

LDR 6099, MAOL Comprehensive Exit Exam (0 Units)

Instructor: Vassilis Dalakas

Semester: Summer 2026

Course Description: This course is required for all students to meet the graduation requirements for the Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership program in the Fermanian School of Business. The course consists of a comprehensive exam assessing knowledge in leadership disciplines. Students must pass the exam in order to graduate. Students who do not pass the exam will be required to complete a comprehensive project under the supervision of the Dean of the Fermanian School of Business (or the Dean's designee).
Credit/No Credit.

Learning Outcome:

Exhibit mastery of the concepts, models, and theories in the leadership discipline.

Comprehensive Exam

All MAOL students must take a comprehensive exam in leadership content. The exam will be given in the LDR 6099 class, which will be taken in their final quarter in the MAOL program. Students must achieve a passing score in order to graduate with an MAOL degree in the Fermanian School of Business. If a passing score is not achieved, students must complete a comprehensive project administered by the Associate Dean or another designee of the Dean.

Comprehensive Project

Students who do not achieve a passing score on the comprehensive exam must complete a comprehensive project administered by the Associate Dean or another designee of the Dean. Students can either be assigned a topic or choose a topic that must be approved by the Associate Dean. The student will be expected to acquire sources and conduct independent research of an acceptable quality. Project deliverables need to be met on time and completed in a manner commensurate with graduate-level work exhibiting comprehensive knowledge in leadership.

Comprehensive Project Elements

1. Assigned Project Topic

The project topic will be assigned by the Associate Dean of Graduate Business Education. It will be relevant to leadership and/or a specific related discipline and provide a comprehensive treatment of leadership.

2. Project Draft

The student will prepare a written, substantive first draft of the project, including a

review or analysis of the original data or sources. The student will identify additional sources needed and provide a timeline for completion of the final project. Students will receive feedback on their first draft and incorporate additional research and feedback from the instructor into the final project.

3. Final Project

The student will submit a written final draft of the project at an acceptable quality level both in leadership content and University writing standards, and the project must be no less than 10 pages plus appropriate references, and follow APA guidelines. The project must meet the goal of the topic and research question, provide clear organization and substantive analysis, and exhibit a comprehensive understanding of leadership.

Evaluation

The project will be evaluated on a pass or fail basis. In order to pass, students must meet the schedule of required project deliverables on time and conduct research at a level commensurate with graduate-level work, exhibiting comprehensive knowledge in leadership.

Schedule

The comprehensive exam will be given online in Week 7 of the final quarter of the student's MAOL program.