



**UoNA** UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH AMERICA  
EDUCATION THAT TRANSFORMS!

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## *Dual Degree Program Puts Students First*

As a result of a special arrangement between Girne American University (GAU), located in Northern Cyprus, and the University of North America (UoNA), students who complete a degree at one institution may also be awarded an equivalent degree by the other university. Through this mechanism, GAU graduates may be awarded a degree approved in the United States, and UoNA graduates may be awarded a degree accredited in Europe. Program students are eligible to participate in the graduation ceremonies of either or both institutions should they so desire.

The degrees offered and their equivalents are:

<b>Girne American University</b> Master of Business Administration (MBA) Concentration Business Management (General)	<b>University of North America</b> Master of Business Administration (MBA) (No specialization)
<b>Girne American University</b> Master of Business Administration (MBA) Concentration Management Information Systems	<b>University of North America</b> Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIT)
<b>Girne American University</b> Master of Science in Computer Engineering (MSc)	<b>University of North America</b> Master of Science in Computer Science (MSCS)
<b>Girne American University</b> Doctor of Philosophy in Business Management (PhD)	<b>University of North America</b> Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

For more information about the dual degree program, please see Page 4 and UoNA website.

For a list of all De-  
grees and programs  
offered at UoNA:  
Please see page 3

UoNA welcomes  
your comments and  
suggestions please  
contact us at:  
[info@uona.us](mailto:info@uona.us)

## *Note from the UoNA Registrar*

Welcome and thank you for your interest in the University of North America (UoNA). As the registrar, I would like to invite you to fully explore our website, if you have not done so already.

Entering a university in a country that may be new to you and that has new academic policies, new people, new customs and where your study will be in a new language will be very exciting. However, it can also be confusing. That is why we at UoNA work hard at being accessible to our prospective students. We want to make your transition and adjustment to

UoNA as pleasant as possible. Your admissions inquiries are important to us. Please contact our Admissions office by email or phone for any and all questions or assistance you may need. Remember, I am here to assist you!

Again, we look forward to having you become part of our learning community.

**Markel Gall, Registrar**

Email: [Markel.Gall@UoNA.us](mailto:Markel.Gall@UoNA.us)

## Co-op Program Gives You Real World Experience

In order to help students integrate academic theory into practical applications in the workplace, the university has established a Co-operative Education Program to complement the academic program.

This program assists students with placement in a position that is related to their field of study. Students are employed by corporations and agencies which pay for the work completed. All earnings are retained by the student. Co-operative education allows students to achieve the following benefits: gain valuable

work experience, develop work related contacts, improve interpersonal skills, and enhance marketability after graduation. The employer, in turn, receives motivated and eager employees with current academic skills.

A one-time fee is assessed for this option to provide the program-long set of services required to assist students and to assess their progress on the job. This program allows for the interaction between employers, students and the university through the establishment of the Co-operative

Learning Agreement that is signed and followed by all parties. Ultimately, this team approach to co-operative education provides a unique experiential learning opportunity for the student while simultaneously benefitting the employer.

For more information concerning the UoNA Co-op Program please contact:  
Sean.Farrell@uona.us

*The co-op program assists students with placement in a position that is directly related to their field of study.*

## UoNA Enters Into a Significant Academic Partnership With Renowned International University

The University of North America (UoNA), a graduate school, located in Tyson's Corner, Virginia recently signed a dual degree agreement with Girne American University, which is located in beautiful Northern Cyprus. Now students from both UoNA and GAU have the option to receive degrees from both universities for the same program. The signing was held after GAU Canterbury's formal grand opening ceremony which was attended by the President of North Cyprus, the Turkish Ambassador to England, and the Lord Mayor of Canterbury.

Girne American University is one of Europe's leading comprehensive universities and it is fully accredited by the European Council for Business Education (ECBE) and

the International Association of Colleges for Business Education (IACBE). GAU is also recognized in the United Kingdom by the National Recognition Information Centre (NARIC).

This arrangement is especially significant for European expatriates and others who can now take classes in UoNA's

urban campus, outside of Washington, D.C., and through the dual arrangement with GAU earn a business degree accredited by NARIC, ECBE and IACBE. The IACBE is the primary accrediting body for specialist business colleges and schools in the USA and has international standing.

**Now students from both UoNA and GAU have the option to receive degrees from both universities for the same program.**



**Dual Degree Signing—GAU Board Chair Memduh Erdal (Center) GAU Chancellor Serhat Akpinar (Center Right), GAU Vice Chancellor Asim Vehbi (Left) and from UoNA—Marty Martin CEO (Left Center) and Dr. Fay Avery, Chief Strategic Development Officer (Far Right)**

## *UoNA Area Highlights*

Our urban campus is in Vienna, Virginia, in an area called Tysons Corner. Tysons Corner is a business district which overlaps the cities of Vienna and McLean and is just 6 miles from the nation's capital of Washington D.C. If Tysons Corner were in itself a city it would be the 12<sup>th</sup> largest in the U.S. It is now subject to a massive future oriented project. See the January 11, 2009 Time magazine article at

<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1904187,00.html>

The state of Virginia is ranked America's Top State for Business by CNBC and the Best State for Business by Forbes.com. Northern Virginia, which contains Tysons corner, is the high technology belt of the eastern United States, and is a nexus

between the international port cities of Baltimore and Norfolk, Virginia. Sitting in the middle of this is Washington, D.C. the home to the U.S. government and a host of international organizations.

