

**Southern Utah University
School of Business**

MBA Thesis/Project Guidelines

1. MBA students may complete MGMT 6900 Project/Thesis as an elective (3 credit hours).
2. **Project.** Projects are to be significant works of an applied nature, wherein the student is working with a company or organization to analyze and propose a solution to a specific problem or problems. Students will be assigned a faculty mentor who will monitor progress and who will critique the work and report. The completed project should generally include at a minimum 25 pages of typewritten text with associated summary data. Attachments of detailed data, electronic demonstrations, working papers, exhibits, etc. are in addition to this requirement. Projects will be written according to a prominent journal style in business, such as the Academy of Management Journal, Journal of Marketing, Journal of Finance, etc.
3. **Thesis.** A thesis is a scholarly effort that results in a contribution to the literature, either as new theory, a new application of an existing theory or practice, or a synthesis of the literature. As such, theses should include a significant literature review, research questions/hypotheses, appropriate research methodology, findings and conclusions. Theses require a committee of three faculty members: a supervising faculty member (chair) and two members. It is expected that theses will result in jointly produced works with their supervising faculty member(s) that are publishable or acceptable for presentation at scholarly conferences. Theses will be written according to a prominent journal style in business, such as the Academy of Management Journal, Journal of Marketing, Journal of Finance, etc. Completed theses will be provided to the library either in hard copy or microfilm. Students will present the thesis to interested faculty and graduate students in the School of Business.
4. **Approval process.** The following applies to both projects and theses:
 - a. The student will work with one or more faculty members in writing a proposal detailing the research/work to be done. The students will sign a cover form (attached) providing student information and supervising professor(s).
 - b. The supervising professor (a graduate faculty member) will review the proposal and sign the form signifying approval.
 - c. The Department chair of the supervising professor will review the proposal and present it to the School of Business Graduate Committee for approval.
 - d. The student will enroll for MGMT 6900 for the term in which the project/thesis will be undertaken.
5. **Completion.**
 - a. The student will submit the finished product to the supervising professor(s) who will grade the project/thesis. Thesis approval requires signatures of all committee members on the

cover page of the thesis.

b. Theses will be presented in a public forum consisting of the thesis committee and interested business faculty and students.

c. The supervising professor will submit a grade to the Dean of the School of Business.

MGMT 6900 (Project/Thesis) Approval Form
Southern Utah University
School of Business

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Number ____ - ____ - _____ Email _____

Topic/Title _____

Term and Year: _____

Supervising Professor Approval: _____

Other Involved Professors: _____

Department Chair Approval: _____

Graduate Committee Approval: _____

Date of Final Approval: _____

Note: Attach project/thesis proposal.