

Master of Science in Management Practice

School of Administrative Studies

MRP/WPP Seminar Series

GS/MSMG 6999 - Section A, B, & C
2023 - 2024

SEMINAR OUTLINE

This mandatory non-credit course consists of a series of meetings in which students discuss how to develop their Major Research Paper (MRP) or Work Place Project (WPP) proposal, find the right supervisor in the specialization field, research their topic, and write their papers. Students present their proposals to fellow students as well as faculty.

The course is an MRP or WPP design and writing seminar/workshop/practicum. It provides students with an opportunity to draft their proposal and MRP or WPP in a collegial environment. It also provides them a chance to work closely with one instructor in developing the design, methodology, and theoretical approach of the MRP or WPP. Third, it gives students a chance for reflexive and dialogical space to interact and provide feedback on each other's projects.

To ensure successful and timely completion of the MRP, students are required to regularly attend the seminar series where they will be guided through deadlines and deliverables, share their ideas, and meet the faculty. Reading materials will relate to the issues mentioned above.

Course Pre-requisites/co-requisites: GS/MSMG6010 Quantitative Methods for Business and Management Research and GS/MSMG6020 Research Design and Qualitative Methods

Experiential Education Strategies: guest speakers, faculty visits, case discussion based on actual data

Mode of Delivery: Blended (in-class sessions and asynchronous activities where students submit work and annotated feedback is provided)

Evaluation: Pass/Fail

Initial Instructor: Marcela Porporato, Adriano Solis, Isha Sharma

Detailed Timeline/Deliverables:

Timeline	Seminar	Activity				
September <i>(Date and time: TBA)</i>	Seminar 0: Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of MRP / WPP: guidelines, process and timelines Introduction to area faculty / available supervisors and their area of expertise to facilitate selection of supervisors during the Fall 				
October / November	Workshops / Guest Lectures / Research seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty members from across accounting area present their current work and discuss the selection and application of overarching theories, and importance of research rigor. Alumni talk where students from the previous cohort may share their MRP/WPP learnings and takeaways Guest speakers from industry to shed light on practical problems needing attention* Conversations with students about their research interest and selection of supervisors <p><i>* Guest lecture series from industry partners may be extended to January/February</i></p>				
Timeline	Seminar	MRP Activity	MRP Deliverable	WPP Activity	WPP Deliverable	Assessment criteria
December Fall exam period time (8-23 Dec)	Seminar 1	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Submission of Topic Motivation to do research Practical relevance of the proposed study Research Problem <u>Desired:</u> Specific Research questions Research Objectives</p>	<p><u>Presentation:</u> 5 slides covering the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> topic, basis of topic selection, motivation to do research, Practical relevance of the proposed study, and next steps / action plan <p><u>Word:</u> 1-2 pages (500 words) on research motivation / need for the study. Also, include a timetable of planned activities until the submission of the final document.</p>	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Submission of Topic Company name and consent of industry mentor Motivation to do research <u>Desired:</u> Research objectives and questions</p>	<p><u>Presentation:</u> 5 slides covering the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> topic / company overview Rationale for study, and next steps / action plan <p><u>Word:</u> 1-2 pages (500 words) about the topic, company and rationale for the topic. Also, include a timetable of planned activities until the submission of the final document.</p>	Does the topic indicate new and significant scope adequate to justify a Major research paper / work place project?
February 16 th 2024	Submission to programme office	<p style="text-align: center;">MRP Proposal and approval form* <i>(approval form to be signed by the academic supervisor)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Refer to MRP proposal template and approval form on eClass</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center;">WPP Proposal and approval form* <i>(approval form to be signed by the industry supervisor)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Refer to WPP proposal template and approval form on eClass</i></p>		Are the research problem/research questions/objectives founded on reasonable gap in literature? Does the proposal support the need for the study?

