

Executive MBA

The Executive MBA (EMBA) program at California Lutheran University is an elite program for seasoned professionals who have already achieved significant business success. Our interdisciplinary, experience-driven curriculum is organized around five key areas:

- Leading Operations
- Managing Processes
- Leading People
- Leading Strategy
- Professional and Personal Advancement

After completing an EMBA degree, the student will have an in-depth understanding of the building blocks of business management, theories and practical tools in core subject areas. Furthermore, the student will possess critical and creative thinking skills to apply theories and related tools to solve business problems related to planning, organizing, leading and controlling in any organization, private or public, in a fast paced domestic or global environment. Additionally, the students will have developed a better understanding their strengths and weaknesses in interpersonal relations, teamwork and leadership.

The program features 16 courses, 3 credits each, delivered in a hybrid model (8 on-campus courses, 7 online courses and 1 travel course). The on-campus courses will be offered in a compressed weekend format.

Admission Requirements

The EMBA program begins each October and is delivered over 18 months to a cohort consisting of working professionals with a minimum of 5-7 years or relevant professional experience.

Candidates for admission to the MBA program should submit a complete application portfolio at least 45 days prior to the start of the term. Admission decisions for regular graduate standing are based on a review of the following materials in the candidate's file:

1. A completed application form and non-refundable application fee;
2. Evidence of an interview with an admission counselor;
3. Official transcripts showing a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution. Normally, a grade point average of 3.0 or higher in upper division undergraduate work is expected;
4. One letter of recommendation;
5. Interview with the Program Director;
6. Resume
7. Test scores. Applicants whose undergraduate records do not satisfy the criteria set forth in paragraphs A-D below must include Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) scores in their admission portfolio. The GMAT may be waived for candidates who present an official transcript of previous college work from a regionally accredited college or university reflecting any one of the following criteria:
 - a. An undergraduate, upper division grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale; or
 - b. A combined grade point average of 3.0 or higher for the most recent 60 credits of study consisting of any of the following: graduate course work, upper division post baccalaureate course work (exclusive of extension or continuing education work), and upper division undergraduate course work; or
 - c. A minimum of nine credits of graduate course work completed and a 3.50 grade point average; or
 - d. A previously earned master's degree.

Note:

1. For more information, see Admission Procedures.

Requirements for the Executive MBA

The Executive MBA for requires 48 semester credits of course work which must be completed within a seven-year period. Pass/Fail grading is not permitted for any courses taken towards graduation credit in the MBA and Post-MBA programs.

Required Courses

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| EMBA 500 | Strategy Development in Global Context | 3 |
| EMBA 501 | Ethical and Legal Practices in Business | 3 |
| EMBA 502 | Strategic Decision Making High Perform | 3 |
| EMBA 503 | Organizational Design | 3 |

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| EMBA 504 | Finance for Executives | 3 |
| EMBA 505 | People Management | 3 |
| EMBA 506 | Marketing Management for Executives | 3 |
| EMBA 508 | Negotiations and Conflict Management | 3 |
| EMBA 509 | Information Systems for Executives | 3 |
| EMBA 510 | Global Economics | 3 |
| EMBA 511 | Project Management | 3 |
| EMBA 512 | Innovation/Organization Entrep | 3 |
| EMBA 513 | Professional and Personal Development (Take three times for a total of 3 credits) | 1 |
| EMBA 514 | Global Supply Chain Management | 3 |
| EMBA 520 | Executive Business Immersion | 3 |
| EMBA 599 | Final Project | 3 |

Courses

EMBA 500. Strategy Development in Global Context. (3).

Globalization is a reality for most industries and companies. This course goes beyond a mere introduction to the global business environment in which organizations operate. This course will merge topics of strategy development with advanced issues of managing the geographic scope of the firm. The course asks questions such as when and why does a firm operating in multiple locations have competitive advantage over a collection of single-location rivals? When should international linkages be managed inside the firm, and when should they be left to market transactions or to collaborative alliances. Give a global strategy, how should the firm be organized to execute it? It addresses the creating of competitive advantage in the multinational firm as well as the complexities of managing a multinational firm. It will examine the nature of global industries and global competition to assist managers in understanding how to formulate and implement successful and adaptive strategies in an increasingly complex world economy. Topics include (but a not limited to) the political, economic, cultural, legal and technological environment of international strategy, an exploration of the stages and challenges facing corporations in entering foreign markets, the globalization of industries, the organization of multinational enterprises, strategy in global firms that are also in multiple industries, multinational partnering, the organizational structure of complex global firms, and building global networks.

