

# EDUCATION, TRAINING & ONLINE LEARNING

*Presented by*





Increasing Opportunities for High-Achieving Students

### Titans of Empowerment



"I never saw myself doing anything else."  
- Kelsie Whitmore

#### CSUF ALUMNA CHANGING THE GAME

Many professional baseball players launched their careers at Cal State Fullerton. Kelsie Whitmore is no exception. The former Titan softball standout made history when she became the first woman to play in the Atlantic League, one of four Major League Baseball partner leagues. The Class of 2020 and 2022 grad was empowered by her CSUF coaches, teammates, and professional development opportunities. "Their support helped me open up about my hopes for the future."

Kelsie and Alexis are just two examples of graduates who experienced Cal State Fullerton's commitment to advancing student success. This empowered them to pursue their passions and career paths.

From admissions through commencement, CSUF works to empower all Titan students to reach their fullest potential.

Learn more at <https://campaign.fullerton.edu/empowerment>



"She believed in me. She looked at me, heard my life story, saw my academic history, and said, 'You made it to CSUF... you can be a doctor.'"  
- Alexis Ruiz

#### FUTURE PEDIATRICIAN EXCEEDS HER OWN EXPECTATIONS

Alexis Ruiz always knew she would graduate from college, but she never imagined she could attend medical school. It was the words of an assistant dean at Cal State Fullerton that ultimately changed the first-generation college student's path for the better. "You made it to CSUF. If you can make it here, you can be a doctor." Empowered by the support that she received, Ruiz graduated with a bachelor's degree in Childhood Adolescence and Development. Ruiz plans to pursue her goal of becoming a doctor in pediatric oncology.

# Cal State Fullerton

EARNs 2022-2023 COLLEGES OF DISTINCTION RECOGNITION

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## TEACHING THE BUSINESS OF SPORTS

Concordia University Irvine's School of Business & Economics has launched a new MBA in Sports Business. This new program is designed to address market needs, producing more sophisticated leaders in the ever changing world of sports business. As it does, sports industry heavyweights are weighing in on the present landscape—and how Concordia's newest program will help students.

One supporter is Leigh Steinberg, perhaps the most well-known sports agent in recent times, and the model for the lead character in the 1996 film *Jerry Maguire*. Steinberg has represented 64 NFL first-round draft picks and eight number-one overall draft selections, more than any other agent.

Steinberg met and became friends with Mark Francis, who is heading up the new program, 12 years ago when Francis began teaching sports business at UCLA. "Mark is uniquely qualified, as someone who has been very involved in sports marketing himself, to bring real-life experience. It's not all just theory, but there are practical skill sets that are learned: how to recruit or sell, how to negotiate, how to maintain client relationships," says Steinberg. "I've worked with him on a number of different things. I found him to be very creative and thorough. I have great admiration for his skills."

A native of Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, Francis coached men's and women's ice hockey at two very successful high school and college programs, winning conference and national gold and silver medals. An executive mentorship with the Los Angeles Kings hockey team brought him to L.A. in 2008.

He then landed a job teaching sports business at the Center for Media, Entertainment & Sports at UCLA's Anderson School of Management. He also coached UCLA's American College Hockey Conference Men's club team for seven years.

"Both those things allowed me to get to know everybody in the athletics department at one of the number-one sports schools in the world," Francis says. He then worked as a consultant with a production company, BaAM Productions, which produces large-scale sports events for majors pro sports entities, including the NHL Winter Classic, NHL All-Star Game, MLB All-Star, Pro Football Hall of Fame, the Rose Bowl game, and more.

"The one thing I have always wanted to do was run a program like this," says Francis. "Concordia gave me that opportunity. I have always wanted to be an influencer in the industry to produce highly-ethical, qualified



leaders in the sports industry. We are developing the next round of sports executives. Ethics and character are a major part of that."

George Wright, Dean of Concordia's School of Business & Economics, says this new program is another example of the university's commitment to serve Concordia students as well as the local, national, and international business communities. He "thanks Professor Emeritus Curt Cattau, MBA Director Drew Wolf, and Program Director Mark Francis for creating, refreshing, and delivering unique sports business programs that align with Concordia's mission and will serve sports business and all the related industries in an even more impactful manner."

