



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

INDEPENDENT STUDY

PSC 390, 590, 790

1-6 (Spec)

Student: Please fill out this form with the instructor you will be working with on your independent study. After the form is signed by both student and instructor, bring the form to the Political Science Department Office, Anspach 247, to obtain your add card for course registration.

THIS FORM MUST BE ON FILE IN THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE BEFORE REGISTRATION

PSC Course: _____ Semester: _____

Course Reference Number: _____ Credit Hours: _____

Student's Name: _____

Instructor's Name: _____

Course Topic: _____

Course Requirements:

Approved by:

Student: _____

Instructor: _____

Date: _____

GUIDELINES FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY CREDIT

1. An independent study should be equivalent to the effort expected of students in a regularly scheduled class during a full semester of work.
2. An independent study should not be offered where similar content is available in a regularly scheduled class.
3. An add card for an independent study will be provided only when a student has completed the Independent Study Form and that form has been signed by an instructor.
4. An independent study assumes the student has covered the introductory subject matter in the proposed area of study. An independent study thus constitutes some logical extension of this solid base of information.
5. Regular contact on a consistent basis will be maintained between instructor and student.
6. All faculty supervising students doing independent study projects should retain assessment instruments (papers, exams, journals, etc.) on file through the following semester for review by colleagues.
7. All faculty supervising students doing independent study projects should file a rationale in the department office as to how these guidelines will be met.

Some rules of thumb in terms of concrete expectations include:

Undergraduate Credit

- a. Readings with a minimum of 300 pages per credit hour for an undergraduate student.*
- b. A research paper with a minimum of 5 pages per credit hour for an undergraduate student.

Graduate Credit

- a. Readings with a minimum of 800 pages per credit hour for a graduate student.*
- b. A research paper with a minimum of 10 pages per credit hour for a graduate student.

* Note: The readings should be accompanied by an assessment to determine if the student has understood the readings which have been undertaken.