TOWSON UNIVERSITY

College of Business and Economics

Department of Business Analytics and Technology Management

EBTM 795 – Independent Research

Student Name: _____   **Student ID**: _____

Student Email: _____   **Phone:** _____

Faculty Advisor: _____   **Faculty Email**: _____

                                               Intended Semester: _____

Project Title: _____

Scope of study & objectives:

Readings/Bibliography:

Deliverables:

Workload:

I understand that:

1. A total of 6 units for any combination of directed readings, independent study and internship is allowed in any area of study in the Business Analytics & Technology Management Department.

2. Failure to complete the project by the week before final exams will result in a grade of FX unless previous arrangements have been made with the instructor.

3. That I may not use this project for any other course at Towson University.

4. It is my responsibility to schedule regular meetings with the instructor.

Student Signature: _____   **Date**: _____

Faculty Advisor Signature: _____   **Date**: _____

Program Director Signature: _____   **Date**: _____

**Proposal must be approved and course created in Towson Online Services so that the student can register prior to the end of drop/add during the requested semester

Eligibility

The Department of Business Analytics & Technology Management requires that students have completed the core course requirements prior to participating in an Independent Research project.

General Overview

The student independent research may take various forms including a research project, in-depth study of a specific topic, or participating in a supply chain project with an external or internal organization. These projects should be designed such that they can be completed in one semester. Traditional plus/minus letter grading will apply. This is a 3-credit course.

Students should also be aware that learning in this format is radically different from the traditional classroom. While the faculty coordinator is available for consultation, the faculty member will not be directly overseeing the details of the student's experience. Students enrolling in EBTM 795 should feel comfortable taking initiative, asking for assistance, and confronting problem issues when they arise.

Objectives

Research Project or Topical Study

This project will be designed by the student in cooperation with their selected faculty advisor. Scope, timeline, and deliverables must be clearly defined prior to approval and the beginning of work on the project.

Organizational Project

Prior to beginning your external or internal project you will be required to develop a list of objectives for your project experience. These objectives will serve as the guidelines/foundation for your project; everything that happens related to your work in the external organization will extend from these objectives.

These objectives are to be discussed and set in conjunction with your immediate work supervisor. Together the two of you should develop a written statement that bears both of your signatures. The objectives you develop should be specific and related to the work you will be doing for the organization in the context of supply chain management. You must also determine how your progress in meeting these objectives is to be evaluated and measured. Be sure to develop specific and measureable means of evaluation that both you and your supervisor agree upon. These objectives must be submitted to and approved by your sponsoring faculty member prior to the start of work on the project.

Proposal

Use the included form to structure your proposal, additional materials may be included as appendices as needed. Once the faculty supervisor and the student are in agreement on the substance of the project, the proposal must be reviewed and approved by the SCM program director prior to registering for the course.

Scope of Study and Objectives: Describe what you will learn by completing this independent research. Wherever possible, identify measurable objectives.

Readings/Bibliography: With your faculty advisor, identify academic and professional sources that will help you learn about your topic. This is important for all types of independent research (research projects, topical studies, and organizational projects).

Deliverables: Identify the tangible deliverables of the project. Be as specific as possible (i.e. a 15-20 page research paper including diagrams, tables, and APA in-text citations/references). Other deliverables include management presentations, presentations to faculty, participation in research forums and conferences, research posters.

Workload: – Based on the major deliverables identified above, estimate the hours required to complete the project. Keep in mind that the independent research is the equivalent of a traditional program elective so the level of learning and effort must be consistent. A 3-credit program course requires work in the 100-120 hour range.