

## **The Comprehensive Examination as a Coursework Capstone Project**

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### **Abstract**

Many graduate degree and post graduate degree programs have capstone projects or papers that encapsulate or synthesize a portion of the students learning from their educational journey. In our Doctorate of Organizational Learning Program, the student is expected to:

- Demonstrate the ability to synthesize approaches to addressing problems, issues, or dilemmas through the successful completion of the capstone experience: the comprehensive exam.
- Understand how to analyze the organization from a social, political, economic, legal, intercultural and technological point of view.
- Apply an appropriate model of change to an issue or problem and be able to design and execute a strategic management plan from beginning to end.

The paper will be evaluated and defended orally before a committee of faculty members.

This paper will compare capstone projects and paper processes from various graduate and post graduate programs and compare these programs with Pepperdine University's School of Education and Psychology Organizational Leadership capstone paper called the Comprehensive Examination.