



LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

BA 597 – DBA Dissertation I

Fall 2012 Course Syllabus

CREDIT HOURS:	3 semester units = 180 self-study hours
INSTRUCTOR (ADVISOR)	To be selected by students and approved by the Program Director or the Chief Academic Officer
CONTACT INFORMATION & HOURS:	To be arranged by the advisor
COURSE TIME & LOCATION:	Self-Study
PREREQUISITES:	Completion of all DBA core courses, DBA candidacy standing, and BA 510. Advisor's approval required.
TEXT & MATERIALS:	To be designated by the advisor or the Program Director
REFERENCE MATERIALS:	To be designated by the advisor or the Program Director

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to orient and familiarize the student with the first stage of the doctoral thesis research process. The student researches a subject of interest for an appropriate thesis topic, with the focus on the need to have a manageable research project, using relevant data and research methodology and analytic tools applicable to the subject and approach. Research for this topic will address current literature in the field and the way in which literature searches are conducted. The course then addresses an overview analysis of research options, and data collection techniques and requirements appropriate to the subject of study. Completion of this course requires the student to write the first chapter of the dissertation establishing the structure and organization for the study, and the need and research basis for the continuation of the study, submitting this information to the dissertation advisor and doctoral committee for approval. (3 units) *Prerequisites: Completion of all DBA core courses, DBA candidacy standing, and BA 510. Advisor's approval required.*

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will have:

- Gained an understanding the need for, and approaches possible, for a dissertation study of choice;
- Examined research methodology and options appropriate to the study;
- Explored how to locate literature in the field to establish what history exists within the subject selected;
- Identified the research topic resulting in the statement of the problem;
- Selected a dissertation advisor with an academic perspective applicable to the subject addressed;
- Prepared and presented the essential components of Chapter I of the dissertation to the Advisor and Doctoral Committee.

COURSE PROCESS AND STRUCTURE:

Students taking this course must fill in and submit the approval form and the progress form (available at the University's Admissions and Records Office) with the advisor's signature before starting the dissertation work.

1. Create an awareness of the components of a doctoral dissertation, to include: 1) chapter introduction; 2) study background; 3) statement of problem; 4) professional significance of the study; 5) methodology overview; 6) study delimitations; and 7) key term definitions.
2. Presentation of research options that address the following elements: 1) methodology; 2) general perspective; 3) research context; 4) research participants; 5) explanation of instruments used for data collection; 6) discussion of procedures used; 7) explanation of data analysis methods; and 8) summary of methodology.
3. Establish the parameters for review of the literature;
4. Examine the proposed subject of study and identified how to establish Statement of the Problem;
5. Delineate the parameters of the study;
6. Define the nature of the professional academic relationship with a dissertation advisor;
7. Engage in development of a draft of the presentation of Chapter I of the study;
8. Role-play presentation of the study for critical review, preparatory to submitting the written draft to the Doctoral Committee.

EVALUATION:

Accepted Draft of Chapter I of the Dissertation: 100%

The student will present a draft of Chapter I of the Dissertation for Dissertation Committee review and discussion. Successful course completion requires submittal of a written presentation, and defense of subject and approach, as applicable, acceptable to the Doctoral Committee.

GRADING: Grade CR (credit) or NC (no credit) only will be given for this course.

Revised: October 1, 2012