

Section Two

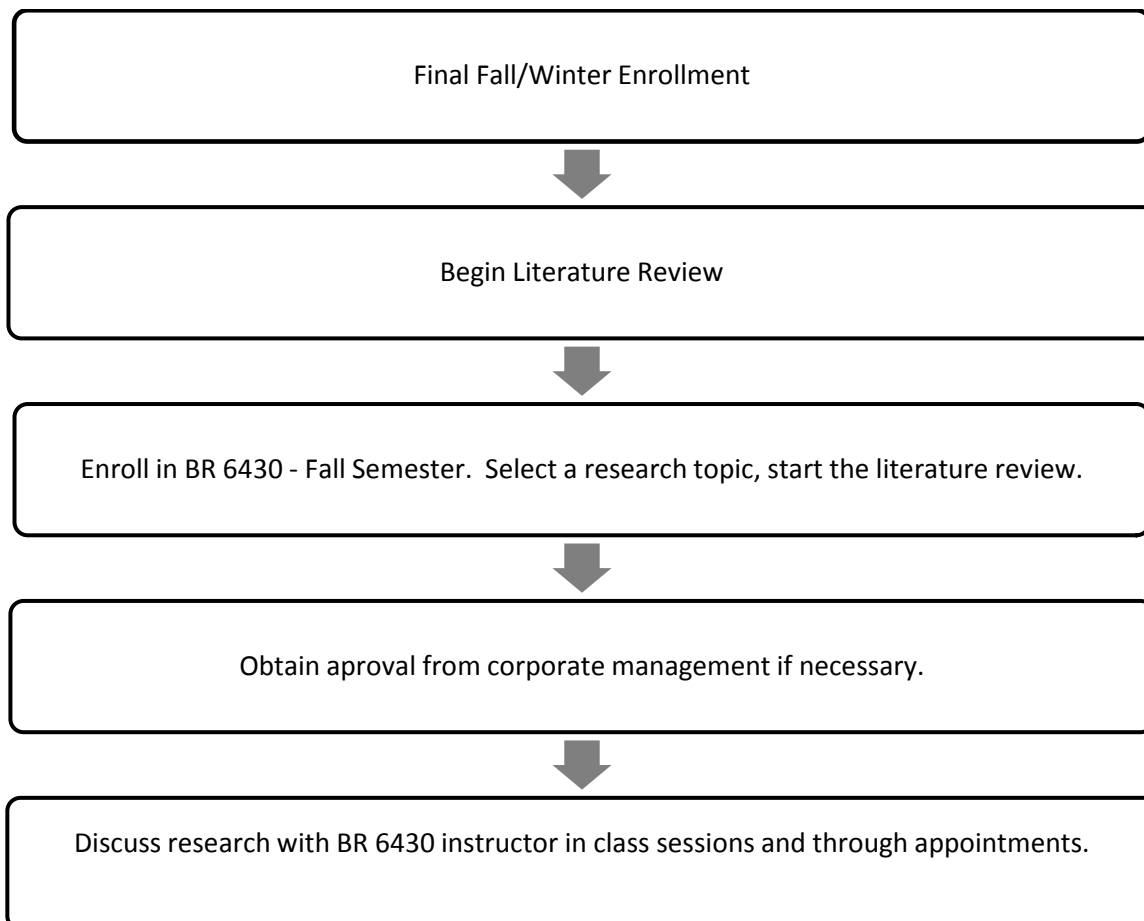
School of Business

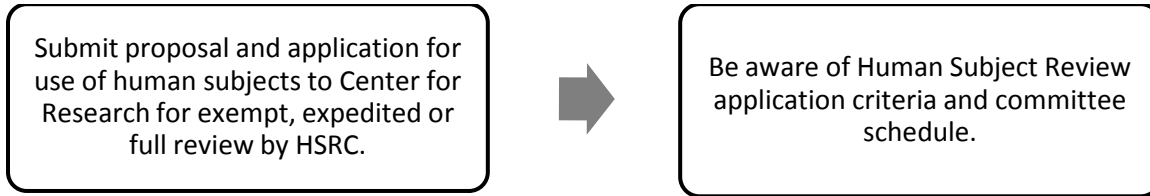
Research Project Procedures

MSBA RESEARCH PROJECT PROCEDURES

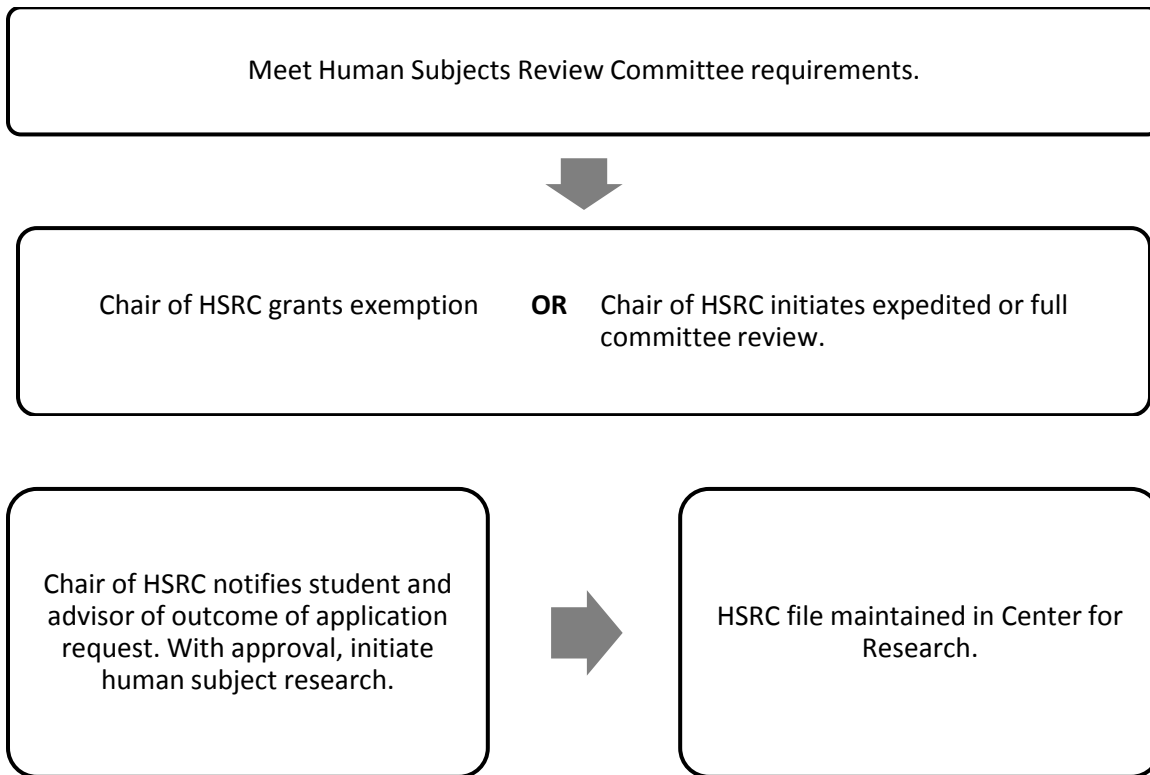
The flowchart below shows the general steps to be followed in most School of Business graduate programs. The steps may vary slightly depending upon the degree program. The selection of a project is the preferred track. An appropriate research project topic would be one within the work environment for which sufficient time or human resources have not been available or one that has not been addressed sufficiently. It should not be a task or activity that is part of the student's day-to-day work or that has been assigned to the student as part of his/her regular duties. It should be a topic of sufficient importance, however, that both the organization and student will benefit.

