

Final Draft

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING**

**ACCT 8900
Independent Research Contract**

Student _____ Academic Supervisor _____

Semester _____ Student ID# _____

ACCT 8900, Independent Research, is the capstone course of the MAcc program and is described in the graduate catalog as "...a professional report based on independent research." In lieu of taking ACCT 8900, a student can elect to either (1) complete a thesis for six credits or (2) select another elective course, instead of ACCT 8900, and take a comprehensive final examination covering all course work in the student's program.

If you elect the ACCT 8900 option, be aware that the course is offered only in the Fall and Spring semesters and a student must enroll in the course before the Fall or Spring semester begins. The expected workload for a three credit graduate course is 45 hours of class time and at least 100 hours of work outside of class, totaling a minimum of 145 hours. ACCT 8900, Independent Research, is a three credit graduate course.

The length of your professional report will be dependent on the nature of the independent research project you conduct. If the basis of your professional report is data collected firsthand, then the length of the report might be shorter than a professional report based on solely upon existent literature.

A student must complete this Independent Research Contract form and have it approved by the student's academic supervisor, a reader and the director of the MAcc Program before registering for ACCT 8900, Independent Research. To complete this form, a student must (1) select a topic, (2) secure an academic supervisor and a reader (a reader is a faculty member or member of the business community whose critic' of your professional report you believe would be beneficial) and (3) develop a schedule for the project with your academic supervisor. The application form should be accompanied by a proposal of at least one page describing your independent research project, including the type of data upon which the results will be based, e.g., primary data collected by the student or the literature to be reviewed describing the data bases to be used. The student must develop and adhere to a schedule of meetings with the student's academic supervisor. This schedule should normally include specific dates and times at approximately two week intervals during the semester you register for ACCT 8900 and specify, if possible at this time, the agenda for each meeting and the output that would be given the academic advisor a day or two before each meeting. Whether the reader would also be involved in these meetings would be determined by the academic supervisor and the reader.

The grade in ACCT 8900 will be based on the quality of the professional report prepared by the student. The student must earn at least a B in ACCT 8900 regardless of the grades earned in previous courses in his/her MAcc program. In order to earn a grade of A+, a student must present the results of his/her professional report to the faculty of the MAcc Program, as well as members of the professional community. While the grade in ACCT 8900 will be assigned by the student's academic supervisor, the student's reader must agree that the expectations described in this application form and its attachments were fully met by the student. Unless your academic supervisor decides otherwise, your report should be completed two weeks prior to the end of classes in the semester you register for ACCT 8900. A copy of the student's professional report must be given to the Director of the MAcc Program to be filed with those professional reports of previous MAcc graduates so they can be reviewed by interested parties.

IV. Date project will be completed and report given to the student's academic supervisor.

I have read and thoroughly understand and agree to achieve the quality standards of ACCT 8900, Independent Research, as stated in this application form.

Student's Signature

Date

I agree to serve as academic supervisor for the project described in this application form and its attachment(s) and I believe that this application describes a professional report of the quality standards assumed of ACCT 8900, Independent Research.

Academic Supervisor's Signature

Date

I agree to serve as reader for the project described in this application form and its attachment(s) and I believe that this application describes a professional report of the quality standards of ACCT 8900, Independent Research.

Reader's Signature

Date

I approve of this ACCT 8900, Independent Research Project.

MAcc Director's Signature

Date

(Signature required prior to registration)