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## Gardner-Webb to Offer New Degree Completion Program Major in Fall 2018

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Office of University

April 20, 2018

Communications

University Announces Establishment of Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership

# BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Gardner-Webb University has finalized plans for a new online degree program through the School of Education. Beginning in fall 2018, the University will offer a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership (BAOL) through the Degree Completion Program (DCP).

University officials are excited about the addition and believe the changes will help Gardner-Webb provide quality leadership education that will address the needs of a wide range of modern professionals.

"This curriculum will provide students with a liberal arts understanding of leadership in today's complex organizations in the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors," shared Dr. Jeff Hamilton, program director. "We believe students will enjoy developing the knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes that are in high demand by employers and are hallmarks of effective leaders."

The degree is modeled after the University's Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership. In addition to other program goals, students will learn how to analyze problems to develop solutions; evaluate logic, reason, evidence, and research to make informed organizational decisions; effectively lead teams, groups, and organizations; generate organizational strategy; design leadership development programs; understand team and group dynamics; lead change initiatives; provide feedback, manage expectations, and delegate effectively; and establish personal credibility.



"This addition to our DCP offerings is a logical extension of the University's commitment to cultivating transformational leaders in communities, schools, law enforcement, and businesses," Hamilton explained. "This degree program may be new, but the vision behind it and the expertise it harnesses are part of the legacy of excellence and innovation at Gardner-Webb."

Courses offered through the major include Organizational Theory, Leadership Development, Theory and Practice of Leadership, Organizational Communication, Introduction to Human Resources Management, Ethical Leadership, Digital Culture and Society, and more.

According to reports by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook for vocations in organizational leadership indicates an annual growth of 14 percent. Employment fields vary from sectors including human resources, social and community services, medical and healthcare managers, and corporate management.

For more information about the program, contact Dr. Jeff Hamilton, assistant professor of education, at 704-406-2309 or visit Gardner-Webb.edu/dcp.

Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university that prepares students to become critical thinkers, effective leaders and compassionate servants in the global community. Emphasizing a strong student-centered experience and rigorous academics, Gardner-Webb ignites learning and service opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.