

Guidelines for an Independent Study (BADM 793)
MBA Program
College of Business
University of Nevada, Reno

Selecting a Topic and the Outline for an Independent Study

The way an independent study works is that you write a comprehensive paper on a topic of your choice that typically has an outline as listed below. The independent study will be supervised by one of the College of Business faculty or UNR faculty whose expertise will fit the topic selected. If you decide to do an independent study, please contact the MBA Office to make an appointment with the program's director.

1. Introduction (here, you explain the importance of the topic that you have chosen),
2. Review of Literature (here, you do a review of important studies done on your topic and provide a summary of the findings of each study),
3. Research Design (here, Based on review of literature, you explain on how you are going to examine your question/problem that you have chosen for your research),
4. Analysis of Results (here, you discuss the most important findings of your analysis that may support or reject your question/problem), and
5. Summary and Conclusion (here, you summarize the findings of your research).
6. Reference Page / Bibliography. Please use American Psychological Association (APA) 5th ed. format. For further information go to:
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01>

Other Notes

1. Note that the outline above is just a suggested one and you can certainly modify it at your discretion in consultation with the faculty advisor for the independent study.
2. It is hard to say how many pages need to be included in the final report of an independent study. The goal is to have a comprehensive report for the independent study. Using the suggested format of the report for an independent study, the following is a general guideline on the number of pages for each section: 3 pages for Introduction, 10 pages for Review of Literature, 8 pages for Research Design, 10

pages for Analysis of Results, 4 pages for Summary and Conclusion, and 2 pages or more for the Bibliography.

3. You'll provide the faculty advisor regular progress report on your independent study throughout the semester. The due date for the final report on the independent study is as follows: the first week of December if the independent is taken in the Fall Semester and the first week of May if the independent study is taken in the Spring semester.