Timeline	Seminar	Activity				
April Winter exam period (10-26 April 2024)	Seminar 2 <i>Introduction and previous research</i>	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Introduction Research questions / objectives Overview of theoretical background / applicable framework</p> <p><u>Desired:</u> hypotheses / conceptual development Methodology</p>	<p><u>Word:</u> 10-15 pages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction (include objectives / questions in the introduction) - Theoretical background / framework / literature review (published studies, review of similar studies) 	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Introduction About the company and industry, formulation of the problem, scope Overview of theoretical background / applicable framework</p> <p><u>Desired:</u> hypotheses / conceptual development Methodology</p>	<p><u>Word:</u> 5-10 pages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction - About the company and industry (Structure, Players, Market Size, Market Shares, Competitive Positions, and any other data that can be disclosed) - Theoretical background / framework / literature review (published studies, review of similar studies) 	<p>MRP: Does the theoretical argument/discussion demonstrate an adequate understanding of the relevant literature in the field and cite an appropriate range of literature sources? Is any significant work ignored?</p> <p>WPP: Does the objectives identified reflect practical relevance for the firm</p>
10-14 th June 2024	Seminar 3 <i>Data and method</i>	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Methodology with proposed rationale Data collection* instrument, Sources of data, statistical tool for hypotheses testing (if applicable)</p> <p><u>Desired:</u> Pilot testing results / preliminary findings</p> <p><i>*Any primary data collection that involves human participants would need approval from ethics review committee</i></p>	<p><u>Presentation:</u> (5-10 slides) Must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research objectives/questions, theoretical framework / summary of literature review - Methodology and procedure - Sources of data - Action plan <p><u>Word:</u> (15 - 20 pages) To the write up of Seminar 2 add methods/methodology adopted for the study: Analytical, Survey, Field Work or any other method with appropriate justification and reasoning</p>	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Methodology with proposed rationale Data collection instrument, sources of data, statistical tool for hypotheses testing (if applicable)</p> <p><u>Desired:</u> Pilot testing results / preliminary findings</p>	<p><u>Presentation:</u> (5-10 slides) Must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research objectives/questions, theoretical framework / summary of literature review - Methodology and procedure - Sources of data - Action plan <p><u>Word:</u> 10-15 pages To the write up of Seminar 2 add Methods/methodology adopted for the study: Analytical, Survey, Field Work or any other method with appropriate justification and reasoning</p>	<p>Are the methods employed appropriate and theoretically justified?</p>

Timeline	Seminar	Activity				
22 nd -26 th July 2024	Seminar 4 <i>Pre-submission seminar</i>	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Data Analysis Final recommendations and conclusion. Practical contributions/ implications/ limitations and future scope <u>Submission of final draft</u></p>	<p><u>Presentation:</u> <u>10-15 slides (15 minutes)</u> Analysis Discussion on findings, conclusions and key contributions and recommendations Whether the conclusions are in line with the objective <u>Word:</u> (25 – 40 pages) To the write-up of Seminar 3 add discussion on findings and results, a summary of results, practical and theoretical contribution, limitations and future scope, and References/Citations and Bibliography</p>	<p><u>Mandatory:</u> Data Analysis Final recommendations and conclusion. Practical contributions/ implications <u>Submission of final draft</u></p>	<p><u>Presentation:</u> <u>10-15 slides (15 minutes)</u> Analysis Discussion on findings, conclusions and key contributions and recommendations Whether the conclusions are in line with the objective <u>Word:</u> (15 – 30 pages) * To the write-up of Seminar 3 add discussion on findings and results, a summary of results, practical contribution, challenges, recommendation to the organization, and References/Citations and Bibliography. The submission must not include proprietary data that has not been approved by the company to be released to the public.</p>	Are results presented clearly and analysed appropriately? Do the conclusions adequately tie together the other elements of the paper
10 th August 2024	Submission to program office	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Final MRP Submission*</u> <i>Requires approval from academic supervisor and second reader</i></p> <p><i>*Refer to MRP Template on eClass</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Final WPP Submission*^b</u> <i>Requires approval from industry supervisor and second reader (faculty member)</i></p> <p><i>*The full paper remains with the organization. The extended abstract approved by the industry supervisor should be submitted to the MScMP program office. Extended Abstract – 2000- 2500 words OR 4-5 pages long.</i></p>		Does the paper identify clearly any implications for practice and/or further research? Are these implications consistent with the findings and conclusions of the paper? Has attention been paid to the clarity of expression and readability?

⚠ The disclosure of proprietary data explains the difference in expected length of the MRP and WPP written documents.

Failing to meet the deadlines mentioned in red will automatically mean “fail” and the deferral of MRP/WPP submission to the next academic year