Steinberg agrees and says sports is essentially a relational business. "At the end of the day, everything comes down to relationships with other people," Steinberg says. "Character, reliability, and trust are key. Whether you're an athletic director, a general manager, an agent or a reporter, you'll be dealing with the same people over and over again with an understanding that no one transaction is worth destroying the relationship."

**"We are developing the next round of sports executives. Ethics and character are a major part of that."**

The world of sports now offers multiple employment opportunities—all of which operate on the same basic principles. "Someone can work for a team, a league conference, an athletics department, sports branding, public relations, a players association, sports-themed content, motion pictures, documentaries—the field is exceptionally broad," Steinberg says. "Some students may end up working in entrepreneurial startups that don't exist now. The key is to prepare them with skills so they can move in any way."

Concordia's sports business alumni have received jobs and internship placements with the Golden State Warriors, Sacramento Kings, the NHL in Toronto and Anaheim, the San Diego Padres, and the Los Angeles Dodgers. Steinberg's counsel to students at Concordia is simple: "Be kind to your future self. Do those things in business practices and networking that may not come to fruition instantly."

To learn more about the MBA Sport Business program at Concordia, please visit [www.cui.edu/sportsmba](http://www.cui.edu/sportsmba) or call (949) 214-3254.



Dr. Curt Cattau, Mark Francis, Leigh Steinberg, and Dean George Wright

[CUI.edu/SportsMBA](http://CUI.edu/SportsMBA)

## Advance Your Professional Callings

At Concordia University Irvine, our graduate programs are designed for busy professionals, like you, who want to broaden their expertise in business, coaching, consulting, counseling, education, healthcare, leadership, ministry, and more. By teaching both the hard and soft skills you need, our programs equip you with the tools to adapt to the ever-changing workplace and world.

### Why Choose Concordia University Irvine?

- Explore master's, doctoral, and graduate certificate programs
- Study on our Irvine campus or online on your schedule
- Get individualized support in small, collaborative classes
- Learn from Christian faculty and renowned thought leaders
- Grow and develop professionally, personally, and spiritually

### Learn More at [cui.edu](http://cui.edu)



**"When I researched graduate programs, I was looking for an online program that was reasonably priced, reputable, and had a spiritual foundation. Concordia exceeded my expectations."**

**Kelli C., M.A. '22**





# SOFIA UNIVERSITY

## Institute of Applied and Professional Studies

Sofia University is bringing to Orange County a fresh approach to the study of psychology and business. Founded in 1975 as the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Sofia University is a private institution, accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Sofia focuses on graduate work in psychology and professional studies. Our business programs emerge from the tradition of Transpersonal Psychology, a practice emphasizing continuous leadership growth, and the kind of authentic self-development that leads to increased creativity, compassion, and purpose.

The Institute of Applied and Professional Studies at Sofia University offers a master's in business administration, a doctor of business administration, and a master's of science in computer science, and a developing undergraduate business degree completion program. The business curriculum emphasizes focused growth, positive psychology and leadership, understanding how transpersonal theories of personality and motivation inform organizational psychology, and our sense of the human being in the social media environment. The curriculum also centers on sustainable capital, design, technology, and innovation. Keeping a focus on issues of global social justice and the UN sustainable development goals, Sofia's MBA works to develop change-makers who know how to make a difference in a complex world.

### The MBA

Sofia University's MBA program is tailored to offer maximum flexibility for busy adult learners. Classes are offered both fully online and, in a hybrid, residential modality, making for a very flexible schedule. Students can finish quickly, or they can take their time! The core MBA program can be completed in 18 months unless they wish to add on a STEM certified data analytics concentration - requiring four more courses (two terms). If MBA students want to continue their education further, they can enter the pathway program and go on to complete the full MS in Computer Science degree.

