

ADDENDUM

2024-2025 ACADEMIC CATALOG

ISSUED: JUNE 27, 2025

Addition listed in this Addendum:

New degree program added to 2024-2025 Catalog for Fall 2025 enrollment.

Doctor of Eastern Philosophy and Management (Hybrid)

University of the West (UWest) offers the Doctor of Eastern Philosophy and Management (DEPM). The program is built on and fully uses the strength of the university's programs and research on cultures, religions, and management. This program collaborates with and is strongly supported by University of the West's sister universities in Taiwan and China.

The DEPM offers a unique synthesis of Eastern philosophy and management principles, blending rigorous academic inquiry with practical application in a hybrid learning format. The 54-unit program may be completed in three years of full-time attendance.

Students explore deeply into three key areas:

1. Eastern philosophy: The program ensures a comprehensive understanding and application of Eastern philosophical principles. Students critically engage with the foundational texts and contemporary interpretations of Buddhism, Daoism, and Confucianism developed in eastern Asian cultural regions, focusing on principles such as impermanence, interconnectedness, and the path to wisdom and compassion.
2. Chinese traditional culture: Emphasizing the human-centered aspects of metaphysical values and wisdom, the curriculum highlights teachings that promote compassion, social responsibility, and ethical leadership within Chinese cultural traditions. Students explore how such values can foster personal growth and societal well-being, addressing contemporary challenges with empathy and mindfulness.
3. Application of Eastern philosophy and Chinese culture in business: This aspect of the program explores innovative ways to integrate Eastern philosophy and Chinese culture into modern business innovations and management. Students study ethical decision-making, sustainability practices, and the cultivation of a harmonious workplace culture through principles derived from Eastern philosophy and Chinese

culture. Relevant courses also compare and contrast Eastern and Western philosophy in modern business and management practices.

Program Curriculum

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the DEPM program, students will

- demonstrate a deep understanding of eastern philosophical principles, including concepts such as impermanence, interconnectedness, and the path to wisdom and compassion.
- effectively apply the teachings of Humanistic Buddhism philosophy to promote compassion, social responsibility, and ethical leadership.
- be able to integrate precepts, compassion, concentration, and equanimity as ethical decision-making and mindfulness practices, into modern business innovations and management.
- achieve deep appreciation to and comprehensive understanding of Eastern cultures, especially traditional Chinese culture and be able to integrate that into their strategic decisions and business development.
- be able to compare and contrast Eastern and Western philosophy in modern business and management practices.
- be capable of implementing sustainability practices and cultivating harmonious workplace cultures, leveraging eastern principles of interconnectedness to enhance ethical standards and business success.

Program Requirements

The program requires students to complete 54 units of semester courses, including 6 units of Foundation Courses, 9 units of Core Courses, 30 units of Specialty Courses, and 9 units of Research Training for the required research project.

Area	Required Units
Foundation Courses	6
Core Courses	9
Specialty Courses	30
Comprehensive Exams	0
Research Training	9
Total	54

Foundation Courses: 6 units

These courses serve as foundational knowledge in Eastern philosophy and business management, ensuring all students have a comprehensive understanding before diving into the core and content courses. These courses may be fulfilled by waiver if the student has a relevant master's degree in a related field, Philosophy, or Business/Management.

Foundation Courses	Units
EPM 500 Comprehensive Review of Eastern Philosophy	3
EPM 501 Comprehensive Study of Business & Management	3

Core Courses: 9 units required

All students complete three (3) Core Courses during the first year.

Students must earn a minimum grade of "B" in all Core Courses. Students who do not earn a passing grade as specified may repeat that course one (1) time only to achieve a passing grade.

Core Courses	Units
EPM 601 Proseminar on the Study of Traditional East Asian Religions	3
EPM 602 Research Methods-Qualitative Analysis	3
EPM 603 Research Methods-Quantitative Analysis	3

Specialty Courses: 30 units required

These courses delve deeper into specialized areas within Eastern philosophy (meditation, philosophy, cultures) and business management (leadership, entrepreneurship, global economics, marketing management, financial management, business ethics, and competitive strategy)

Students must take a minimum of four (4) courses (12 units) in each subject. Required courses are marked with an asterisk (*).

