



Independent Study Guidelines

A graduate student of demonstrated capacity, with a special interest in the subject matter of a course, may be permitted to receive credit for individualized academic project under the personal direction of a GWSB faculty member. A petition outlining the student's specific study plan must be submitted to the student's degree program director prior to beginning any independent study. The student may petition to complete a maximum of two independent studies in two separate semesters.

Please note:

- Each academic program sets the minimum requirements for a student pursuing an independent study. Students should consult their program prior to developing an independent study proposal.
- Students are required to consult their program before pursuing this option to confirm that an independent study is eligible to fulfill a degree requirement.
- The faculty advisor may be any full-time GWSB professor unless the student receives a special exception through their academic program.
- Supervising an Independent Study is at the discretion of the faculty member and is not guaranteed. Final approval is required by the Graduate Programs Office and the student's program.
- Students may request to complete a maximum of two independent studies in two separate semesters during their degree program. Students may earn 1.5 or 3.0 credits for each independent study enrollment. Independent Study coursework must not duplicate courses currently offered at the University.
- The Independent Study must be letter graded and credit bearing.
- The Independent Study may only be applied towards a student's elective degree requirements.

Independent Study Faculty Advisor Responsibilities:

- Select, in consultation with the student, and approve relevant readings.
- Meet with student regularly throughout the semester of study.
- Provide constructive feedback on student deliverables throughout the semester of study.
- Assess student's deliverables and issue a final grade following completion of the semester of study.

Independent Study Student Responsibilities:

- Submit an independent study proposal that includes a description of the project, the proposed readings, and the final deliverable.
- Meet with faculty advisor regularly throughout the semester of study.



Independent Study Form

Student Name _____ **GWID** G
First Name Last Name

GW Email _____ @gmail.gwu.edu

Degree _____ **OR** **Certificate Program** _____

Semester Fall Spring Summer **Year** _____ **Number of Credits** 1.5 3

Independent Study Faculty Advisor Name _____ **Email Address** _____ @gwu.edu

Outline the independent study project, including proposed topic, readings, and deliverables.
(Attach a separate sheet if necessary. Provide specific details about the readings, scope of project, timeline, and final deliverables.)

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - FOR UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Independent Study Faculty Advisor
Signature and Date _____ Approve Deny

Comments: _____

Program Approver
Signature and Date _____ Approve Deny

Comments: _____

Authorized Approver
Signature and Date _____ Approve Deny

Comments: _____