mission and vision, and is as follows. PhD programs in business focus intensively on preparing candidates for academic careers and to conduct highly specialized academic research, i.e., the development of new theory in business and other related business fields. Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) programs focus on the application of theory rather than on the development of new theory. While also intended to prepare graduates for academic careers, the DBA, by virtue of its focus on application of theory, has more practical application in managerial settings than the PhD.

RATIONALE

BUSI 987, Dissertation I, is the first step for DBA doctoral candidates to develop and complete the dissertation. It provides a focused study of the problem, purpose, significance, theoretical framework, biblical integration, and important literature relevant to the proposed project.

I. **PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. **REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

B. Internet access (broadband recommended)

C. Blackboard recommended browsers

D. Microsoft Office

IV. **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Develop a clearly stated business problem to be addressed by the proposed research study.

B. Determine the most appropriate research method and design for the proposed research study.

C. Develop the conceptual or theoretical framework that informs the proposed research study and links it to the existing body of knowledge.

D. Interpret biblical principles in relation to the proposed research study.

V. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Section 1 of the Dissertation

Students will complete section one of the dissertation, broken down into manageable milestones, following the guidelines set forth in the DBA Dissertation manual and template.

B. CITI Certification

VI. **COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

    A.   Points/Scale: This course uses a P/PR/NP scale.

        To receive a Pass (P):

        1. All assignments in the Gradebook must be successfully completed and all Weekly Progress Reports must have been submitted.

        2. The first draft of a complete Section 1 must be submitted by the end of Module/Week 14 to allow for Committee review.

        3. An approved final draft of Section 1 must be submitted by the end of Module/Week 16.

        To receive a Progress, must Repeat (PR):

        1. All Weekly Progress Reports must have been submitted.

        2. All assignments in the Gradebook up to and including Task 8 - Foundation of the Study must be successfully completed.

        3. The Dissertation Chair has indicated that the candidate will be able to complete the remaining tasks within an additional 16-week term.

        A grade of NP will be assigned for student that have not met either of the requirements above for a grade of P or PR.

    B.   Academic Misconduct

        Academic misconduct is strictly prohibited. See The Graduate Catalog for specific definitions, penalties, and processes for reporting.

    C.   Disability Statement

        Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

        If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy or the Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures.

    D.   Drop/Add Policy

        Consult the Graduate Catalog for drop/add policies.

    E.   Feedback

        Feedback on each phase of the applied doctoral research project will be conducted. Due to the extensive amount of work that students are placing into each submission, faculty take extreme care to provide substantive feedback to each student.

Course Schedule

BUSI 987

The following schedule is a guideline that should be used to ensure successful completion and progress through the applied doctoral research courses. While the items listed may require longer than the time period suggested, it is strongly suggested that students strive to meet or exceed these guidelines in their effort to productively progress through the doctoral process.

MODULE/ WEEK	ASSIGNMENTS	SUBMISSIONS
1	• Completion/submission of CITI certification • Develop a high level outline of the key elements of the study from the general problem all the way to the framework	• Course Requirements Checklist • CITI Certificate • Task 1 - Bullet Point Outline of Key Elements of the Study • Progress Report
2	• Develop the Problem Statement and the Research Questions	• Task 2 - Problem Statement & Research Questions • Progress Report
3	• Develop the Purpose Statement and the Background of the Problem.	• Task 3 - The Purpose Statement and the Background of the Problem • Progress Report
4	• Develop the Nature of the Study • For quantitative studies, develop Hypotheses and identify potential survey tools and process for gaining access to them, and description of the resulting data types. • For qualitative studies, identify potential participants and process for gaining access to them.	• Task 4 - Nature of the Study • Quantitative - Hypotheses, potential survey tools and process for gaining access to them, and description of the resulting data types. • Qualitative - potential participants and process for gaining access to them • Progress Report
5	• Develop either the Theoretical or the Conceptual Framework	• Task 5 - Theoretical or Conceptual Framework • Progress Report
6	• Develop the Significance of the Study	• Task 6 - Significance of the Study • Progress Report

MODULE/ WEEK	• ASSIGNMENTS	• SUBMISSIONS
7	Develop Terms, Assumptions, Limitations, and Delimitations & Literature Review Outline	• Task 7 - Terms, Assumptions, Limitations, and Delimitations & Literature Review Outline Progress Report
8	• Develop the Foundation of the Study	• Task 8 - Foundation of the Study • Progress Report
9	• Develop the Literature Review	• Progress Report
10	• Continue to develop the Literature Review	• Task 9 - First Draft of the Literature Review • Progress Report
11	• Continue to develop the Literature Review	• Progress Report
12	• Continue to develop the Literature Review	• Task 10 - Second Draft of the Literature Review • Progress Report
13	• Continue to develop the Literature Review	• Progress Report
14	• Compile a complete first draft of Section 1 of the Dissertation	• Task 11 - First Draft of Section 1 • Progress Report
15	• Address comments from the Committee and make appropriate revisions	• Progress Report
16	• Finalize draft of Section 1 of the Dissertation	• Task 12 - Final Draft of Section 1 • Progress Report

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.