Students must earn a minimum grade of "C" or "Pass" in Specialty Courses. Students who do not earn a passing grade as specified may repeat that course one (1) time only to achieve a passing grade.

MGT 610 may be divided into three (3) separate courses with 1 unit each. In each 1-unit class, there will be invited guest speakers and field trips to visit successful companies. These three (3) courses may be held in different locations.

Students have the option to take more Eastern philosophy related courses or business management related courses.

Eastern Philosophy Specialty courses (4-6 courses)	Units
CONT 520 Topics in Contemplative Practice	3
REL 521 Buddhist Meditation Practicum	3

REL 530 Topics in Buddhist Meditation*	3
REL 585 Religion & Environmentalism	3
REL 622 Developments in Buddhist Philosophy	3
REL 640 Topics in Comparative Religions: Daoism and Confucianism*	3
REL 641 Topics in Buddhist Studies	3
REL 645 Seminar: Regional Buddhist Traditions	3
REL 647 Humanistic Buddhism & Current Issues*	3
REL 655 Perspective in the Study of Chan/Zen Buddhism	3
REL 671 Buddhism & Globalism	3

Business Management Specialty courses (4-6 courses)

Units

MGT 601 Global Leadership and Organization Changes	3
MGT 602 Global Economics & Trade	3
MGT 603 Entrepreneurship and Innovation	3
MGT 604 Social Entrepreneurship	3
MGT 605 Humanistic Buddhism and Management	3
MGT 606 Global Marketing Management	3
MGT 607 Global Financial Management	3
MGT 608 Global Business Philosophy and Ethics*	3
MGT 609 Data Science and Artificial Intelligence	3
MGT 610 Seminar on Doing Business in Asia* (A, B, C)	1-3
MGT 611 Seminar on Doing Business in the US	3
MGT 620 Global Competitive Strategy*	3

Comprehensive Exams: 2 exams required (0 units)

Students are expected to petition to take two (2) Comprehensive Examinations – one (1) on Eastern Philosophy and one (1) on Business Management – as soon as they have completed a minimum of 36 units of course work.

The Comprehensive Examinations must be completed within one (1) semester after completion of 45 units of coursework.

No access to books, notes, the Internet, or any other resource is allowed during the examinations. Comprehensive Examinations are graded Pass, Fail, or Pass with Distinction. If a student fails one or both examinations, the doctoral

committee will decide if and when they may be repeated. Additional work may be required before the student is eligible to retake the program.

Research Training Courses: 9 units required

Research Training for writing a research project. Students will have to write a Comprehensive Research Project. The project represents a significant portion of the program, allowing students to conduct in-depth research into a topic of their choice related to Eastern Philosophy and/or Business Management and develop advanced skills in the relevant fields.

Research Training Courses	Units
EPM 710A Research Training – Project Proposal Development	3
EPM 710B Research Training – Data Collection and Analysis	3
EPM 710C Research Training – Dissertation Writing	3

Sample Study Plan and Schedule of Doctoral Degree Program in Eastern Philosophy and Management

Year	Term	Course No. & Title	Faculty Dept.
1	Fall	EPM 500 Comprehensive Reviews of Eastern Philosophy	Religious Studies
1	Fall	EPM 501 Comprehensive Study of Business & Mgt	Business
1	Fall	EPM 602 Research Methods-Qualitative Analysis	Religious Studies
1	Spring	EPM 601 Proseminar on the Study of Traditional East Asian Religions	Religious Studies
1	Spring	EPM 603 Research Methods-Quantitative Analysis	Business
1	Spring	MGT 608 Global Business Philosophy and Ethics	Business
2	Fall	MGT 610 Seminar on Doing Business in Asia	Business
2	Fall	REL 530 Topics in Buddhism Meditation	Religious Studies
2	Fall	REL 640 Topics in Comparative Religions: Daoism and Confucianism	Religious Studies
2	Spring	MGT 620 Global Competitive Strategy	Business
2	Spring	REL 647 Humanistic Buddhism & Current Issues	Religious Studies
2	Spring	Select one (1) course in Business Management	Business

