

Imagine Yourself at a Higher Degree

NCU offers students outstanding flexibility with a unique one-to-one learning model, weekly course starts, and 100% online learning. All courses are taught by doctoral faculty who utilize a teaching through engagement approach, where students are mentored by professors experienced in the field.

Overview

Founded in 1996, Northcentral University is a regionally accredited private online and graduate-focused university serving professionals globally. NCU offers doctoral, master's and bachelor's-completion degrees in business and technology management, education, and psychology, as well as doctoral and master's degrees in marriage and family therapy. Without physical residency requirements, courses are taught one-to-one by an NCU doctoral professor.

Mission

Northcentral University educates professionals throughout the world and provides an accessible opportunity to earn a U.S. regionally accredited degree. Northcentral mentors students one-to-one with highly credentialed faculty via advanced delivery modalities. Northcentral commits to helping students achieve academically and become valuable contributors to their communities and within their professions.

NCU Leadership

George Burnett
President and CEO

David Harpool, JD, PhD
Provost and General Counsel

John LaNear, JD, PhD
Sr. Vice President, Academic Affairs

Peter Bemski, PhD
Dean of the School of Business and Technology Management

James Billings, PhD
Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

John Neal, EdD
Dean of the School of Education

J. Robert Sapp, EdD
Dean of the School of Technology

Laurie Shanderson, PhD, MPA
Dean of the School of Health Sciences

NCU Figures

237 specializations across
29 relevant programs

10,000+ students from all **50** states
and **41** countries

8,000+ alumni from over
70 countries

66% of NCU students were in
doctoral programs in 2016

33% of NCU students were in
master's programs in 2016

450+ professors

52 Weekly Course Starts

100% Doctoral Faculty

1 student paired with **1** doctoral
professor in each course

NCU Schools

School of Business and Technology Management

In today's competitive global marketplace, business professionals are regularly called upon to prove they have the ability to help their organization run more efficiently and effectively no matter their field or area of expertise. NCU's School of Business and Technology Management has adopted a similar results-oriented approach, delivering academically challenging, 100% online doctoral, master's, bachelor's-completion and post-graduate certificate programs to help students develop the business acumen that companies, employees, investors and clients demand.

School of Education

The field of education is always changing, which means today's educators are challenged to commit to the pursuit of lifelong learning. NCU's School of Education is dedicated to creating relevant learning experiences for educators and administrators through accessible, 100% online courses that are immediately applicable to a student's career. Delivered with outstanding flexibility, our doctoral, master's, bachelor's-completion and post-graduate certificate programs in education are centered on improving teaching, learning, research and leadership contributions throughout all levels of education.

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Northcentral University's School of Social and Behavioral Sciences is composed of two departments: Psychology and Marriage and Family Sciences.

The Department of Psychology offers doctoral, master's, bachelor's-completion and post-graduate certificate programs in psychology that emphasize the knowledge, skills, practical application and values that are integral to the field. Delivered with outstanding flexibility, our 100% online degree and certificate programs emphasize an understanding of human behavior and how the mind works. NCU supports the professional growth of our students, and the coursework emphasizes improving the human condition through research and practice in a variety of professional settings, such as academia, corporations, mental health organizations and research institutions.

The Department of Marriage and Family Sciences offers doctoral, master's and post-graduate certificate programs in marriage and family therapy. Becoming a marriage and family therapist is more than just a job. It's about helping individuals, couples and families navigate the natural stressors and unexpected challenges of life. NCU offers the first distance-based MAMFT program to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), plus the first and only distance-based PhD in MFT program to be accredited by COAMFTE. With coursework delivered online, students will also gain experience with face-to-face client interaction through practicums and internships in their local community under the direction of an approved clinical supervisor.