EMBA 501. Ethical and Legal Practices in Business. (3).

This course addresses the ethical and legal issues that managers face in the practice of leadership. Special consideration is given to the intersection of ethics and law in the areas of business that impact organizational performance, such as freedom and responsibility; whistleblowing, privacy and employment issues; corporate governance; marketing and transparency; products liability and financial integrity.

EMBA 502. Strategic Decision Making High Perform. (3).

The main focus of this course is on the decision-making process and the role of management science and other quantitative methods in that process. Students will need to demonstrate knowledge of the practical basis of the course by mastering and correctly applying the methods for making these decisions, comparisons, and inferences in business settings. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a sound conceptual understanding of the role management science and other methods plays in the decision-making process. The course is concerned with the wide variety of quantitative techniques currently being used in the field of operations research. Students must apply the management science model to generate solutions and recommendations for top management aimed at achieving the high level of performance in their organizations. Additionally, this course will introduce MBA students to the art and science of data analytics.

EMBA 503. Organizational Design. (3).

Organization Design is a formal, guided process for integrating the people, information and technology of an organization. It is used to match the form of the organization as closely as possible to the purpose the organization seeks to achieve. Through the design process, organizations act to improve the probability that the collective efforts of members will be successful. This course focuses on effective organizational design in both traditional and innovative organizations, with special emphasis on innovative organizational forms that can provide strategic advantage. Topics include when to use functional, divisional or matrix organizations, how IT creates new organizational opportunities, and examples of innovative organization possibilities, such as democratic decision-making, crowd-based organizations internal resource markets, and other forms of collective intelligence.

EMBA 504. Finance for Executives. (3).

This course provides a framework, concepts, and tools for analyzing financial decisions based on fundamental principles of modern financial thought. It will examine the topics of financial statement structure, ratio analysis, cash flow and break-even analysis, cash management, cash budgets, capital budgeting, the NPV rule measuring risk, capital acquisition, securities market and capital structure. Upon completing this course, students should better read, understand, interpret and explain corporate financial management and investment decisions.

EMBA 505. People Management. (3).

This course will equip students with knowledge of processes and practical tools on how to connect organizational excellence to people management by systematically identifying, attracting, motivating, developing and retaining the organization's best people. This course focuses on developing a strategic approach to managing core talent, which includes the enhancement of an employment brand in order to produce superior recruiting results, the formulation of integrated marketing and communication strategy to build brand awareness, and the implementation of techniques aimed to successfully manage employee retention and engagement, among others. The course identifies practices and solutions for increasing the likelihood of top talent remaining with the organization and becoming its future leaders.

EMBA 506. Marketing Management for Executives. (3).

Today's executives are faced with the shifting demographic forces impacting consumer behaviors in a global marketplace. The ability for organizations to plan, build, manage and grow ethical and profitable customer relationships is more important than ever. This course provides executives with insights and strategies for positioning their organizations and its associated products and/or services in highly competitive markets. Topics include customer loyalty, branding, pricing, promotion, digital marketing, marketing information systems, channel management, marketing structures, industry marketing, marketing communications, lead management, and marketing campaign strategy.

EMBA 507. Leadership and Change Management. (3).

This course will cover and apply a variety of core concepts and theories related to leadership and leading change. Key models, theories, and practices from sociology, psychology and organizational science will be investigated which form the knowledge base for leadership and change management skills. The focus of the course is on identifying and developing key competencies and core skills such as delegation, leadership communication styles, issues related to leadership in a global context, models of leadership effectiveness, and implementing planned change efforts, all while setting MBA students up for continuous learning of these skills throughout their professional careers. To this end, students will be provided with: in-depth materials for every topic through soft-copies of recent significant articles on the topic, self-evaluation instruments, and specific suggestions for further learning and development of skills through activities available throughout their program.

EMBA 508. Negotiations and Conflict Management. (3).

The course is designed to explore the major concepts and theories of the negotiation process. Special emphasis will be given to the dynamics of interpersonal and intergroup conflict and resolution. Topics addressed include interpersonal influence techniques plus strategies and tactics involved with improved bargaining and negotiation. Students will learn key negotiation skills through an interactive experience that includes case studies, reading, videos, and role-play simulations. Students will focus on the development of effective negotiation strategies and tactics. The course is designed to be relevant to the broad spectrum of negotiation challenges traditionally encountered by managers in business.

EMBA 509. Information Systems for Executives. (3).

