FAMILY AND FRIENDS: SUPPORTING YOUR STUDENT ON THE DOCTORAL JOURNEY

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AGENDA

WELCOME

WHAT IS DOCTORAL DEGREE

3 DEGREE TRACKS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

WEEKLY WORKLOAD

DISSERTATION PHASE

WHAT A DISSERTATION IS AND ISN’T

SEEKING FAMILY AND FRIENDS SUPPORT

QUESTIONS
Welcome to our Support Workshop for Family and Friends session, which is designed to prepare you for things to come on the doctoral journey of your student and completion of the CTU doctoral program.

We are honored and very humble on the other side of the education curriculum, as a member of this distinct faculty to serve as your Workshop Facilitators. We look forward to sharing with you and to answer any questions you may have.

Let’s get this party started!
WHAT IS A DOCTORAL DEGREE

A Doctoral Degree:

- Considered the highest level of academic degree, often called a Terminal degree
- Develops critical thinking skills
- Learns research skills and develops a research study
- CTU doctorates require a research component in support of the academic degree
- Must produce a dissertation
- Typically takes a minimum of three years to complete
CTU OFFERS 3 DEGREE TRACKS

DM – Doctor of Management
DCS – Doctor of Computer Science
DBA - Doctor of Business Administration

The degrees focus on several concentrations within various career fields or allow for a general program. Some of our concentrations are: Organizational Development and Change, Homeland Security, Environmental and Social Sustainability, Big Data Analytics, Healthcare Management and Leadership, Global Leadership, and Higher Education Teaching and Learning to name a few. General Program: Doctor of Management, Doctor of Business Administration, and Doctor of Computer Science.
WEEKLY WORKLOAD

Most students take two courses a quarter:

- Typically, one Core/Concentration and one R&W

Course activities include:

  (a). Posting a response to a weekly Discussion Board question
  (b). 1 to 3 hours – both classes

- Replying to two other student’s DB posts
  (a). 20 to 30 minutes – both classes

- Researching and writing an individual assignment paper
  (a). 1.5 to 3 hours per class
DISSERTATION PHASE

Dissertation work includes:

- Researching articles and maintaining list of references that are important to their study
- Writing sections to chapters and preparing the proposal/IRB application
- Gathering and analyzing the data
- Writing the final chapters reporting the results
- Presenting the final document to their committee
- Finally, relaxing, being grateful, and celebrating a victory!!
WHAT IS A DISSERTATION

- An iterative process of research on a topic about which you have intense passion/interest
- It explains the reason and significance for additional research on the topic
- More detailed than a scholarly article
- Spans a few hundred pages
- Has a very formal structured format
- Reviews relevant literature on your research interest and explains the reason and significance for additional research on the topic
- Five Chapters for Your Dissertation
A DISSERTATION ISN’T

- An essay
- A short story
- An assignment from your coursework
- A book
- A bragging session
- A reflection paper
GOLDEN NUGGETS

• Prioritize! Arrange things in order of importance based on things that really matter

• Have a positive attitude and keep your CDA (can do attitude) locked and loaded

• Persevere to the end

• Keep your eyes on the prize – your earned Doctorate Degree

• There’s a blessing in the pressing

• The tassel is worth the hassle

• Believe in your passion
Your student should:
• Stay connected with their peers and Professor
• Get accountability partners
• Encourage each other
• Lean on each other for support
• Students must contact their Professor if there are questions or concerns

   Enjoy the Doctorate Journey, taking one step at a time!

This Will Be A: Wonderful, Winning, Warm-hearted, Wealthy, Warm, Winter Quarter!
SO...HOW CAN YOU HELP

This may be one of the toughest things your student will do in their life. It is called an earned doctorate for a reason!

1. Your student need your constant support (You are committing to the degree, too!)
2. Accountability for their activities (keeping them going)
3. Ask them how it is coming along, provide encouragement

Provide a buffer for them (Friends, kids, other family), become a gatekeeper (with their permission, of course)
Help with planning and organizing time to work on school. Help them “find the time”

- Take over some responsibilities, as needed
- There will be struggles and setbacks
- This is inevitable, all doctoral students have gone through this. They are very likely to think of quitting
- Prepare yourself for the discussion.
QUESTIONS

Questions for you:

- What are some ideas you have to help your student?

- What are some things that need to be removed in order for your student to move forward?

- What do you believe must occur to improve your students strengths and reduce their weaknesses to ensure success on their Doctoral journey?

- What additional questions do you have?
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Thanks for attending! Enjoy your day!!