3	Fall	Comprehensive Exams	Either department
3	Fall	Select one (1) course in Eastern Philosophy	Religious Studies
3	Fall	Select one (1) course in Eastern Philosophy <i>or</i> Business Management	Either department
3	Fall	EPM 710A Research Training – Project Proposal Development	Either department
3	Spring	Select one (1) course in Eastern Philosophy <i>or</i> Business Management	Either department
3	Spring	EPM 710B Research Training – Data Collection and Analysis	Either department
3	Spring	EPM 710C Research Training – Project Report Writing	Either department

Course Delivery Modularity

Twenty-eight (28) units of classes are delivered in a hybrid format with synchronous remote as well as in-person meetings; the other twenty-six (26) units of classes can be taken in a hybrid format or online (asynchronous). Students will typically take two hybrid and one online course each semester. (Note: Students attending under an F-1 visa are limited to one online course per semester towards their full-time attendance requirement.). All hybrid-format classes require on-campus attendance for multiple course meetings during the semester. Students can access all course materials online.

Admission Requirements

- Completion of UWest Graduate Program Application, including the application fee payment.
- A master's degree with a min. 3.0 GPA from a recognized and accredited college, or a bachelor's degree with a min. 3.0 GPA from a recognized and accredited college plus at least three (3) years of business ownership or managerial/ professional work experience.
- A Statement of Purpose addressing the applicant's proposed area of research, their academic preparation to engage in such research, and how the program will be instrumental in pursuing their scholarly and professional goals.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation
- *For International Students:* Bank statement to show sufficient funds to support the student's study and living in the US, plus any additional documents required for issuance of the Form I-20.

Graduation Requirements

The following requirements must be successfully completed before the degree may be conferred.

- 54 units of courses as specified in the above program curriculum;
- A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0;

- Pass two (2) Comprehensive Exams;
- Submit the Comprehensive Research Project.

Degrees are awarded at the close of the semester in which all requirements have been fulfilled, the Comprehensive Research Project has been accepted by the Library, the Graduation Petition has been filed with the Registrar's Office, and the graduation fee is paid.

Continuous Enrollment: After finishing all coursework, students must maintain continuous enrollment through the term during which the research-projects are accepted by the Library. Failure to register and pay the associated tuition and fees may interfere with the requirements and lead to lapse of candidacy status.

Minimum Grade Requirement & Retake Policy: Students must earn a minimum grade of "B" in all Core courses and a minimum grade of "C" or "Pass" in Specialty courses. Students who do not earn a passing grade as specified may repeat that course one (1) time only to achieve a passing grade. Note that the minimum cumulative GPA for graduation is 3.0.

Comprehensive Exams: Students are expected to petition to take two (2) Comprehensive Examinations – one (1) on Eastern philosophy and one (1) on business management – as soon as they have completed a minimum of 36 units of course work.

After completion of 45 units of coursework, the Comprehensive Examinations **must** be completed within one (1) semester.

No access to books, notes, the Internet, or any other resource is allowed during the examinations. Comprehensive Examinations are graded Pass, Fail, or Pass with Distinction. If a student fails one or both examinations, the doctoral committee will decide if and when the exams may be repeated. Additional work may be required before the student is eligible to retake the program.

Comprehensive Research Project: A student advances to candidacy status upon successful completion of the Comprehensive Examinations and payment of the candidacy fee.

Continuous enrollment is required to maintain candidacy status through all stages of the research project process, beginning with advancement to candidacy and ending at the close of the term during which the research project is accepted by the University.

Any readmitted student who was a candidate but then has a break in their enrollment, for whatever reason, must again advance to candidacy and thereafter enroll as a candidate for at least one (1) academic semester before the degree may be conferred. Readmission after a break in enrollment is not guaranteed.