Sofia offers a robust work integrated learning program, featuring STEM based programs. WIL students take a course every term where they apply what they learn in their internship to their educational experience. International students who do WIL are closely supported by a very special team of administrative experts, who make sure that every aspect of the F-1 visa experience is simple, easy, and fully compliant.

### The DBA

Sofia's new Doctorate in Business Administration was just approved by WASC, our regional accreditor, and will be rolled out in Fall 2023. The program will build on the transpersonal notion of authentic leadership by requiring extensive professional training along with the more traditional exercise of learning to apply scientific methods to a specific real-world problem. Leaders will produce a research-based dissertation, demonstrating a solution to a problem they face in their everyday work. Alongside of the dissertation, students, through extensive transpersonal reflection, will create a professional development plan showing just how they are able to become the kind of change-agent who can drive the required solution.

Sofia has a long history at our Palo Alto/Silicon Valley campus. More recently the university opened a new facility in Costa Mesa, taking over a large law school campus right off Harbor Blvd. Sofia university is thus preparing for an exciting future serving the Orange County community by helping to develop authentic leaders for tomorrow's business environment.

Our dedicated admissions team is here to guide you through the admissions process and identify the right program for you and your career goals. To speak with our admissions team, call 1 (888) 820-1484, or email our Admissions Office at [admissions@sofia.edu](mailto:admissions@sofia.edu).



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## SOFIA UNIVERSITY

SINCE 1975

### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Discover Sofia University's flexible MBA program, designed for busy adult learners. Choose between 100% online or hybrid in-person classes, and complete the core MBA in just 18 months. Want to stand out? Add a STEM-certified data analytics concentration in just four extra courses, then take your education even further with the MS in Computer Science pathway. Experience hands-on learning through our robust work integrated program (WIL), with STEM-based courses and internships. International students receive dedicated support for a hassle-free F-1 visa experience. Sofia University empowers you to excel in a dynamic world. Our dedicated admissions team is here to guide you through the admissions process and identify the right program for you and your career goals. Start your educational journey of self-discovery today!

1 (888) 820-1484 | [www.sofia.edu](http://www.sofia.edu) | [admissions@sofia.edu](mailto:admissions@sofia.edu)

<b>Name of Institution</b> Sofia University	<b>Platforms Offered</b> Full time; Weekend	<b>Total Cost</b> <a href="https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/bachelor-completion/bsba/">https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/bachelor-completion/bsba/</a> <a href="https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/mba/">https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/mba/</a>
<b>Name of School or Program</b> MBA/DBA/MSCS	<b>Areas of Emphasis Offered</b> Data Analytics	<b>Upcoming Information Sessions</b> See Below
<b>School Dean</b> Steven J. Gold, PhD	<b>Length of Programs</b> 18 months with option to go 24	<b>Application Deadlines</b> Registration Date: 8/25/2023 Orientation Date: 9/19/2023 Program Start Date: 10/2/2023
<b>Year Institution was Founded</b> 1975	<b>Program Accreditations</b> WSCUC	<b>Program Contact Information</b> <a href="https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/bachelor-completion/bsba/">https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/bachelor-completion/bsba/</a> <a href="https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/mba/">https://www.sofia.edu/ourprograms/mba/</a>
<b>Total Enrollment</b> 300	<b>Required Testing</b> None	



## Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College Offer Cutting-Edge Degrees and Certificates to Empower Future Professionals

In today's rapidly evolving job market, a quality education is essential for students to stay competitive and thrive in their chosen careers. Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College take pride in providing students with a top-quality education that not only equips them with the necessary academic knowledge, but also prepares students to excel in an ever-changing professional landscape.

Offering more than 400 certificates and degrees, our programs are carefully designed to lead directly to employment opportunities in high-demand Orange County industries.

We understand that the skills and knowledge demanded by employers are constantly evolving, and as such, our curriculum is continuously updated to reflect the latest trends and advancements in each field. By staying in sync with industry demands, Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College ensure that our students graduate with the most current and sought-after qualifications.

Our students have dedicated support services to gain access to a vast network of faculty, staff, alumni, and industry partners. Building these connections can

open doors to internships, job opportunities, and collaborations that can make a positive impact in their lives and future careers.

