

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Undergraduate Division
Leonard N. Stern School of Business

HONR-UB.0003.01
Stern Honors Thesis
Fall 2013/Spring 2014

Professor Marti G. Subrahmanyam
Coordinator

Thesis 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 *May 9, 2014* and submitted on *May 14, 2014*.
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 9, 2013*.
 - b) Discussion of progress in individual meetings on *October 8 and October 9, 2013*.
 - c) Submission of a four-page thesis proposal, approved by the faculty adviser, before *October 21, 2013*.
 - d) Presentation of research proposals on *November 15, 2013*.
 - e) Discussion of progress in individual meetings on *December 3 and December 4, 2013*.
 - f) First report on the work in progress due on *December 11, 2013*.
 - g) Second report on the work in progress due on *February 17, 2014*.
 - h) Draft thesis due to faculty adviser on *May 2, 2014*.
 - i) Presentation of the thesis on *May 9, 2014*.
 - j) Final version of the thesis to be submitted before *May 14, 2014*.
 - k) Honors Graduation Ceremony, *May 20, 2014 (to be confirmed)*.

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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