Research Project Training: Students are required to complete a Comprehensive Research Project. Upon advancing to candidacy, the candidate enters the dissertation phase and is eligible to undertake of research. Upon completion of the research requirement, students maintain status by enrolling in one unit of continuous enrollment each term until the dissertation is accepted by the Library.

Stage 1: Preparing the proposal (EPM 710A)

During this stage, candidates begin work on the project proposal under the supervision of their doctoral committee, outlining their intended dissertation project. The dissertation project must be an original piece of research based on primary sources that makes a relevant contribution to the student's field of study.

The proposal is reviewed by the doctoral committee, after which students attend the proposal defense to present their proposal and respond to the questions of the committee. During the proposal defense, the committee decides whether the proposal is accepted, accepted with revisions, or rejected.

Stage 2: Training for research work and data collection and analysis (EPM 710B, EPM 710C)

During this stage, candidates begin research work under the guidance of their doctoral committee to collect and analyze the necessary data.

Stage 3: Research project writing and defense

During this stage, candidates furnish the Comprehensive Research Project by continuously being enrolled in EPM 720 Research Project Seminar (1-3 units per semester as needed). The doctoral committee provides feedback throughout the research project writing stage, approves the project proposal, and conducts the research project report defense.

Stage 4: Comprehensive Research Project Report Submission

After passing the project report defense, the candidate makes all necessary revisions and submits two copies, including one printed for binding and one electronic, to the Library in accordance with the Library's formatting and binding guidelines. The revised project report must be submitted to the Library no later than one (1) semester after passing the defense. During this semester, the candidate must maintain continuous enrollment by enrolling in EPM 720.

Course Descriptions

CONT 520 Topics in Contemplative Practice (3)

Seminar in special area of interest in the study of Buddhist contemplative practice. Topic to be announced each semester.

EPM 500 Comprehensive Reviews of Eastern Philosophy (3)

Comprehensive reviews of the religious traditions, principal teachings, and communities in East Asia, and discusses the topics of devotion, meditation, and ethics embedded in Eastern Asian culture.

EPM 501 Comprehensive Study of Business & Management (3)

This course is to prepare students for taking advanced business/mgt courses in this program and provides comprehensive reviews of business and management, including knowledge and skills in accounting, finance, economics, marketing, management and human resources management.

EPM 601 Proseminar on the Study of traditional East Asian Religions (3)

Introduces systematic approaches scholars use to understand the religious world in East Asia, including historical development of major faith traditions.

EPM 602 Research Methods-Qualitative Analysis (3)

Focuses on qualitative analysis of data; reviews main methods of qualitative data analysis, including content, narrative, discourse, thematic, and grounded theory analysis; discusses how to design and complete effective surveys to collect the data; and explores how to conduct in-depth case study and analysis.

EPM 603 Research Methods-Quantitative Analysis (3)

Discusses data classifications and how to analyze different types of quantitative data; explores how to use advanced quantitative models and methods to solve real world problems and discusses its policy implications.

EPM 710 Research Training A, B, C (9)

Prerequisite(s): Candidacy Status for the comprehensive research project. Upon advancement to candidacy and after completion of all coursework, students maintain continuous enrollment by registering for this course until successful completion of 9-unit research requirement. Pass/No Pass only

EPM 720 Research Project Seminar (1-3)

Prerequisite(s): Candidacy Status for doctoral students who have successfully completed all courses and research training requirements but must remain in continuous enrollment each semester until completion and submission of their project. Not applicable to graduation. Pass/No Pass only

MGT 601 Global Leadership and Organization Changes (3)

Examines effective leadership approaches and compares crucial features of successful global leadership; explores theories and practices of organizational changes and discusses trends of modern organizational changes

MGT 602 Global Economics & Trade (3)

Explores major economic and international trade theories; explores trends of globalization and its development; and discusses int'l finance and effects of governments' economic policies

MGT 603 Entrepreneurship and Innovation (3)

Examines major features of successful startups and explores important issues facing modern entrepreneurs and how to deal with that; and discusses how to be more innovative and competitive

MGT 604 Social Entrepreneurship (3)

Discusses how business can be more socially, environmentally and ethically responsible; examines common features of successful social entrepreneurial firms; and explores how to start a social entrepreneurial organization, better govern and make it more sustainable.