This is a dynamic, interesting, and fun place to live and learn. Opportunities are abundant. Once you are here, the international student office will assist you with touring this rich area and customizing an educational program to fit your interests.

More Washington DC / Northern Virginia highlights are located on the home page of our website at:

[www.uona.us](http://www.uona.us)



**"Tysons Corner,  
Northern Virginia, is  
the 11th largest  
Business Area in the  
USA..." Newsweek  
Magazine.**

## *UoNA INSIDER Academic Overview*

The university offers a high quality education through the use of the latest in curricular strategies and materials and by bringing extremely well qualified faculty members into the classroom. Faculty members all hold advanced degrees and have both taught in higher education and have worked in industry, government, and the not-for-profit sectors; their knowledge is imparted to students both in the classroom and through assignments and projects that result in broad professional growth and development. Throughout, the university brings an awareness of the international dimension to business, technology, and cultures today, and internationally-oriented projects are integral to coursework.

For a complete descriptions of our current programs please download a copy of catalog that is available under the "Download Documents" section of our website: [www.uona.us](http://www.uona.us).

### **UoNA Academic Programs**

#### **Master of Business Administration (MBA) (36 credits)**

MBA specialization areas available are: Accounting, Finance, Health Care-Administration, Hospitality Management, Human Resource Management, Information Technology and Leadership.

#### **Master of Science in Information Technology (MS-IT)**

#### **Master of Science in Computer Science (MS-CS)**

#### **Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) (54 credits)**

##### **Doctoral Completion Program**

(For students who began a doctoral program and who need to bring it to completion)

#### **English Language Programs**

#### **Certificate Programs in Management and Technology**

For more details, please download or see our catalog which is available on our website: [www.uona.us](http://www.uona.us)

**UoNA has affordable student loans available for all that qualify!**

## *UoNA Welcomes International Applicants*

**International Applicants currently residing outside of the US and need a F-1 student visa must submit the following:**

1. An official application for admission.
2. A non-refundable application fee of \$100.00 check or money order payable to University of North America in U.S. currency.
3. Bachelor's degree or the equivalent to a U.S. 4-year bachelor degree - official transcript(s) from each post-secondary institution attended. All transcripts including those from community colleges are required. Transcripts/diplomas issued in language(s) other than English must be translated by a certified translator. Both the transcript/diploma issued in the original language and translation in English must be submitted. Official transcripts/diploma, one translated in English and one in the prospective student's native language in sealed envelopes from each college or university attended, preferably mailed directly from the schools to the Office of Admissions. The University will accommodate and accept documents from international applicants who personally submit or mail official transcripts in sealed envelopes directly to the Office of Admissions. If the official transcripts are issued as one copy only, the Office of Admissions will accept those transcripts/diplomas notarized "as a true copy of the original" by a Notary Public in the U.S. or a legal entity from the prospective student's native country authorized to certify and annotate documents to be "a true copy of the original". Notarization must be in English.
4. A minimum grade-point average of 2.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale. The Director of Admissions and the Dean of the program may approve conditional admission to the program if an applicant does not satisfy the minimum required GPA (this decision is made on an individual basis).
5. English Proficiency
  - A TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper-based) or 213 (computer-based) or 79 (internet-based) if English is not the student's native language
  - Or the IELTS with a score 6.5 or higher
  - Or a completed bachelor's or master's degree in the United States or other English speaking country
  - Or a completed bachelor degree in English as the medium of instruction (evidence on the transcript/diploma is required, or a supporting letter issued by the college or university, or evidence provided to the Admissions Counselor obtained through a reliable academic resource)
  - Or successful completion of an English Proficiency Test administered at the Brydon English Language Institute. If a prospective student does not meet the minimum English proficiency requirement as set above, he/she may still apply to the Brydon English Language Institute to satisfy the English proficiency requirements
6. International students must show financial ability to pay for their first year of tuition and expenses. International students must also show financial ability to pay for the support of a spouse and/or dependent joining the student in the U.S. on an F-2 dependent visa. See the "Statement of Financial Ability" form to determine your first annual program costs. The "Statement of Financial Ability" form also includes affidavits of support information. Should the student receive sponsorship for tuition, expenses and/or room and board the student must submit these affidavits upon acceptance into the program.
7. Deposit \$2,000.00 (Refundable if not accepted or applicant does not enroll in program; if applicant enrolls in program, deposit will be applied toward tuition and fees).
8. Copy of Passport ID page.
9. Copy of your professional resume.
10. Two letters of recommendation
11. Statement of goals.



