



YOUR INVESTMENT

# The Program at-a-Glance

Students identify a research interest the first year in the program through a literature review. This research trajectory leads to the proposal development in the second year with dissertation completion the third and final year.



# A Year at-a-Glance

Benchmarks are research performance targets comprising the dissertation process. Embedded throughout the duration of the program, these benchmarks ensure an aligned research trajectory for students that scaffold from semester to semester as they progress through the program.

YEAR ONE

**SUMMER**

- Problem statement
- Background of the problem

**FALL**

- Setting
- Purpose

**SPRING**

- Research Question Development
- Conceptual Framework

# A Semester at-a-Glance

Through a cross-disciplinary, coherent curriculum delivered by collaborating faculty, our students are immersed in the reflective practice of leadership with fellow cohort members.

YEAR ONE

SUMMER

Friday  
Evening and  
Saturday

YEAR ONE, TWO, THREE

SPRING AND FALL

Every Other  
Saturday

YEAR TWO

SUMMER

Saturday



THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS DIFFERENCE

# Advising



## A TEAM BEHIND YOU.

UST Faculty demonstrate a strong commitment to the program by working in several roles; instructor, advisor, dissertation chair and dissertation committee member. At the culmination of each semester, they reach a consensus on the student's score for benchmarks, affording each student real-time feedback on his/her cumulative progress toward his/her dissertation. For year one, a committee of faculty members assess the student's standing with regard to a comprehensive literature review. For year two, another committee of faculty members assess the student's dissertation proposal defense. For the third and final year of the program, a student's dissertation committee assess the student's defense of his/her dissertation.



## THE WINDING PATH EXPLAINED.

As mentors, advisors consult with students to ensure benchmarks have been attained and to prepare the student for transitioning his/her research to the Dissertation Chair. Meeting regularly to scrutinize the mini literature review and later, literature review and draft proposal, gives the student a clearer understanding of the steps towards earning the degree beyond the coursework.