The Information Systems for Executives course focuses on the links between business strategy and information technology, the organizational implications of information and information technology, and how to successfully incorporate information technology into organizations. Designed to address the needs of all executives, the course will prepare students with an understanding of technological vocabulary, data and information IT architecture and governance, emerging technologies and how they enhance core business functions, and demonstrating the business value of IT investment. Practice-based exercises and case studies will enhance the learning experience through modeling IT choices and information utilization.

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EMBA 510. Global Economics. (3).

This course provides insight into the complex working of macroeconomics from its contemporary theoretical perspective and practice. The course aims at providing an international perspective for the understanding of the subject matter and how current changes have given an ever-increasing reliance on the relevance and the necessity of macroeconomic decisions to be made in a coordinated manner among the nations in the emerging global setting. The course explains the current state of affairs in creating better opportunities for many people and business entities in the global economy. It explores the reasons for the emergence of many of the crises that have brought serious challenges in meeting the needs of balanced and well-functioning economies in many countries and regions of the world. It employs current examples such as the development of the Global Financial Crisis and its outcome in the form of increase in unemployment, high public debt and growing poverty and income gap within a country and among the nations. The class provides ample opportunities for debating the contemporary and prevailing policy initiatives with respect to issues such as inflation, exchange rate regimes, fiscal rules and regulation. Participants are encouraged and assisted to use critical and deductive reasoning, adaptive thinking and ethical judgment in reaching the possible conclusion.

EMBA 511. Project Management. (3).

Project management is an increasingly prominent and sought-after discipline within private and public organizations alike. More and more organizational managers aim to acquire project management skills to deliver company strategic objectives while applying proven project management principles to execute their projects. This course is an introduction to the basic fundamentals of project management designed for experienced managers. Specifically, the course will focus on building core competencies required to pass the Project Management Professional (PMP) certification examination. Students will receive a general baseline of project management knowledge based on the nine knowledge areas defined by the Project Management Institute (PMI).

EMBA 512. Innovation/Organization Entrep. (3).

A company's ability to succeed in an increasingly competitive global arena often depends on its ability to create new revenue streams and pursue new business opportunities. They must be faster, more creative, nimble, flexible and innovative. Or, in other words, they must develop a culture of corporate entrepreneurship and innovation - the practice of employing entrepreneurial skills and approaches within the context and the constraints of an established organization. The course will explore topics such as reasons and conditions for engaging in corporate entrepreneurship and innovation, the difference between innovation and entrepreneurship, different forms of corporate entrepreneurship, the creation of structures and processes supporting corporate entrepreneurship and innovation, the role of corporate culture, and others.

EMBA 513. Professional and Personal Development. (1).

This course, which is positioned and conducted throughout the MBA-EP study, aims to help students to increase their self-understanding regarding personal values, strengths and weaknesses, as well as to improve their ability to set and follow future goals both in personal and professional life. Through a variety of personality tests, personal development papers, short focus courses, group work consultations, coaching clinic, etc., students will have an excellent opportunity to develop the skills and mindset that really matters for achieving personal professional success. This is offered in one unit increments over three terms.

EMBA 514. Global Supply Chain Management. (3).

This course provides basic definitions and concepts for planning and controlling the flow of materials into, through and out of an organization. It explains fundamental relationships among the activities that occur in the supply chain from suppliers to customers. In addition, the course addresses types of manufacturing systems, forecasting, master planning, material requirements planning, capacity management, production activity control, purchasing, inventory management, distribution, quality management, and Lean manufacturing. The basic concepts in managing the complete flow of materials in a supply chain from suppliers to customers are covered in this basics module. This module covers manufacturing, distribution, service, and retail industries, which includes the fundamental relationships in the design, planning, execution, monitoring, and control that occur. This coursework is intended to prepare students for the first APICS Certification exam.

EMBA 520. Executive Business Immersion. (3).

This course is an integration of all the foundation courses of MBA to provide the student with knowledge, skills and abilities to academic and professional practices that are needed in order to succeed in the Cal Lutheran School of Management's EMBA graduate program. The course focuses on the development of written and oral communication skills, computer skills, and creative and critical thinking. Students will be introduced with the basic principles of accounting as a foundation for advanced studies and as vocational skills. This course will also help EMBA students to acquire a good intuitive grasp of statistics- what is it, how and when to apply statistical techniques to managerial situations, and how to interpret results. With all the combined knowledge, the course will also focus on providing with a general understanding of economics- micro and macro both.

EMBA 599. Final Project. (3).

Students will have a choice of completing a comprehensive business plan for a new venture or working on a consulting project with the local (or global) organization. All arrangements for providing companies for the above projects are made through the Cal Lutheran MBA program office.