

New Program



Photo courtesy of NASA

Launched!

Bachelor of Science in Business/Public Administration introduced to Online Campus

Ever thought about a career in public service? Whether in government, non-profit, or the corporate sector, career options for those who study public administration are numerous. University of Phoenix Online is pleased to announce a new degree program in one of the fastest growing fields of higher education; the Bachelor of Science in Business/Public Administration degree.

As a growing field of knowledge and practice, Public Administration has become an art of how to create more effective systems of management. The Bachelor of Science in Business (BSB) program is designed to prepare graduates with the requisite knowledge, skills, and values to effectively apply various business principles and tools in an organizational setting. The BSB entry sequence exposes students to valuable theoretical knowledge and best practices in the areas of management, organizational behavior, research and evaluation, e-business, and critical thinking and problem solving. In the BSB program coursework, the curriculum addresses critical business issues in the areas of diversity, globalization, ethics, technology, and e-business.

In addition to the BSB business entry coursework, the public administration major includes coursework in computers and information processing, management, financial analysis, accounting, business law, employment law, and marketing.

The public administration major focuses on the efficient and effective utilization of public resources to achieve the public purpose within a dynamic environment. The program will emphasize the foundations of public administration, public policy formulation, program development, implementation and valuation, human resources and labor relations, and public finance. Students will develop powerful leadership skills enabling them to successfully manage complex public programs.

Want to learn more about University of Phoenix Online programs? Call and speak to a military enrollment counselor at **800-680-9770** or visit www.uopx.com/patriot

Boot Camp EARNs COLLEGE CREDIT

STORY ON
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Recruits traverse one of many wire obstacles on the Movement Course.

Photo courtesy of MCRD San Diego. Photo by: Cpl. Ethan E. Roche.

Family of Scholars

Online Graduate inspires father to return to school

If his daughter can do it, so can he. That's what drives Harold Williams, a 57-year-old University of Phoenix Online student. Last February, he watched his daughter walk across the stage and receive her diploma.



Photo courtesy of Chappell Graduation Images

Sitting at the graduation, Williams noticed the University of Phoenix graduates were his age, and older.

The Army veteran never finished his bachelor's degree. "It's something I've been wanting to do for a long time, and I said, I can do this," Williams said.

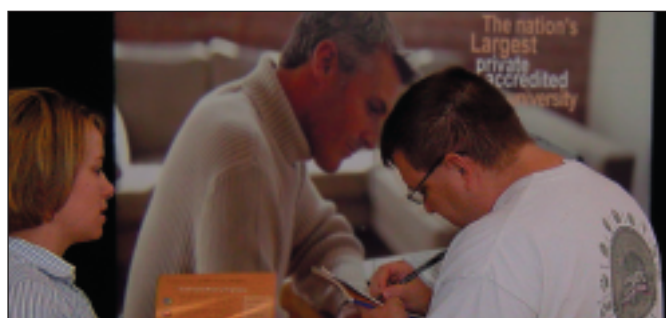
The first call Williams made to his enrollment advisor lasted an hour and a half. His advisor, Brian Lonkar, said he was moved by the initial call.

"He's had to overcome a lot of obstacles to get to class," Lonkar said. The military enrollment advisor was inspired by Williams' story.

Williams' success motivates other students, Lonkar said. "Students hear his story and say they can do it."

Williams is in his third course of the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration program. He hopes to pursue a career in law enforcement. He served 2 and a half years in the Army, and another 20 years in the Army National Guard. see **Family**, pg. 2

On the Road



Shanda Seitz, a Business Development Specialist, talks to a perspective student at the MCRD Education Fair on October 6.

University of Phoenix Online has a team of liaisons and business development specialists that travel to military installations around the world. The team typically makes approximately 250 visits every year. Representatives conduct informational meetings, counsel potential students, participate in education fairs, and forge relationships with the military community.

Look for a University of Phoenix Online representative on the following dates:

- Dec. 13-16** Special Operations Medical Association Conference in Tampa, Florida
- Dec. 14-16** San Diego Naval and Marine Reserve Center
- Dec. 23-24** University of Phoenix Online closed in observance of the holiday
- Jan. 8-10** Hanscom Air Force Base
- Jan. 11-12** Michigan Air National Guard, Michigan Army National Guard
- Jan. 10-14** Naval Station Oceana, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Langley Air Force Base, Fort Eustis, Fort Story, Fort Monroe
- Jan. 12-13** Camp Pendleton
- Jan. 17-21** Naval Station Pascagoula, Keesler Air Force Base, Fort Polk, Fort Jackson
- Jan. 23-28** Lackland Air Force Base, Randolph Air Force Base, Brooks Air Force Base, Fort Sam Houston

Want to schedule a visit? Have your education service officer contact Kirk Kyle at 800-366-9699, extension 76490 or at kirk.kyle@phoenix.edu.

American Bar Association *Goes to Bat* for Military Students

For those serving active duty in one of our nation's elite armed forces, the average time it takes to complete an associate's certificate is more than seven times that of a civilian student. It is not hard to understand why, with frequent location changes and deployment taking military personnel all over the globe. The life of a military student is unpredictable—a historical challenge to completing a college degree for many military students. Few universities have proactive policies addressing the needs of military students, and American Bar Association (ABA) wants to do something about it.

ABA wants all educational institutions to adopt policies that support military students and provide options for their transitory lifestyle. In a report released by the association's Working Group on Protecting the Rights of Service Members, the committee emphasizes "our active duty, reserve, and National Guard service members are valued and respected citizens. The importance of their role as front-line defenders of our country in the global war on terror is widely understood and appreciated. However, they are not always fairly in our courts, the workplace, and other venues, where they often experience unequal treatment and economic disadvantage."