NCU Regional and Programmatic Accreditations

Regional Accreditation

WASC Senior College and University Commission



NCU is a WSCUC accredited institution. WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501, 510.748.9001, www.wscuc.org. WSCUC is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

Programmatic Accreditations

Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)



Northcentral's Business Administration programs in the School of Business and Technology Management are accredited by [ACBSP](http://www.acbsp.org). As a leading accreditation association for business education, ACBSP "develops, promotes, and recognizes best practices that contribute to continuous improvement of business education." The Association emphasizes the importance of "learning how to learn," by balancing teaching and research activities to enhance the quality of classroom instruction and contribute to student learning. (Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs, 11520 W 119th Street, Overland Park, Kansas, 66213, 913.339.9356, www.acbsp.org.)

Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)



The [Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education \(COAMFTE\)](http://www.coamfte.org) is the accrediting body for the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). Northcentral University's Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy and Doctor of Philosophy in Marriage and Family Therapy Programs are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 112 South Alfred Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, Tel. No. (703) 838-9808, coa@aamft.org.

The Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)



The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accredits Northcentral University's Master's of Education programs focused on PK-12 education. CAEP, the only national accreditor for educator preparation, promotes excellence in educator preparation through quality assurance and continuous improvement. (Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, 1140 19th St NW #400, Washington, DC 20036, 202.223.0077, www.caepnet.org.)

What Sets NCU Apart?

One-to-One Learning Model

One of the most distinctive aspects of Northcentral University is the one-to-one interactions between students and professors. Students are mentored through peer-to-peer, professional feedback in real time. All NCU's doctoral professors are taught to provide substantial and engaging feedback to students. This model encourages robust dialogue between the student and their experienced professor, and allows professors to proactively share their knowledge and expertise earlier on in assignments to guide students along the way.

Dissertation Process

Northcentral University's decentralized discipline-specific dissertation process was developed specifically for our students. Unlike other universities, students will work on a portfolio or prospectus that is directly linked to their dissertation and serves to tie their academic program more clearly to their dissertation. Students receive weekly feedback from a discipline-specific dissertation advisor, making it easier to make changes as they go. With a student-focused Dissertation Committee, NCU is able to help students focus on completing their graduate program.

Learning Management System

As with other aspects of our University, our learning management system (LMS), it was developed with our students in mind. It is "command central" throughout a student's academic journey. In addition to quick access to courses, course materials, and other NCU resources, many features of NCU's LMS can be personalized to each student supporting our one-to-one learning model.

NCU History

Northcentral University has a 20-year history of continuous improvement to support its Mission.

- In 2003, Northcentral University was accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
- In 2007, NCU's headquarters were established in Prescott, Arizona. In that same year, Northcentral's business administration programs in the School of Business and Technology Management received accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).
- In 2009, Northcentral University received certification from the United States Department of Education to participate in the Title IV Financial Aid Programs. While committed to providing competitively priced degree programs, NCU wanted to ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn without the necessity to have to pay for their education out-of-pocket.
- In 2013, Northcentral received a five-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) for its Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy (MAMFT) degree program, ensuring that the University's program aligns with national accreditation standards. Also in 2013, Northcentral University's Master of Education programs focused on PK-12 education received five-year initial accreditation from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (now known as the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation).
- In 2014, NCU began its largest strategic partnership with the National Education Association (NEA). Also that year, NCU's commencement keynote speaker was Rich Karlgaard, publisher of Forbes magazine, who was awarded an honorary doctorate from NCU.
- In 2015, the University added dozens of leading-edge new specializations and program offerings, had a record number of degrees conferred at the commencement festivities in Phoenix, and NCU's student body eclipsed 10,000 for the first time. In addition, NCU's PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy program became the first distance-based doctoral program to receive COAMFTE's coveted programmatic accreditation. Northcentral University also relocated its headquarters to San Diego, CA, and received regional five-year accreditation by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).
- In 2016, NCU launched the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, which merged the University's psychology and marriage and family sciences programs into one larger School. Northcentral celebrated its twentieth anniversary, with approximately 2,300 graduates, families and friends attending NCU's 2016 commencement in Phoenix, Arizona.
- In 2017, Northcentral University named Dr. Laurie Shanderson as the founding Dean of its new School of Health Sciences. Dr. J. Robert Sapp was named as the founding Dean of NCU's new School of Technology.

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