*Thesis Instructions*

\*site at least 40 articles

\*Over summer you have 6 weeks, end of summer 1\*

\*Check someone’s thesis\*

\*Print articles proposal stops at chapter 3\*

1) Proposal: 1,500 words (15 - 20%) \*workshop\*

(2 months/ 9 weeks)

- Once it’s done someone will be assigned

2) Actual Thesis: 8,000 - 10,000 words

3) These is comprised of 5 chapters

4) Complete or submit final thesis document by the end of Summer 1

Choosing the thesis topic

—> There are 2 guiding criteria for choosing a thesis topic:

1) Personal Interest

2) Career Interest

(Primary research for thesis)

**The Thesis Chapters**

**Chapter 1: Introduction (1,500 words)**

1.0 Overview of the thesis & study

This provides a broad outline of the themes of the study.

Included a bit of historical context for the theme / issue under study. (empowerment in micro-finance)

Provide some statistical data. (micro-finance has grown by 50% in the last 2 years and it’s going to grow over …)

(No more than 2 or 3 paragraphs/ each of them are a paragraph) \*secondary research

(investment in micro-finance within The Bahamas or in the world)

1.1 Research aim/ questions / hypothesis (reason for writing)/ objectives \*important\*

The aim of the thesis study is to …. (extension of the topic)

e.g. “explore the effects of neurons-science on consumers adoption of brands in the fast food industry”

         ^ powerful word showing you want to know more

1.1.1 Research Question (for chapter 5 must have the answer or conclusions)

To achieve the research aim, the following research question are set:

RQ 1: What does the concept of micro-finance entails?

RQ 2: What aspect of micro-finance or finance in general can affect woman?

RQ 3: What strategies can woman or financial institutions can adopt to better assist this problem within The Bahamas?

1.1.2: Hypothesis (Write a statement and then try to prove or disprove it)

H1: Finance affects the way woman themselves and family …. (Color effect consumer brand adoption.)

H2: Finance limits the access to conventional banking and services.

H3: Empowered women can contribute to greater economic development and growth.

H4: If woman have more access to increase their resources, the well-being of their families can increase.

1.2 Motivation for the study

This allows you to explain why you choose your particular thesis topic.

There are 3 basis/reasons to help your motivation for the chosen topic:

1) Personal Interest (Talk about mom and capital) \* one paragraph each\*

2) Professional Career

3) Gap in knowledge from existing research. (might not apply) \*\* Not much articles on the Bahamas\*\*

1.3 Research Context

Background of the study:

This background or context can be based on any of the following:

(can be a page)

**I. Industry or Sector** - Finance/Microfinance (There has been a certain number of micro-finance in the Bahamas and they were created or built in this year etc.

ii. Country - Bahamas

iii. Region

iv. Specific organization

1.4 Structure of the Thesis Chapters

The next four chapters include a discussion of the following:

—> Chapter 2:  is the review of the literature. It discusses pertinent concepts, finding from previous writers as well as a critique of the extant literature.

**(Findings: What other people have found in their own thesis)**

**(Critique: X can find this and Y found this but I don’t necessarily agree/I do/I find the study and I need to (fill the gap in knowledge))**

--> Chapter 2: to is followed by chapter 3 which discusses the Research Methodology. It includes choices of research design, research approaches, research strategy, data collection methods were well as ethical considerations.

—> Chapter 4: provides the analysis and results from the collected data.

—> Chapter 5: finally provides the conclusions from the study as well as recommendations proposed.

**Chapter 2: Literature Review (50% of my time) \*Print an article like mine\* (3000 - 4,000 words)**

**(summarize, critique, analyze)**

**—>** Looking into what has been written on your chosen topic.

2.0 Introduction of the Chapter

Contents of the chapter

2.1 Explanation of (Conceptual issue) understudy

Microfinance: (Conceptual issue)

This concept can be found in textbooks for the (conceptual issue)

- Definition

- Types

- Benefits

- Risk

2.2 Review of Previous Studies (Where most points are from)

What has previous writers found on your topical issue. (Where the question is being answered based of what others have found)

 \*Can be found on academic journal, thesis, research \*

—> Review and critique

Critically review what previous writers have found

* Write about the findings of previous researchers
* Bring in different perspectives about the results
* Did the previous researchers Agree or Disagree in their findings?

2.3 Summary of Literature Reviewed

\_\_\_\_\_Overall conclusions- your opinion on the literature reviewed

**Chapter 3: Research Methodology (HOW & WHY) Thesis Book RM for business students by Thornhill & Saunders**

This chapter explains how the set research question will be answered

3.1 Introduction

* Specify the contents or what will be addressed in the chapter.

3.2 Research Strategy

There are many strategies that can be employed in conducting research. These include the following:

i-> Case Studies ( study is based on a specific organization, geographical, location industry

ii-> Action Research

3->Survey: This includes conducting interviews or administering a questionnaire. This strategy has the advantage of including large number of respondents as well as generating first-hand data.

3.3 Data collection tools/methods

-This explains the different instruments that will be used to gather the necessary date so as to answer the set research questions.

-Research data can be collected by means of primary or secondary resources.

-Primary sources imply collecting data directly from the source by means of the following:

i- Questionnaires

ii- Interviews (who)

\*Focus Group Interviews

\*In-depth interviews (with one person)

🡪It is possible to use both interviews and questionnaires, and this is called mixed method.

-Secondary sources implies from such sources as:

\*Published Journal article

\*Company websites

\*Newspaper/magazines

\*International organizations such the UN system

\*Consultancy firms (McKinney’s)

3.4 Sampling

Sampling refers to the sub-set of the population that will participate in your survey.

🡪 Key consideration for you are 2:

1. Sampling method
2. Sample size (number of respondents)

Sampling Methods

-There are several sampling methods such as:

i->Convenience Sampling

ii->Simple random sampling

ii->Stratified sampling

iv->Purposive sampling

3.5 Ethical Considerations

There are a number of ethical issues to consider including:

i->Confidentiality

ii->Anonymity

iii->Reliability

\*How are you going to address each of this issue.

1. Confidentiality: All information provided will be used strictly for research purposes.
2. Anonymity: Respondents do not have given their names.
3. Reliability: All information in the thesis will be collected from trustable sources.