



Guidelines

1. Independent study coursework is designed to allow students to meet specific learning objectives that are not possible through existing coursework.
2. Working closely with their advisor, the student identifies specific learning needs and approaches to meeting those needs.
3. The student and advisor must establish mutually agreed upon objectives and evaluation criteria. The agreement is to be recorded via an Independent Study Contract (<http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/academics/registration/forms/>). The recorded agreement must include:
 - a. Student's and faculty member's name and date
 - b. Objectives
 - c. Requirements
 - d. Evaluation criteria
4. Course credits vary from one to six. For each credits, students are expected to devote 45 hours of work over the semester (e.g., 2 credits=90 hours, 3 credits=135 hours).
5. A letter grade is assigned by the advisor or faculty mentor at the end of the semester based on performance.

Office of Student and Academic Services (OSAS)

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The purpose of independent study is to assist students becoming a more self-directed and resourceful learners, and to engage in a educational experience that is personally satisfying and meaningful. This approach develops the ability to function as an autonomous learner and practitioner. Independent study enables individualized integration of theories and concepts relevant to practice, fosters self-motivation for intellectual growth, and develops skills that facilitate continued learning after completion of formal education. Finally, it gives the student an opportunity to work closely with a faculty mentor in an area of mutual interest.

Student Responsibilities

- Develop an individualized plan of study and appropriate activities
- Complete out the plan of study within the designated time frame
- Participate in a performance evaluation with the supervising faculty member

Supervising Faculty Responsibilities

- Help the student develop appropriate objectives, activities, and time frame for the independent study
- Mentor the student in conducting and completing the plan of study
- Conduct a performance evaluation with the student and assign the course grade

15 hours of independent study activity = 1 credit of classroom activity

45 hours of independent study activity = 1 credit of clinical activity

Instructions: Student and supervising faculty complete all sections on both pages together, sign, and date. The supervising faculty member submits the completed, signed form to the assistant dean of the program for approval. The assistant dean notifies the student, faculty member, and OSAS of the final decision by email, attaching a signed copy of this contract. OSAS will then enroll the student in the independent study. Final grade is due at end of term.

UMB ID

Term

Name

Credits

Study Topic

CRN#

Supervising Faculty

Program/Specialty

Nature of Study

Theory

Clinical

Research

Office only

Name

Term

PLAN OF STUDY

Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • •
Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • •
Evaluation Criteria (include percentage of grade where appropriate - total must equal 100%)
(% of grade)
(% of grade)
(% of grade)
(% of grade)
(% of grade)

Student's Signature

Date (xx/xx/xxxx)

Supervising Faculty's Signature

Date (xx/xx/xxxx)

Assistant Dean's Signature

Date (xx/xx/xxxx)

Office only