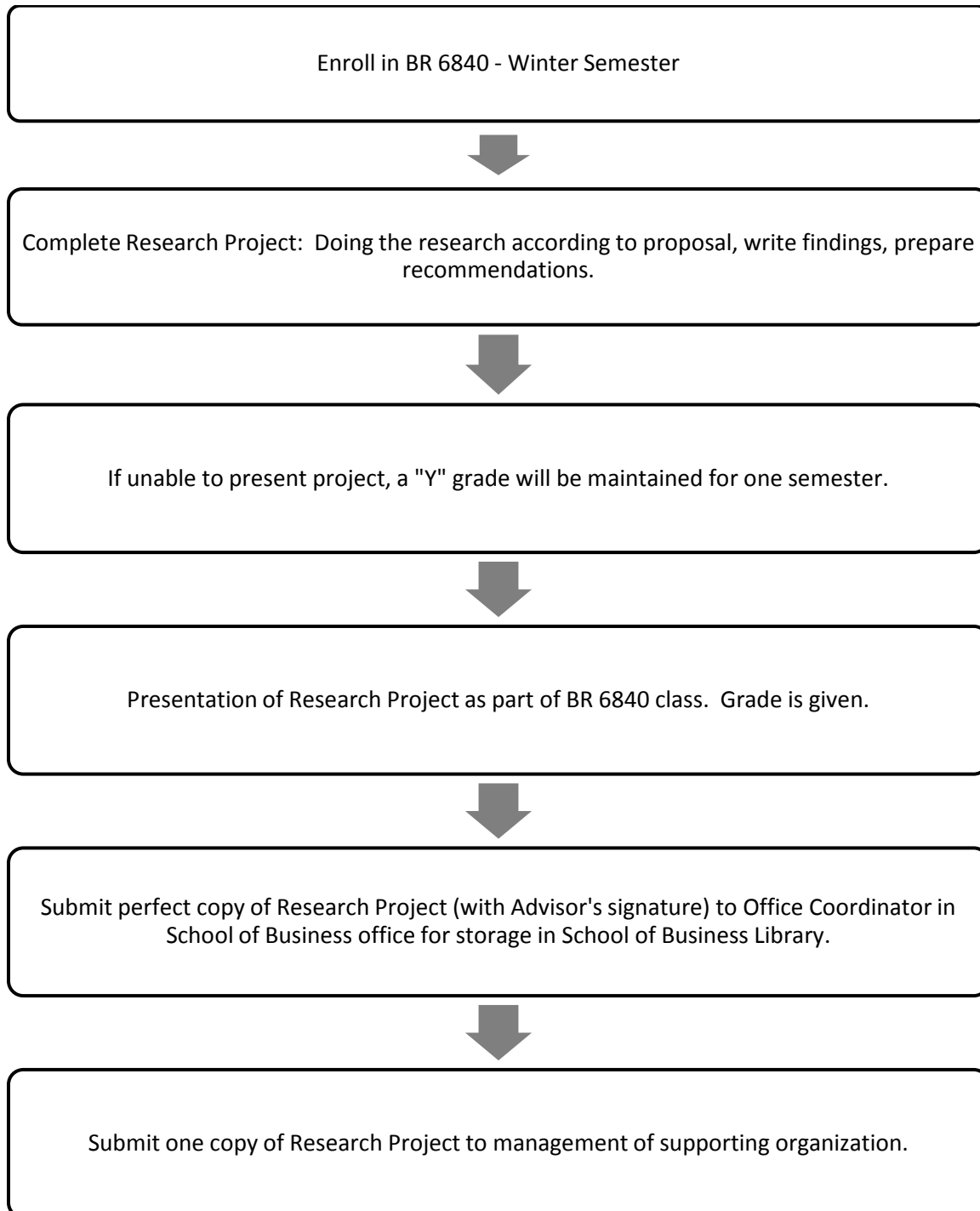
Final written project reports completed by former students are on file in the School of Business Office and are available for examination by students.





NOTE: RESEARCH WITH HUMAN SUBJECTS MAY NOT BE INITIATED PRIOR TO HSRC APPROVAL.





MSBA Research Project: Leadership Studies Specialty

In BR 6430 (fall semester) Chapters I (Introduction and Statement of the Problem), Review of the Literature, and Methodology of the Study will be evaluated by the instructor. In addition, the faculty advisor will serve in an advisory capacity to the student during that semester.

During the winter semester, the student enrolls in BR 6840. The student will collect the data, analyze the data, and determine the conclusions and implications of the study (Equivalent of the traditional Chapters IV and V).

