## Independent study guideline

Thanks for your interest in working with me in an independent study. The main objective of this course is to produce one or two papers on topics of your interest that are of "publishable quality".

Publishable quality means that it is considered new or innovative in the field. Could be a case study or an experiment that has not been previously presented, or could be a new method, new product or invention.

The methodology over the semester will be to:

- 1. Identify one or two topics where you have a keen interest and desire to investigate
- 2. Prepare an outline of the work to be done
- 3. Prepare a calendar of deliverables with a weekly or bi-weekly meetings to measure your progress
- 4. Maintain a good list of references and copy of all articles used
- 5. Identify journals or conferences to publish the work

It is important to understand that the work will be performed by you, I will serve as a mentor and therefore will provide guidance, editorial reviews and ideas but you have to be committed to do the work.

To get started I would like to receive from you by next Thursday the following:

- a. Your CV indicating previous experience and research interest
- b. A list of 5 to 10 topics that you would like to pursue with a brief paragraph or two about the work you would like to do for each one
- c. Schedule a meeting with me to discuss and narrow down the topic(s) to focus on.

Regards

-----

José A. Faria, Ph.D., PMP
Assistant Professor
Florida International University
Department of Construction Management
Engineering Center Office 2951
10555 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33174

Tel: 305-348-3541 Fax: 305-348-6255