## *Important Tips for Student Visa Interviews*

The International Student Affairs Office (ISAO) serves as the primary support service for the international community at University of North America. Not only does ISAO assist you on your entry to the United States but we also assist you in your transition from home to your new pursuits in America.

Once you have been admitted to study at UoNA, you will be directed to the International Student Affairs Office to assist you in obtaining your student visa. The office uses an internet-based system called SEVIS to issue you an I-20. You will need to bring your UoNA acceptance letter as well as your I-20 to the U.S. Embassy in your country and complete an interview with a consular officer to obtain a student visa. As you work toward your degree, ISAO will also assist you with a variety of matters, such as advising students on maintaining their status, obtaining a local driver's license, obtaining a social security number and employment authorization.

Below are tips a student should be mindful of for a successful visa interview.

**“What you say and the initial impression you create are critical to your success in obtaining a visa.”**

**1. Ties to Home Country:** You must be able to show that you have reasons for returning to your country. “Ties” to your home country are things that attach you to your hometown, such as, a job, family, land ownership, inheritance, investments, etc. A consular officer might ask about your family relationships, specific long-term plans and career possibilities in your home country after graduation.

**2. Employment:** Your main purpose for coming to the United States should be to study, not for work. While many students do work during their studies, such employment is secondary to their main purpose of studying. You must be able to clearly express your plan to return home at the end of your program. If your spouse and/or dependants are planning to accompany you on a F-2 visa, be aware that F-2 dependents cannot, under any circumstances, be employed in the United States. If asked, be prepared to address what your spouse and/or dependents intend to do with their time while in the United States.

**3. English:** Anticipate that the interview will be conducted in English and not in your native language. We suggest that you practice English conversations with a native English speaker before your interview. If you are coming to the United States

solely to study intensive English, be prepared to explain how studying English will be useful to you in your home country.

**4. Speak for Yourself:** Do not bring parents, family members or friends with you to the interview. The consular officer wants to interview you. A negative impression is created if you are not prepared to speak for yourself.

**5. Know Your Program and How it Fits Your Future Career Plans:** If you are not able to communicate the reasons you wish to pursue a particular program of study in the United States, you may not succeed in obtaining a visa. You should be able to explain how studying and working in the United States will help your career goals upon returning to your home country.

**6. Be Concise:** Consular officers must conduct quick and efficient interviews. Therefore, they may make a decision on the impressions they form in the first moments of the interview. As a result, what you say and the initial impression you create are critical to your success in obtaining a visa. Keep your answers to the officer's questions short and to the point.

**7. Supplemental Documentation:** Any documents presented to a consular officer should be written in short and concise statements. Lengthy written explanations cannot be quickly read or evaluated and therefore may be disregarded. Remember that you will have 2-3 minutes of interview time, if you're lucky.

**8. Not All Countries Are Treated Equally:** Applicants from countries suffering economic problems or from countries where many students have remained in the United States as immigrants will have more difficulty getting visas. Statistically, applicants from those countries are more likely to be intending to immigrate to the United States.

**9. Dependents Remaining at Home:** If your spouse and/or children are remaining behind in your country, be prepared to address how they will support themselves in your absence. If the consular officer believes that your family will require you to send them money from the United States in order to support themselves, your student visa will almost certainly be denied. If your family does decide to join you at a later time, it is helpful to have them apply at the same time when you apply for your visa.

**10. Maintain a Positive Attitude:** Do not argue with the consular officer. If you are denied a student visa, ask the officer for a list of documents he or she would suggest you bring in order to overcome the refusal, and try to get the reason you were denied in writing.

# UoNA INSIDER



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## UoNA's Northern Virginia Office (Tysons Corner)



**Zalmai Azmi,  
Chairperson, UoNA  
Academic Advisory  
Council. "Zal" is  
currently a Senior  
Vice President of  
CACI, located in  
Northern Virginia.**



## About UoNA

The University of North America (UoNA) was founded by an experienced team of educators and administrators. The goal of the university is to provide students with an outstanding, integrated education that links the latest in academic theory with real-world applications.

The university has built a curriculum based on contemporary issues faced by leaders in the international workplace. Courses, programs, and resources have been specifically designed for this process.

The administration and faculty of UoNA are highly experienced. The members of administrative leadership team have served in high-level positions in academia, government, and

industry. Likewise the faculty members have extensive experience with on-ground, on-line, and blended education both in the United States and abroad.

Because class size is kept intentionally small, students benefit from one-on-one interaction with these internationally-recognized experts.

On the web at:

[www.uona.us](http://www.uona.us)



State Council of  
Higher Education for Virginia

UoNA is certified by the State Council of  
Higher Education for Virginia

## Our Academic Advisory Council

The Academic Advisory Council of the University of North America is an important link between UoNA and the community. A primary focus of the Council is to provide big picture view for the university's academic planning and implementation activities. The council performs an invaluable service to the university and has considerable impact on future directions taken by UoNA. See the link below for details.

[http://www.uona.us/about/advisory\\_council.html](http://www.uona.us/about/advisory_council.html)