

**ENTR 7399: Independent Study/Research Class**  
UH MS Entrepreneurship Program

**Course Duration:**

Semester (Fall/Spring/Summer)

**Course Description:**

Independent Study/Research Class is a capstone course designed to provide MS Entrepreneurship students with a unique opportunity to apply their acquired knowledge and skills to real-world business challenges. This course empowers students to tailor their learning experience to their specific entrepreneurial goals and objectives, fostering a personalized and practical approach to their education. The course connects students with experienced mentors, enhances accountability through regular check-ins, and culminates the MS Entrepreneurship Program journey with a capstone presentation highlighting progress and results.

**Course Objectives:**

1. **Entrepreneurial Focus:** Students will immerse themselves in the practical aspects of entrepreneurship by identifying and addressing specific business needs or objectives relevant to **their** venture or entrepreneurial aspirations.
2. **Mentorship and Guidance:** Through bi-weekly meetings with experienced mentors, students will receive personalized guidance, feedback, and support, enabling them to navigate challenges, refine their strategies, and accelerate their entrepreneurial journey.
3. **Accountability and Progress Tracking:** Regular check-ins and written reports will ensure students maintain a consistent focus on their objectives, document their progress, and reflect on their challenges and strategies.
4. **Capstone Presentation:** At the culmination of the course, students will deliver a comprehensive capstone presentation, showcasing their entrepreneurial journey, achievements, and the lessons learned throughout the independent study/research process.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to identify and address specific business needs or objectives relevant to their entrepreneurial venture or aspirations.
2. Exhibit effective communication and collaboration skills through productive mentor meetings and written reports.
3. Develop a comprehensive understanding of their entrepreneurial journey, including challenges faced, strategies employed, and lessons learned.
4. Deliver a compelling capstone presentation that showcases their entrepreneurial achievements and growth throughout the independent study/research process.

**Course Structure:**

1. **Initial Objective Definition:** Each student will define their course objectives/success definition in alignment with their strategic business plan (see attachment 1).
2. **Bi-weekly Mentor Meetings:** Students are to meet with their assigned mentors every two weeks.
3. **Mentor Meeting Reports:** After each meeting, students will submit a written report detailing the discussion and specifying the objectives that they will accomplish prior to the next meeting.
4. **Capstone Presentation:** A concluding presentation detailing the student's journey, progress, challenges faced, strategies used, and prospects for their business.

**Grading:**

- **Mentor Meeting Reports:** 10 points each (Minimum 5 reports) - 50 points
- **Capstone Presentation:** 150 points

Total: 200 points

**Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Week 1	Initial Objective Definition (Student, Mentor, Program Director)
Every 2 weeks post-enrollment	Mentor Meeting (Specific dates scheduled with mentors)
2 days post mentor meeting	Report Submission
Ongoing during semester	Preparation for Capstone Presentation
As scheduled	Capstone Presentation

**Materials and Resources:**

Students should use business-specific tools, analytics, and resources in conjunction with their mentor's guidance to accomplish defined objectives and capstone report.

**Contact:**

For any questions or clarifications, students are advised to reach out to the MS Program Director Steve Wilbur, [swilbur@bauer.uh.edu](mailto:swilbur@bauer.uh.edu) or to Liana Gonzalez, [liana@redlabs.uh.edu](mailto:liana@redlabs.uh.edu)

**Note:**

This course provides a unique opportunity for MS Entrepreneurship students to apply their knowledge and skills in a practical and personalized setting, fostering entrepreneurial growth, critical thinking, and real-world problem-solving abilities. While this course is self-driven, students should leverage the expertise of their mentors fully. The more effort and initiative shown during this course, the more benefits the student's business will reap.

# Independent Study- (enter Semester)

**Student Name:** (enter student name)

**Mentor Assigned:** (enter Mentor Name assigned)

**Defined Objectives:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

At the conclusion of the course success will be: (enter what you define as “success” in moving your business forward):