

Postdoctoral Program in Strategic Management of *Complex Projects and Megaprojects*

A program of excellence for doctoral graduates who seek to lead the strategic management of complex projects and megaprojects with transformative impact on societies.



1 year · 3 terms



100% Online



Partial institutional scholarships · Direct financing



100% scholarship for UNADE doctoral graduates

WHO WE ARE

UNADE: We develop *leaders* in 60 countries

The Universidad Americana de Europa (UNADE) is an international institution within the IOE Education Group, with 3 decades of experience in higher education.

UNADE has been granted **Institutional Accreditation for Educational Excellence**, reflecting an academic model grounded in rigor, continuous improvement, and external quality assurance.

Postdoctoral candidates have access at all times to high-level academic guidance and a virtual campus available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Leading complexity, *transforming the future*

In a global context marked by the growing complexity of social, economic, technological, and political systems, project management has evolved toward highly sophisticated models that require advanced capabilities in strategic direction, systems thinking, multilevel governance, and decision-making under uncertainty.

This postdoctoral program is founded on three strategic pillars: **high-impact applied research** focused on the analysis of real megaprojects; **strategic direction and governance**, with an emphasis on decision-making in complex environments; and **innovation and organizational transformation**, focused on sustainability, digitalization, and social impact.

It is designed for doctoral graduates seeking to establish themselves as leaders in the direction of complex projects, strategic advisors, senior consultants, or researchers specialized in organizational systems, infrastructure, public policy, or institutional transformation.

"Higher education should not only prepare qualified professionals, but also individuals capable of contributing meaningful value to society through knowledge."

Dr. José Antonio Gurpegui Palacios

Honorary President – Universidad Americana de Europa

KEY FACTS

A purely *research-focused* program



DURATION

1 year (12 months)



FORMAT

100% Online



PLATFORM

Moodle



STRUCTURE

3 terms

ADMISSIONS

Admission *Requirements*

Required academic degree: applicants must hold a doctoral degree in fields related to Project Administration, Direction, or Management; Engineering; Social, Economic, or Political Sciences; Public Management or Public Policy; or Innovation, Technology, and Organizational Development. In exceptional cases, candidates holding a doctoral degree in other fields may be considered, provided they demonstrate relevant experience in managing complex projects or megaprojects.

✓ Copy of the doctoral degree

✓ Updated curriculum vitae

✓ Statement of purpose

✓ Preliminary research proposal or project in the strategic management of complex projects and megaprojects

DESIRED APPLICANT PROFILE

Who is this program *for*?

Applicants must possess a solid academic background, relevant professional experience, and a clear disposition toward analyzing, intervening in, and transforming complex systems:

Knowledge

• Conceptual mastery of project management models, strategic planning, and resource management within complex organizational contexts

• Understanding of complexity theories, systems thinking, and analysis of dynamic environments, including uncertainty and risk

• Knowledge of methodological frameworks for the formulation, execution, and evaluation of projects in both the public and private sectors

Skills

• Analyzing complex systems through multidimensional approaches, integrating technical, economic, social, and political variables

• Designing strategies for managing complex projects, considering uncertainty, risk management, and strategic decision-making

• Integrating interdisciplinary teams, coordinating institutional, technical, community, and political actors

Attitudes

• Strategic thinking and long-term vision, oriented toward the transformation of systems and organizations

• Ethical leadership and social responsibility, particularly in projects with high community or institutional impact

• Resilience and adaptability in contexts of high uncertainty and constant change

RESEARCH

Research *Lines*

The postdoctoral program is developed around the following research lines:

1

Complexity and Systems Thinking in Megaprojects

Complexity theory, systems thinking, and strategic intervention models applied to large-scale organizational, social, and technical systems.

2

Strategic Direction and Multilevel Governance

Design of evidence-based direction strategies, multilevel governance, public policy, and interinstitutional coordination in complex projects.

3

Risk and Uncertainty Management

Probabilistic models, scenario analysis, and strategic decision-making in high-uncertainty environments.

4

Innovation, Digital Transformation, and Sustainability

Integration of innovation, digitalization, and social responsibility in the direction of large-scale projects.

5

Impact Evaluation and Strategic Metrics

Performance metrics and indicators for evaluating the economic, social, environmental, and organizational outcomes of megaprojects.

HOW IT'S TAUGHT

Methodology

Virtual Platform

Moodle for learning management, accessible from anywhere in the world.

Active Methodology

Project-based learning (PBL), virtual workshops, and personalized mentoring sessions.

Assessment

Academic outputs (articles, prototypes), participation in seminars, and submission of research progress reports.

CURRICULUM

Academic *Program*

Duration: **3 terms (12 months)**. A progressive path from strategic foundations to scientific output.

TERM 1

Strategic Foundations and Complexity



Complexity Theory and Systems Thinking Applied to Projects



Strategic Direction of Complex Projects



Advanced Applied Research Methodologies in Megaprojects

FINAL PRODUCT

Design of the Research or Strategic Intervention Protocol: problem statement, theoretical framework, methodological design, and strategic justification.

TERM 2

Design, Governance, and Innovation



Governance, Public Policy, and Multilevel Management of Megaprojects



Risk Management, Uncertainty, and Strategic Decision-Making



Innovation, Digital Transformation, and Sustainability in Large-Scale Projects

FINAL PRODUCT

Strategic Intervention or Direction Model for a Complex Project: implementation strategy, governance analysis, risk management, and performance indicators.

TERM 3

Evaluation, Impact, and Scientific Production



Evaluation of Impact and Strategic Metrics in Megaprojects



Strategic Leadership and Team Management in Complex Environments



Seminar on Scientific Publication and Knowledge Transfer

FINAL PRODUCT

Scientific article submitted to an indexed journal, written to international standards, integrating results and discussing theoretical and practical contributions.

Complete curriculum available in Appendix 1 of the program.

GRADUATION

Graduation *Requirements*

Obtaining recognition is carried out through a rigorous academic evaluation process aimed at generating and validating high-impact applied knowledge.

✓ **Publication of a scientific article**, original and submitted to an indexed academic journal, national or international.

✓ **Academic defense of the project** before a committee designated by the institution, involving academic argumentation and responses to questions.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Ongoing *Support*



Personalized mentoring

Expert guidance throughout the entire training and research process.



24/7 virtual campus

Continuous access to academic content and resources from anywhere.



Personalized monitoring

A work plan tailored to each researcher's pace and needs.

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Beyond the *Postdoctoral Program*

Becoming part of UNADE means joining an active international academic community. The postdoctoral program is not the end, but one more stage in a long academic and professional journey.



Participation in national and international academic conferences.



International collaborative environments with institutions and scholars worldwide.



Lifelong learning within the UNADE academic community.

A postdoctoral program designed for those who seek to lead complexity and transform the future through the strategic management of projects and megaprojects.

100% Online

1 Year

Personalized Mentoring

International Outlook

unade.edu.mx