MGT 605 Humanistic Buddhism and Management (3)

Reviews development of humanistic Buddhism and great contributions of Grand Master Hsing Yuan on that; explores important elements of Humanistic Buddhism and how that can be used to improve modern organizations and its management

MGT 606 Global Marketing Management (3)

Focuses on global marketing strategy and its implementation and management; and discusses successful and failed cases in global marketing and its management

MGT 607 Global Financial Management (3)

Focusses on international finance, including global investment and financing decisions; and discuss how to better use advanced financial tools, including financial derivatives to lower and diversify the business risks.

MGT 608 Global Business Philosophy and Ethics (3)

Provides comprehensive reviews of relevant philosophies and explores ethics from different religious perspectives, especially Humanistic Buddhism; and explores how such philosophy and ethics can be better integrated into and used to improve modern global business decision-makings.

MGT 609 Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (3)

Focusses on concepts and practical computational skills of data-mining tools; and explore development and implications of artificial intelligence in business and management.

MGT 610 Seminar on Doing Business in Asia (1-3) (A, B, C)

Examines differences of doing business in Asia from doing that in western countries; and explores opportunities and challenges of doing business in Asia. This course may be divided into three (3) separate courses with 1 unit each. In each 1-unit class, there will be invited guest speakers and field trips to visit successful companies. These three (3) classes may be held in different locations.

MGT 611 Seminar on Doing Business in the US (3)

Provides comprehensive reviews of business environment in the US, including culture, business regulation, markets and competitions; discusses how to plan, start and operate a business in the US, including how to write a business plan.

MGT 620 Global Competitive Strategy (3)

Discusses how to develop and manage a competitive strategy of an enterprise; reviews different theories of competitive strategy and explores how globalization has affected modern business and its competitive strategy.

REL 521 Buddhist Meditation Practicum (3)

Lab-comparable component to the study of Buddhist meditation, providing a hands-on approach to understanding traditional and/or contemporary methods of mental cultivation in a live setting.

REL 530 Topics in Buddhist Meditation (3)

Buddhist approaches to and paradigms of meditation and the training of the mind. Discusses theories and practices of mental developments across Buddhist traditions, with special emphasis on how these practices pertain to foundational Buddhist teachings.

REL 585 Religion & Environmentalism (3)

Examines the renegotiation of existing traditions and emergence of new religiosities as a response to the threat of global environmental catastrophe.

REL 622 Developments in Buddhist Philosophy (3)

Conducts philosophical and critical analysis of Buddhist thought, including topics such as philosophical justification and/or critiques of Buddhist ideas, Buddhist epistemology, ontology, and phenomenology.

REL 640 Topics in Comparative Religions: Daoism and Confucianism (3)

Comparative study of a religious concern or topic and examination of theoretical issues that emerge in comparative work. Topic to be announced each semester. May be taken three (3) times for credit with advisor approval.

REL 641 Topics in Buddhist Studies (3 units)

Seminar in special area of interest in Buddhist Studies. Topic to be announced each semester. Course may be taken a maximum of three times for credit with advisor approval. May be taken three times for credit with advisor approval.

REL 645 Seminar: Regional Buddhist Traditions (3)

A regional study of Buddhism and Buddhist traditions. Regional focus is announced each semester and may include India, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, and East Asia. May be taken three times for credit with advisor approval.

REL 655 Perspective in the Study of Chan/Zen Buddhism (3)

Recent development in the field of Chan/Zen studies. Emphasis is placed on gaining a critical understanding of the history and context of the Chan/Zen movement through broad readings in current scholarly literature.

REL 657 Humanistic Buddhism & Current Issues (3)

Study of Humanistic Buddhism movements in response to emergent issues encountered in modern society. May be taken three times for credit with advisor approval.

REL 671 Buddhism & Globalization (3)

Development of Buddhist traditions under the conditions of globalization. The seminar examines the junctions, border-crossings, and global entwinements that have shaped the global histories of Buddhism over the last two hundred years.