According to the report, military members and their dependants who attend a public college or university often pay the highest tuition rate; that of an out-of-state resident. Military students are often forced to drop from their respective college, due to military orders. Frequent changes in colleges often delay the completion of a degree program, and increase total college costs.

The report claims "college-bound students and families of the Uniformed Services should not be subject to the financial hardship of the highest state tuition rates merely due to their service to our country."

University of Phoenix Online leads the nation when it comes to providing military students with options and support for

academic success. The University caters tuition rates to military service members and makes accommodations for deployed students, offering the same tuition rate regardless of physical location and residency status. In addition, many students find online learning a sensible alternative to constantly switching schools with every move.



Claudio Iturriaga, a University of Phoenix Online student, is classes away from earning his Bachelor of Science in Business/Management. In 1994, the Navy veteran started taking classes with another university while stationed in Cuba. Constant military moves kept him from completing that degree program. Two and half years ago, he started his program with University of Phoenix Online.

"The online advantage with the University of Phoenix is tenfold," Iturriaga said.

His last move from Maryland to Nevada did not mean giving up his educational pursuits. "It was worry free. That was one less thing I had to worry about," he said.

After 20 years with the Navy, Iturriaga is a Job Control Maintenance Specialist with Lockheed Martin. He enjoys the flexibility of going to class around his 10-hour a day work schedule, as well as the controlled environment and self pacing the program allows.

The fast-tracked classes, most of which run five weeks, also cater to the military lifestyle. Shorter courses allow service members to schedule classes around TAD, TDY, and at-sea periods. With more than 40 start dates a year, it is possible to fit classes in between these periods.

John Raffier, an Online student working towards his Master of Business Administration/Human Resource Management, found the Online format suitable for his needs. The lieutenant commander has moved numerous times with the Navy in the past several years. In a four year period, he lived in four different states, and two different countries.

This lifestyle, Raffier said, makes attending a traditional university challenging.

"It would make it extremely difficult or expensive to attend a traditional, classroom based program in one location without having to worry about transfer credits and finishing the degree at a separate university," Raffier said.

Raffier is currently stationed at RAF Molesworth, in the United Kingdom, with a designator in human resources. He expects to graduate in 2007.

University of Phoenix Online also implements a deployment policy if a student is deployed while in the middle of a course. Established in 2003, the policy addresses the military student in stating "we recognize the importance of your job in defending our country and the freedoms we have earned as Americans."

The deployment policy was created to help minimize negative financial impact to the student. Here's how it works: a student who withdraws from a class for military reasons, and is in good academic standing, receives a "W" (Withdraw) grade. Upon receipt of the student's orders, the university audits the student's account, cancels financial aid, and processes any refunds that may be due.

Within 60 days of return from deployment, the student must return to class. At that time, the student retakes the class, at no additional cost. Funds previously applied to the incomplete course cover the repeat.

The Working Group on Protecting the Rights of Service Members is calling on state and federal leaders to enact legislation requiring all schools to implement similar policies. The committee recommends the allowance of deferred enrollment for students who must withdraw from a course due to military service. Many educational institutions do not allow a refund in the event of deployment. Furthermore, many military students called to duty often face derogatory affects on their academic records.

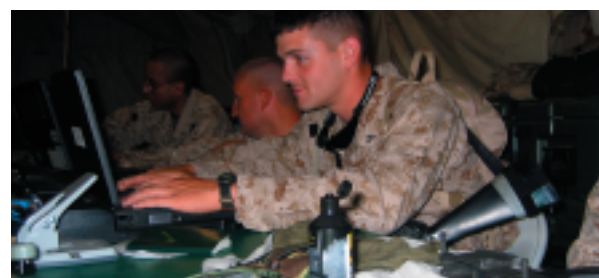


Photo by Staff Sgt. Demetrio J. Espinosa

Boot camp earns college credit, from page 1

Many service members are halfway to a degree, and don't even know it. University of Phoenix Online awards college credit for military experience. Basic training alone can be worth as many as four credits. Through the American Council on Education, military transcripts provide students with an average of 24 credits.

To pull your military transcript, go the following internet sites:

Army (AARTS):

<http://aarts.army.mil>

Navy/Marines (SMART):

<https://www.navycollege.navy.mil>

Air Force (CCAF):

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/>

Coast Guard (CGI):

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/index.html>

DD-214:

(for military service prior to 1984):

<http://www.va.gov/FORMS/dot/SF180.dot>



Family, from page 1

Josete Williams stands behind her father. "I think it's great. He needs to get back in there. It's something he's always wanted to do," she said.

Josete received her Master of Arts in Organizational Management. She started classes at a University of Phoenix ground campus, and finished at University of Phoenix Online. She is currently enrolled in a second master's program, the Master of Arts in Education/Adult Education and Distance Learning at University of Phoenix Online.

Coming in February...

Look for the February issue of Online Patriot.

Buck Whitfield thought his days of deployments were over when he left the Army. The Department of Defense contractor manages a tactical network for a Fort Lewis Ranger unit. Find out how he goes to class online from Afghanistan.



Buck Whitfield protects a supply route in Afghanistan in March 2003. The former army ranger works on his Bachelor of Science in Business Technology degree while in the middle of a combat zone.



Questions? Comments?

We want to hear from you. Is there something you'd like to see in the next issue of Online Patriot? Do you have a colleague that should be recognized or featured? What can we do better? Email comments to mary.brandenberger@phoenix.edu.