

**Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice
Strategic Research Project (SRP)
Policy Guidelines**

ESRP 9000 – Strategic Research Project I (6 Cr)

ESRP 9001 – Strategic Research Project II (6 Cr)

The Strategic Research Project (SRP), consisting of two (2) sequential six (6)-credit courses, is an intensive and highly structured action-oriented project designed to be completed consecutively over two (2) semesters following the completion of all other programs/degree course requirements. As one of two doctoral capstone options, the SRP is grounded in research relative to a real-world problem or an organization that previously worked within the student's organization. The final product leads to an immediate solution applicable to that organization. The SRP should not be considered a course but a comprehensive and multifaceted project/capstone that challenges students' organizational and research skills and abilities, giving rise to exemplary outcomes commensurate with the expectations of a doctoral capstone.

In Detail, ESRP 9000 and ESRP 9001

ESRP 9000 (Phase 1 of SRP):

The beginning of the project is designed for the students to develop critical thinking skills while identifying many organizational components.

This capstone project differs from a dissertation, as students start their dissertations with a problem statement. In ESRP 9000, students will develop a problem statement at the end of week seven. After conducting a literature review starting in week four, students will develop (a) a brief description of the context of the problem in the student's selected organization, (b) an explanation of the scope and significance of the problem, (c) the rationale for investigating the problem including potential consequences if the problem is not addressed, (d) a well-defined problem statement, and (e) a summary of the relevant evidence to support your claims about the problem.

Leading up to the problem statement, students will need to develop a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis and evaluate internal and external factors to identify a gap in an area of opportunity. This is a chronological process starting with 40 factors in the organization and reducing to 16 elements to a final problem to research. At this point, the student will select one strength, one weakness, one opportunity, and one threat in order to present to their faculty member. The student and faculty will have a dialogue before submitting Part 1B to select the final factor to move forward with Part 2A.

Students will identify four possible solutions to solve the previously identified problem. Students will select one solution based on the literature review through scholarly researched articles from these four solutions. *

This version of ESRP 9000 will include all revised parts, free of grammatical and spelling errors, written professionally, edited, and following the FCESCJ SRP format guide and APA guidelines established in the template provided at the beginning of the capstone. *

ESRP 9001 (Phase 2 of SRP): This second part begins with identifying two strategies to accomplish the selected solution. Continued by developing the Quantitative Strategic Plan Matrix (QSPM), which will help evaluate the possible strategies. This Matrix provides an analytical method for comparing possible alternative actions. Further, it helps the organization prioritize the process they want to pursue.

After determining the selected strategy, an action plan will be developed. The purpose of the action plan is to explain in detail how the chosen strategy will be implemented. The following section entails a visual presentation, peer review, and oral defense. The final part will encompass analysis and reflection, and recommendations. The final manuscript must be submitted at the end of ESRP 9001. This version will include all revised parts, free of grammatical and spelling errors, written professionally, edited, and following FCESCJ and APA guidelines established in the template provided at the beginning of the capstone. *

* Refer to catalog and syllabus for full capstone description, requirements, and scoring guide/rubrics.

Upon entering this capstone, students should bear in mind the following:

The SRP is **fast-paced, intense, time-sensitive, and rigorous**. It is offered in two phases. The second is a continuation of the first. Students must complete the first phase (ESRP 9001) before proceeding to the second phase (ESRP 9000). Therefore, students must keep pace in meeting its various components within the confines of the semester. To this end, and for success, students should be attentive to timelines and remain focused on achieving semester goals set at the onset of their project. Students should also plan to contract an editor for final approval regarding both ESRP 9000 and ESRP 9001. This final approval must be written professionally and academically, free of grammatical and spelling errors, and be formatted per the 7th edition of APA for English-speaking students, equivalent to the APA 4th edition for Spanish-speaking students.

Stipulations

- Prerequisites
 - ESRP 9000: Completion of all other required courses, good academic standing (minimum overall 3.0 GPA), advisor approval.
 - ESRP 9001: Successful completion of ESRP 9000, faculty member and advisor approval.
- Grades
 - ESRP 9000 and ESRP 9001 are graded Pass (P)/Fail (F). Suppose a failing grade, the college's academic Warning, Probation, and Dismissal policy will apply. Grades of Incomplete may be requested consistent with the college's policy on Incomplete grades. If approved, the date for completing all requirements will be final, with no

