

FAQ's for the DBA

Without UTC project participation, can NGS still offer the program to UTC employees?

Absolutely; we will just not be a UTC Academic Partner School for this program, but we will be just like the twelve other schools and 200 plus other students who are enrolled in doctoral level education under UTC's ESP program.

Can we get projects from other businesses?

You can still use local champions and have projects in your workplace; it was clearly established that local divisions – who are paying for the tuition, should still benefit from your efforts.

How does the NGS DBA differ?

The difference with our program is it's a terminal degree, with an end in sight, unlike most PhD programs and it is project- not dissertation-based. We studied the market, and convinced our accreditors that academic "touch time" was more important than "total time." You complete your degree in less than two years, with less cost to the company. In that time, you will define, develop and present your project, research and write your article for publication and teach an NGS course.

How much work can I expect?

DBA course work will be a similar load to any other PhD program. There is a reasonable amount of reading and assignments in the first semester to help prepare you for the last six months where you focus on your project (which replaces the dissertation), your publication and teaching an NGS course.

What does "low-residency" mean?

A "low residency" program is a highly effective learning structure. You are "in class" less than 50% of the total credit hours. Even though our program is one of the most efficient in the country, you still have time to get the work done over the six-week and longer course duration.

When are the classes held?

Classes are held approximately every six weeks over a weekend. There are twenty-three courses in total with 10 courses held online.

Who teaches the DBA courses?

All courses are taught and mentored by doctoral level faculty who are experts in the field. The program is designed for you to connect with industry leaders as part of the lecture series. You'll be in touch virtually with fellow professionals in the program. And given the level of the projects you'll be doing, you will have interface with senior level executives within your organization and beyond.

How are classes taught?

We've maximized the learning potential (which helps us recruit top faculty while delivering the program locally) with in class time on consecutive days. Thursday and Friday evenings, Saturday, and Sunday morning gives you what you need to complete the course over the next six weeks. Using the Blackboard on-line learning system, you'll have 24/7 access to course materials, and interaction with your classmates and professors.