Our campus locations offer state-of-the-art facilities for students. Our classrooms are equipped with the latest technology and resources to offer an optimal learning environment for students to thrive. We offer flexible learning options, including full-time and part-time programs, online courses, and evening classes. This flexibility enables students to pursue their education while balancing other home-life responsibilities. District and college leadership strive to create long-lasting partnerships that connect employers and businesses with students to prepare them to be the next leaders in our community.

Our students and graduates are already making a difference in the local economy and are paving the way for a modern workforce that will lead Orange County into the future.

**For more information, please visit:**  
Irvine Valley College | [www.ivc.edu](http://www.ivc.edu)  
Saddleback College | [www.saddleback.edu](http://www.saddleback.edu)



## SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE • IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE • ATEP

# WE'RE TRAINING YOUR FUTURE LEADERS

Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College are training a modern workforce that will lead Orange County into the future. Providing career pathway guidance, the colleges help more than 50,000 students attain their educational goals by offering more than 400 certificates and degrees. To learn about how the workforce of tomorrow is training, please visit:

IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE  
[www.ivc.edu](http://www.ivc.edu)

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE  
[www.saddleback.edu](http://www.saddleback.edu)



## SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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## Stratford School Where the Extraordinary Happens!

At Stratford School, high expectations yield extraordinary results. Our advanced yet intentionally balanced curriculum starts as early as Preschool to inspire and nurture the minds and hearts of every student. From the outset, we simplify challenging concepts, then accelerate learning to enable our students to study ahead of grade level, develop a love of learning, and prepare for the future. Our curriculum is created in thoughtful and meaningful ways to ignite curiosity, nurture exploration, and encourage inquiry.

From Preschool through Grade 8, Stratford's curriculum is infused with sequential instruction in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics—"STEAM"—to help students develop a diverse set of problem-solving skills and talents they'll need in today's world. We accomplish this through a unique cross-disciplinary approach that enhances critical thinking, integrates ideas from multiple subjects, and ultimately expands student learning.

### Preschool

Beginning in Preschool, Stratford's curriculum is designed to develop the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical building blocks. Hands-on, multi-sensory activities, including our Imaginative STEAM Play, encourage preschoolers to play and share with others, while developing their self-confidence, so each child discovers the joy and excitement of learning.

### Elementary

In Elementary, our accelerated core curriculum exceeds the National Standardized ERB Results and motivates students to become



# STRATFORD SCHOOL

critical thinkers, innovative problem-solvers, and proficient writers. This balanced approach imparts students with not only a well-rounded education; it fosters the development of strong friendships, effective study skills, and blossoming self-confidence.

### Middle School

Middle School continues the Stratford tradition of excellence. We prepare and mentor students for placement in honors and advanced courses at top-tier private and public high schools. Stratford's intentional approach to educating the whole child results in young adults who are gifted communicators as well as skilled and generous collaborators.

Beyond the classroom, we help students discover and define their passions through a variety of extracurricular pursuits, personal enrichment activities, physical education, and time or free play.

Our caring and passionate teachers cultivate a fun and nurturing classroom environment, where high expectations encourage students to try new things with confidence and enthusiasm.

By harnessing the collective power of students, teachers, and administrators, this carefully designed approach, along with our commitment as educational leaders, helps students to excel. Stratford School prepares students to become the future generation of creative problem-solvers, imaginative innovators, visionaries, and confident, insightful leaders.

For more information, visit us at [www.stratfordschools.com](http://www.stratfordschools.com).

# WHEN YOU BUILD A STRONG THE FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING EXTRAORDINARY HAPPENS

## Join us for a TOUR

Explore Stratford's innovative and intentionally balanced STEAM-based curriculum and see firsthand how we foster creative thinking, innovation, and collaboration.

### Mission Viejo

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# STRATFORD SCHOOL

## Schedule your private tour today! Visit [StratfordSchools.com/tours](http://StratfordSchools.com/tours)

### NOW ENROLLING Preschool through Middle School\*

Our other Southern California campuses [Altadena](#) | [West Los Angeles](#)