The students will present research in the BR 6840 course and be critiqued by fellow students and class instructor. The final presentation will be given before an audience of faculty, students, families, and managers of students.

The purposes of the presentation forum are to:

1. Encourage interaction between business managers and the University.
2. Provide a mechanism for allowing the students to show their capabilities and recognize the culmination of a major accomplishment.

The arrangements for the forum will be the responsibility of the instructor BR 6840.

The paper will be typed, using a standard format, and will be placed in a School of Business approved folder (available in the School of Business Office). One copy of the paper will be kept in the School of Business library. All papers must be completed, approved by advisor, and submitted to the School of Business Office by the last day of the winter semester. Only in very unusual circumstances will a Y grade be given at the end of the winter semester. (See page 28 of Graduate Bulletin for policy.)

MSBA: Quality

The research project for this degree starts in QOM 6700 where the student does an extensive study of trends in the quality field. The literature of quality is studied, guest speakers are invited to class, and the students make on site visits to companies to study actual procedures in the quality field.

The study in this course forms the basis for the final research paper which is completed in QOM 6840. The students will work with a School of Business faculty member to develop a project which combines the skills acquired in QOM 6700 and the research is presented at the end of the course. The research project uses an application to the student's workplace or other approved sites.

MS Research Project: Project Management

The research project for Project Management is done in MGT 6960 where the student implements business strategy through a portfolio of projects involving the management of teams of professionals working on project management issues. The project must include a meta-analysis of research for the purposes of application to project management. The project is presented to faculty, the class, and management professional at the end of the semester.

MSBA Research Project: International Business

The research competency is acquired through the course work and the completion of action research throughout the program. The research course INB 6750 will be started one or two semesters after the student enrolls in MGT 5220. The student, with the assistance of an advisor, will select a specific region of the world in INB 6750, and begin a comprehensive study of the geography, culture, government, history, language, economics, and politics of the region and develop a business plan for exporting a product/service to that region of the world.

The culmination of the area research and business plan will take place in INB 6750 where the student will present orally highlights of his/her comprehensive research project.

The paper will be presented, using the APA Style Guides referred to in this manual and will be placed in a School of Business approved folder (available in the School of Business Office).

Recommended Project Structure
MSBA: LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Title Page (See Section 6 for Samples.)

Approval Sign-off Page

Copyright

Abstract

Table of Contents

Chapter I Introduction

Statement of the problem

General background (May contain portions of Literature Review)

Research Questions and/or Hypotheses (brief)

Brief Definitions (if applicable)

Assumptions & Limitations

Chapter II Literature Review

Introductory statement regarding how you conducted literature review (areas of focus)

Review of relevant literature

Operational Definitions (if applicable)

Closing

Chapter III Methodology

Purpose statement

Research design

Population and sample defined

Data gathering method

Data analysis procedures

Hypotheses and research questions

Possible bias

Chapter IV Results

Brief methodology

Demographic findings

Results of analysis (restate each research hypothesis/question)

Chapter V Conclusions

Interpret findings in sequential order. (Start with first research hypothesis/question)

Overall meaning of data (conclusions & implications)

Compare your findings to others

Suggestion for future research

Appendix A References

Appendix B Tables, figures, research results, data gathering instrument, etc.

Recommended Project Structure

MSBA: Quality

MS: Project Management

Title Page (See Section 6 for Samples.)

Approval Sign-off Page

Copyright

Abstract

Table of Contents

Section I Introduction, Brief Literature Review and Methodology

Statement of the problem

Introductory statement re: how you conducted literature review (areas of focus)

Brief review of relevant literature

Brief Methodology:

Purpose statement

Research design

Population and sample defined

Data gathering method

Data analysis procedures

Hypotheses and research questions

Possible bias

Section II Results and Conclusions

Demographic findings

Results of analysis (restate each research hypothesis/question)

Interpret findings in sequential order. (Start with first research hypothesis/question)

Overall meaning of data (conclusions & implications)

Compare your findings to others

Suggestion for future research

Appendix A References

Appendix B Data gathering instrument, tables, figures and graphs, detailed results