

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

**Undergraduate Division
Leonard N. Stern School of Business**

C00.0003.01
Stern Honors Thesis
Fall 2010/Spring 2011

Professor Marti G. Subrahmanyam,
Coordinator

Seminar Objective and Description:

The broad objective of the honors thesis is to provide academically-oriented students with an opportunity to participate in a research project under faculty supervision. It will give them the opportunity to understand the research issues, methodologies and applications in a particular topic. It is hoped that this experience will get them excited about research as well as its practical applications. The administrative arrangements of the thesis are as follows:

1. Honors students will work on the honors thesis in both the fall and spring semesters of their senior year under the supervision of a faculty member. The faculty member will be chosen by the student in consultation with the coordinator, based on background and interests.
2. The output of the project will be a written report due to be presented on *April 29, 2011* and submitted on *May 6, 2011*.
3. There are several milestones along the way to completion of the thesis:
 - a. Selection of a thesis adviser preferably during the summer, but definitely before *September 10, 2010*.
 - b. Submission of a four-page thesis proposal, approved by the faculty adviser, before *October 19, 2010*.
 - c. Discussion of progress in individual meetings on *October 22, 2010*.
 - d. Short presentation of proposal on *December 10, 2010*.
 - e. First report on the work in progress due on *December 13, 2010*.
 - f. Second report on the work in progress due on *February 11, 2011*.
 - g. Draft thesis due to advisers on *April 22, 2011*.
 - h. Presentation of the thesis on *April 29, 2011*.
 - i. Final version of the thesis to be submitted before *May 6, 2011*.

Reference Books:

Booth, W.C, G.G. Colomb, and J.M. Williams, *The Craft of Research*, 3rd edition, University of Chicago Press, 2009. (Excellent guide to the entire process, including the elements of argument.)

Turabian, K., *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 7th edition, University of Chicago Press, 2009. (More on the process but has specifics about citation and effective style.)

Miller, J.E., *The Chicago Guide to Writing about Numbers: the Effective Presentation of Quantitative Information*, University of Chicago Press, 2009. (More on presenting quantitative analyses.)

Research Resource:

The Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS) is a useful platform for access to several commonly used business databases. For example, CRISP, a database of equity prices and returns, and COMPUSTAT, an important source for accounting data, are available on WRDS. You need a password for access to this platform, which Stern subscribes to. The user name and password will be sent to you separately.

Instructions:

Students are expected to meet their faculty advisers *on a regular basis* and seek their advice on the project. Students are also expected to inform the coordinator, in case they experience any difficulties of an administrative nature. The grades for the thesis will be based on the interim reports as well as the final draft submitted at the end of the academic year.

Coordinator's Office Hours:

Tuesdays, 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon,
Thursdays, 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon,
and by appointment. (Call Ms. Hakema Zamdin at 998-0301 for an appointment.)

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