



Research capstone in SBA Initial Proposal

27.01.2020

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Overview

SBA has the highest number of students in AUI yet it has a very low output when it comes to academic research from students. As an SBA student, we usually undergo education and training that will help us tremendously in the job market especially in our capstone project, yet we do not undergo training related to research for students who want to follow a path in graduate studies and faculty positions.

This proposal aims to give students the opportunity to undertake a capstone project that is more oriented towards research and academia.

Objectives

Alongside our current capstone that is more industry-related, a research-oriented capstone can be an option for any student who prefers a research-based project and also for students who want to work individually.

This research-based capstone can have the following aspects

- The student can come up with a capstone proposal a semester prior to taking the capstone course. This proposal can be about an issue worth exploring (for example an issue in finance or in marketing depending on the student major).
- Starting that same semester, they can choose a faculty member (or it can be assigned to them) as a supervisor in order to help and guide them in their research.
- The last step consists of writing the research paper and presenting it during the capstone period.

Intended outcomes

- Increase the collaboration between students and faculty members.
- Research experience allows undergraduate students to enhance their multidisciplinary skills.
- This can be a pilot experience before generalizing the possibility of undergoing a research-oriented capstone in SBA.
- A research capstone can increase the number of students who are interested in graduate studies and faculty functions in our university.

Limitations

- In SBA we do not have a research method course, this can easily cause a problem when it comes to implementing a research-oriented capstone. This problem can be fixed by pushing professors to give and focus more on research especially in junior standing classes or students can audit the graduate classes that are offered.
- Convincing faculty members to work with undergraduate students.