



UNION'S COMMITMENT TO ADULT STUDENTS

Greg Bundy

Systems Consultant
ADP Major Accounts Division
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I am a husband, father, and a full-time employee of an international business firm. Obtaining a bachelor's degree has always been a personal goal of mine, but finding the time has been challenging. This program is exactly what I needed to assist me in achieving my goal. Attending class one night a week is definitely manageable with my current work and family schedule. I originally chose Union University for its reputation of academic excellence. While that still holds true, I've also been equally impressed with the quality of teaching and the professionalism of the staff.

Adult students matter at Union University. We realize that more and more adult learners are returning to colleges and universities as lifelong learners. And, we understand how complicated life can be with work and family. So, we provide a flexible schedule and easy access to university services. Complete your degree attending class just one night a week, and earn your degree in as little as 18 months for some degrees and 2 years for others. Choose one of four programs and the location that works for you. Then, take advantage of an educational experience that is academically rigorous and distinctly Christian. Union University is a school for where you are and where you want to be in life.

About the Program

In 1997, Union University made a commitment to create and design a degree completion program specifically to meet the needs of working adults. The Continuing Studies Department at Union offers the non-traditional student an opportunity to complete a Bachelor of Science degree through an accredited course of study, while minimizing interference with work and family.

Our innovative delivery of the program allows students to continue working full time, attend class one evening a week, and complete the course of study in as little as 18 months, provided all prerequisites have been met.

Program Benefits

With a BSOL degree, you will discover how to become a more effective manager and leader in the workplace. Benefits of the program include:

- Attending class one night a week with a cohort group that provides camaraderie and support;
- Improvement of management and leadership skills in order to strengthen your position within your company or organization;
- Opportunities for receiving credit for prior learning experiences by providing the appropriate documentation;
- Receiving your BSOL degree in as little as 18 months after meeting all requirements for graduation; and
- Graduating with an accredited degree that will allow you to enter graduate school.



Theresa Rochelle, RHIA

Coding Manager,
Health Information Mgmt.
Jackson-Madison County General Hospital

Obtaining the BSOL degree was both a personal and professional accomplishment for me. On a personal level it allowed me to reach my goal of obtaining a bachelor's degree. Professionally it qualified me to take an exam that gave me a higher credential in my field of work. I'm grateful for the opportunity this program gave me to reach these goals while continuing to work.

What is Organizational Leadership?

In designing a degree completion program for adult students, Union wanted to provide an experience that would allow people to do more than merely compete in the workplace. With a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership (BSOL), you can excel in your current career path. The BSOL is custom designed to provide the student with the tools necessary to take a lead role in their organization. An interdisciplinary degree, the BSOL provides management courses as well as communications, marketing, negotiation and conflict resolution skills, ethics, and other skills necessary for success in your chosen career.

In addition to the original BSOL degree, Union University has created three specific emphases many students find beneficial in their chosen careers:

Health Management Emphasis

Union University's BSOL degree offers a program designed for bachelor's degree completion for healthcare professionals in as short as 18 months. This Union University curriculum will cover the following topics:

- Medical Legal Concepts
- Quality Management
- Medical Ethics
- Healthcare Finance
- Managerial Information Systems
- Current Issues in Health Management

Church Leadership Emphasis

A Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership with an emphasis in Church Leadership will help you discover the keys to effective management and leadership in the church environment. The Church Leadership courses will cover the following topics:

- Leadership and Change in the Church
- Ministry Marketing and Church Growth
- Church Finance and Budget
- Issues in Christian Ethics
- Current Issues in Church Leadership

Project Management Emphasis

Our newest emphasis is in Project Management. This new program was specifically designed for rising leaders in the engineering and construction industries. Courses will instruct the student in applying leadership principles to these fields. Courses will include:

- Project Management
- Work Design and Measurement
- Environmental Project Management
- Engineering Economy

New



Kris Phifer

Sr. R & D Data Analyst
Maytag Manufacturing, LLC

The education I received through the BSOL program helped boost my self-esteem and job performance to a level which was even higher than it had been before my degree. I received my BSOL degree in December, 2004 and in July, 2005, I was promoted to Sr. Data Analyst/Lead Consumer Performance Technician. I realize that I was promoted because of my job performance, but the BSOL degree was recognized by my supervisor as a major driving factor for my promotion. Thank you Union University and the BSOL staff for providing excellent education and support throughout the program!

Ideal Candidates

Ideal candidates for this program are adults who are at least 24 years old, have two or more years of college credit, and have at least two years of relevant work experience.

How to Apply

Admission is a simple process that can lead to quick decisions regarding the pursuit of your degree.

The Application Process

1 Complete and return the application and related materials. Included in the application packet are the following:

- Application & fee
- Two reference forms
- Certificate of Immunization
- Official Transcripts
- Rationale Statement

2 Visit campus for a consultation and review of your preliminary evaluation. Call any of our offices to schedule an appointment which is convenient on you schedule.

3 Complete the Financial Aid Process

Admission Requirements

In order to qualify for the BSOL degree program offered by Union University, you must meet the following requirements:

- Successful completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours (credit accepted only with a "C" or better) from an accredited college or post-secondary institution;
- At least 24 years old with two or more years of relevant work experience;
- A minimum grade point average of 2.0 on all academic work,;
- Completion of application form and payment of the \$25 (non-refundable) application fee;
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities previously attended;
- Submission of two recommendations; and
- A brief rationale statement explaining your reason for applying.



David Ford

Operations Manager
Bowater Nuway

The Union BSOL program has provided me with the foundation required to achieve a successful future. The majority of the work was done in groups that encouraged building strong relationships with all students. The instructors incorporated the importance of working as a team and building lifetime alliances while at the same time teaching leadership skills that apply to everyday situations. Union was an enlightening educational experience for myself that instilled teamwork, encouraged building strong relationships, and gave me the basic tools I needed to excel in a fast paced competitive working environment.

Cohort Class Scheduling and Design

At Union, we understand your educational goals are important. We also know how limited your time may be to achieve those goals. That's why as a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership (BSOL) candidate, you will be placed in a cohort group of 10-20 students who will remain with you throughout your course of study. Cohort groups begin several times during the year, with each group meeting once a week in class. The degree can be completed in as little as 18 months.

Degree Requirements

A student must complete a total of 128 semester hours including the general education and management curriculum in order to complete the Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership degree. Credit requirements based on semester hours include:

- 40 semester hours in the BSOL Program Organizational Leadership major;
- 46 hours of general education (core) curriculum.
- 42 semester hours of general electives,
- A cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale) or above for course taken at Union University, with a 2.0 required for the major.

Credit for Prior Learning

Union University recognizes that not all learning takes place in the college classroom. Students may utilize the Union University portfolio process to demonstrate what they have learned for college credits. These credits can be obtained from a number of different learning experiences; seminars, workshops, on-the-job training, non-credit based, work experiences, etc. A maximum of 15 hours can be earned through CPL.

Non-traditional Credit

There are several different non-traditional methods in which credit can be earned in addition to the CPL and instructional modules:

- College Level Examination Program (CLEP) - examinations administered through the national educational testing program,
- Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) - examinations designed for military personnel equivalent to introductory college course.

A maximum of 32 credit hours can be earned through non-traditional methods.