



Honors Research Assistant Program

Title: Personal Operations Management

Description of the Research: This research project is designed to identify operations management principles (particularly “lean thinking” principles) that can be applied to help individual knowledge workers improve their productivity.

Responsibilities of the Student:

- Literature review – This is the main focus for the student. Hundreds of articles have been written on this subject in many different fields (OB, psychology, industrial engineering, etc.).
- Interaction with me and other researchers to design and execute the research.
- Help organize, lead, and record focus groups.
- Help collect personal narratives from extraordinarily successful people.
- Write and edit some portions of the research paper(s).
- Possibly create Excel tools to help knowledge workers record their time usage using work sampling methodologies.
- Possibly create Excel tools to help knowledge workers prioritize tasks and projects.

Approximate Number of Hours/Schedule:

About 5 to 10 hours per week, flexible with the student’s schedule.

Qualifications:

- Interest and passion for the subject of personal time management
- Skill in using Excel and Word
- Any major