GET ON THE HODGES UNIVERSITY Wheel!

WHEN YOUR EMPLOYEES FINISH WHAT THEY STARTED, YOUR ORGANIZATION BENEFITS

Retention of highly skilled employees is a key driver of organizational success. Hodges University will partner with you to offer the Bachelor’s degree in Organizational Management. Throughout the learning process, students will be challenged to think critically, work collaboratively, and grow as effective leaders.

What is the Hodges University Wheel Program?
• The Wheel is a comprehensive and customized learning structure—potentially offered on your site—that offers an unmatched educational experience by attending class once a week with other like-minded professionals.

This is a program designed specifically for working professionals who want to advance their careers by completing their Bachelor’s degree in as little as one year.
• Previously earned credits from another institution can make this possible.

We are credit transfer ready!

The distinctive advantages for completing a Bachelor’s in Organizational Management?
• Learn how to make more informed, strategic business decisions
• Gain an understanding of the most important functions of business and management
• Gain leadership skills for advancing in management
• Earn a degree that is applicable to all areas of a professional career

The distinctive advantages for an Employer (and Employee)?
• Incorporate customizable content specific to your organization’s needs
• Network and build camaraderie with their classmates through the entire program
• Schedule the class to suit employees’ schedule
• Share experiences that enrich the classroom experience

What will your Employee learn?
• Fundamentals in management, strategy, teams and collaboration, and ethics
• Advanced management techniques
• Effective leadership skills
• Critical thinking skills

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For immediate information please contact:
Dennis Golden, Director of Corporate and Community Partnerships
239-598-6126 or email: dgolden@hodges.edu

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Proper wheel alignment is important for vehicles in many ways. First, it provides a safer ride, and second, a longer life for your tires. As a mechanic in a previous life, I saw firsthand what happens when car owners don’t have their wheels aligned. The car pulls to one side, and the tires don’t wear evenly. Ultimately, that means money in the shop and more money out of pocket.

Now take that thinking and apply it to your career and education. Our students are focused. They want to complete their degree as quickly as possible, moving in a straight line and focusing on the educational need. That’s the foundation for the Hodges University Wheel.

Our first wheel is for those professionals who want to complete their bachelor’s degree in an organizational management. We are transfer credit friendly, so with previ- ously military or college credits earned, it is possible to graduate with this degree in as little as one year.

We selected this degree because all organizations require professionals in management positions. This degree will help you learn to make informed, strategic business decisions in a full understanding of the most important functions of business and management, and learn effective leadership skills for advancement. You’ll learn from a dynamic professor with practical, real-world experience, so it’s not just about the theories, but that theory to your personal and professional life.

Here’s money, so in addition to graduat- ing in as little as one year, class is held once a week, with the remaining work done on your own time. Most of our students are balancing demands of working full time and family, so this degree was designed with that in mind.

Best of all, students have the option to take their weekly class planned for Monday, locations of Miami, Fort Myers, or the Hodges Direct classrooms located in the Community Resource Center of Goodwill in Port Charlotte or in Naples at a location to be announced.

Another perk for our students: they have the option to attend class one even- ing during the week or on a Saturday. This is especially beneficial for students who work shift schedules. By meeting one evening each week, our students have the opportunity to participate in a class that is engaging, challenging and inspiring.

Classes start in the fall, so now is the time to register. Hodges University Wheel and what it can do for you and your career goals. A year from now, you could be graduating with a bachelor’s degree with the knowledge, tools and confidence to take your career to the next level.

Dr. John Meyer is president and a two-time graduate of Hodges University.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In Salt Lake City in mid-June, a couple wanted to pleasantly spend an evening by renting a company box truck in a parking lot in their own pickup truck. While one waited, KSLS-TV reported, the other got under the company truck and drilled a hole into the gas tank, presumably hoping to steal fuel. But the jeep's tire caught on fire while he was under the truck, causing him to roll around the parking lot while trying to remove his shirt. He then jumped into the pickup and the pair of would-be thieves drove away; the company truck still had flames and smoke billowing from underneath, as seen on a surveillance video. No arrests have yet been made.

Katie Hannaford, 36, of Essex, England, just wanted to please her daughter by taking in part a race's day on sports day at the girl's school. But when she tripped over her own feet and fell to the ground, Hannaford inadvertently flashed her bare rear end to the crowd of students, parents and teachers, the Mirror reported on July 7. At first, she was humiliated, but Trophies Plus Medals presented her with a Bottoms Up award trophy and medal; Elle Coutelle, social media man- ager for the company, said they "felt she deserved her own award despite not making it to the finish line." And Hannaford has come around to see the humor of it: "It’s definitely the funniest thing I’ve ever done in my life!"