- further extensions. Upon successfully resolving an Incomplete for ESRP 9000, students may receive approval to enroll in ESRP 9001 the following semester. Please note that an Incomplete may affect your Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
- Students will be graded on content that consists of current scholarly research.
 - Faculty will assess each student's submissions during the SRP capstone experience, reflect all results regarding each assignment product, and determine if the student's work is acceptable or unacceptable. This determination is based on clearly delineating each assignment's content and written requirements per the expectations of the faculty member. In this case, the faculty member will make recommendations regarding the edits/changes the student "must" make for a passing grade. If changes/edits are recommended, the faculty member will assign a **complete or incomplete** grade for each part once the student submits the corrections suggested by the faculty member. Please note that the student should always communicate with their faculty of record.
 - Note: Students who receive an Incomplete grade will not be able to register the following semester while making up unique requirements (i.e., will miss a semester of enrollment).
 - When the student receives **track changes** within their submission, each student must address each track change with corrections and indicate in a comment box the student completed the change. The student can use any terms (e.g., done, finished, fixed, satisfied) once they are correct. In addition, all faculty track changes/recommendations must remain in the document submission. Only faculty will delete the track changes.
 - Students need to submit their assignments both in Word and PDF format. The PDF format is strictly for auditing purposes to ensure the format did not alter after upload.
 - **Each part of the SRP will be submitted through Turnitin within the Canvas platform.** If the document shows a high similarity index from Turnitin, the faculty member has the right to reject the submission and allow the student to paraphrase and resubmit.
 - Due to this capstone's rigor and fast-paced delivery, the student will only have three opportunities to resubmit each part within the due date guidelines. The student is responsible for making the corrections/revisions the faculty member provided within the subsequent assignment due date.
 - If the student has more than two consecutive Incomplete grades, the faculty member may recommend the student drop from the SRP. Students must discuss with their faculty their progress in the capstone.
- Final Manuscript
 - The final manuscript must include all revised, approved (completed), and edited parts to secure a passing grade and graduation. It is the student's responsibility to save (i.e., Cloud, USB, email, external hard drive, etc.) and use the parts approved by the faculty member.
 - The student must utilize the mandatory SRP Template, the APA Manual 7th edition, and the FCESJ Strategic Research Project format guidelines. Final manuscripts will

- not be approved if the document presents grammar, syntax, and/or format errors, including tables, figures, appendices, references, and in-text citations.
- If a student has a pending part that needs to be completed (e.g., content, format, grammar, syntax, TurnItIn report, etc.), the student will not be able to pass this portion of the capstone.
 - Please refer to the final format checklist.
 - Final SRP manuscripts will be sent to the SRP Faculty Committee.
- Retakes
 - The SRP is graded on a Pass/Fail (P/F) basis. Each course (ESRP 9000 and ESRP 9001) may be retaken one (1) time only (i.e., limit of two [2] attempts per course); students may only register for one course once.
 - Incomplete (I) Grades
 - For ESRP 9000, a grade of Incomplete (I) may be granted at the discretion of the professor/instructor to students who are in good academic standing but may have experienced an unexpected medical, personal, or professional emergency. Please note that the professor/instructor may ask for documentation. The student is responsible for initiating the following contract: *Incomplete Grade Agreement Request Student Form*.
 - For ESRP 9000, the Incomplete (I) grade may only be issued if Parts 1-3 are fully approved (completed) by the professor/instructor. **Students cannot register for ESRP 9001 in the subsequent term.** In the following term, students will only have four (4) weeks to submit Part 4 of ESRP 9000 and all of ESRP 9000 needs to be completed and edited by week eight (8) of the same term.
 - For ESRP 9001, a grade of Incomplete (I) may be granted at the discretion of the professor/instructor to students who are in good academic standing but may have experienced an unexpected medical, personal, or professional emergency. Please note that the professor/instructor may ask for documentation. For ESRP 9001, the Incomplete may only be issued if Parts 5-8 (this includes completed requirements of Parts 8A, 8B, and 8C) are fully approved (completed) by the professor/instructor. In the subsequent term, students will have eight (8) weeks to submit a complete, edited, and approved SRP.
 - Enrollment
 - The SRP is designed to be completed in two (2) sequential semesters. The expectation is that students will progress from the first course (i.e., Phase 1) to the second (i.e., Phase 2) without interruption to maintain continuity, as any breaks in enrollment could have a detrimental effect. All students will be enrolled by their academic advisor. **

** Work completed in partial fulfillment of the SRP may not be transferrable to an applied dissertation.

Signature Section

Please sign and date below to acknowledge your understanding of these policy guidelines:

I agree to abide by these policies while completing ESRP 9000 and ESRP 9001.

Print Name

Signature

NSU ID

Date