

## **Instructions for Beginning Your Masters Level Independent Research in Economics**

**Begin at least one semester before you intend to complete your senior thesis**

1. Print this file
2. Complete the Student Information Section
3. Describe your career goals after graduation
4. Give your cluster a name. You will use this name to market your skills upon graduation.
5. Describe the unifying theme of your cluster. Both classes in the cluster must provide a coherent academic character. What is the coherent theme of this Cluster?
6. Describe how this cluster advances your career goals you set forth in #3.
7. List the classes and hours that you intend to take for the cluster. Remember that at least three of the six hours must come from an Economics course.
8. For each course, describe how it contributes to the unifying theme
9. Meet with the Director of the Masters Program for the School of Economics and obtain his approval for your plan of study
10. Have the Director of the Masters Program for the School of Economics sign the attached form
11. Retain the copy of the form and submit it with your petition to graduate to the Assistant Director of Academic Programs when you intend to petition to graduate.

**Approval for Masters Degree Cluster Plan of Study**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

GT ID # Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Summarize your career goals: \_\_\_\_\_

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Cluster Name (ie: Industrial Organization): \_\_\_\_\_

Unifying theme of Cluster: \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe how this Cluster applies to your career goals: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Courses in Cluster**

First Course (Must be ECON 4XXX+\*): \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how this course contributes to the unifying theme of the Cluster \_\_\_\_\_

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Second Course (Must be 4XXX+\*): \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how this course contributes to the unifying theme of the Cluster \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Note – You may only use a total of 6 hours of 4000 level courses towards your Masters Degree

I approve these courses for the student to use as a Cluster towards a Masters Degree

Permitted to Register: \_\_\_\_\_

*Director of Masters Program, School of Economics*