Government in action

Victor Roy, Oceanside, California's elected city treasurer, is in hot water after an email from Treasury Manager Steve Hodges to Roy surfaced. Roy has been in the news recently. He published an email that included several allegations against Roy, but the most troubling details, in an anonymous complaint filed in June 2021, allege that Roy looked at pornography on the Mission Branch Library computers. The complaint stated that Roy was "looking at magazines that he clicked on the cover, the images inside the magazine were full nudity." Roy was told by library staff that he couldn't view nudity on public computers, and he replied that "he knew, that is why he came when it was slow and that he was being cognizant of his surroundings," the complaint con- tinued. Assistant City Manager Michael Gossman, who confirmed that the leaked email was authentic, said Roy had not been investigated for the inappropriate behavior at the library.

Least-competent criminals

Neruo Daissiik, a Japanese illustrator and manga artist, stumbled into a new hobby as he tried to pass the time during the COVID lockdowns of the past year. Oddly Central reported. He started col- lecting the various little items that become stuck in the tread of one's shoes — peb- bles, glass fragments, etc. — and tossing them out neatly on boards with grids.

It’s good to have a hobby

In a recent survey conducted by a new bought sneakers, he said, “I felt that it was a waste to just throw them away, and I thought it would be interesting to collect them.” He ended up with 797 pebbles, 32 glass fragments and one nut. Now he’s considering further categorizing his col- lection between his left and right shoes.

Good sport

By the Editors at Andrew Mcmeel

“Good sport” is a recurring column by Andrew McMeel Syndicate. Andrew McMeel Syndicate is the leading provider of news and lifestyle content to newspapers, broadcast media, mobile and digital platforms across the globe. Andrew McMeel Syndicate is the leading provider of news and lifestyle content to newspapers, broadcast media, mobile and digital platforms across the globe.

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State jobless claims reflect strong economy amid lingering inflation

First-time unemployment claims in Florida remain relatively flat and at a pre-pandemic pace, reflecting strong economic activity amid lingering inflation.

The U.S. Department of Labor late last week issued a report that estimated 5,135 first-time claims were filed in Florida during the week that ended Aug. 27.

That was down from a revised count of 5,809 claims during the week that ended Aug. 20. Despite a brief uptick in January, Florida has been around 6,000 to 8,000 new claims a week for most of the past year. The numbers are similar to the levels of claims filed before the COVID-19 pandemic crashed into the economy in early 2020 and caused massive job losses.

But while the state's economy has rebounded, businesses still struggle to find qualified workers to meet demand from consumers, said Adrienne Johnston, chief economist at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

"We actually are seeing, right now, there are more people, more Floridians in our labor market," Ms. Johnston said in the Florida Chamber of Commerce's "Future of Work Florida" podcast. "That means more people, talented workers, are out there actively seeking work. And we actually have seen that employers are reporting more payroll numbers than they had prior to the pandemic."

The Department of Economic Opportunity reported Florida's unemployment rate stood at 2.7% in July, matching the level before the pandemic.

The department will issue an August report on Sept. 16.

The July rate, reflecting an estimated 283,000 Floridians out of work from a workforce of about 10.66 million, was down from 2.8% in June and 4.5% in July 2021. It also came amid signs, including a drop in gasoline prices, that inflation has slowed after hitting a 40-year high of 9.1% in June.

Over the past four weeks, the state has averaged 5,754 unemployment claims a week.

During an appearance in Live Oak, Gov. Ron DeSantis touted Florida's economic climate, as the state had a lower unemployment rate than the national mark of 3.5% in July.

"People have gravitated here because they knew they could be free over the last couple years," Gov. DeSantis said. "I mean, you look at these people that would come from these lockdown jurisdictions just to visit Florida. They'd get off the plane. And they're like, 'Man, you know, this must be what it felt like to go from East Berlin to West Berlin.'"

While businesses try to decipher varying economic signs, Florida continues to experience higher-than-normal numbers of people leaving jobs for opportunities with better pay and benefits.

"I would also point out that while most employers are reporting that they're having struggles finding qualified talent, there are some concentrations in certain industries like leisure and hospitality," Ms. Johnston said. "So, it is widespread, but there are certain areas that are struggling more than others."

In August, state economists updated projections of general-revenue tax collections for the current 2022-2023 fiscal year and the 2023-2024 year by about $5.3 billion.