

Independent Study

General Statement

The independent study (SLIS:6570) is intended to provide the student with a specific knowledge and/or competency compatible with his or her career plans and professional development goals and which is available through no other University offerings or mechanisms.

In other words, independent study should not be used to cover material that is taught in an existing SLIS course. Its primary purpose is to enable a student to expand upon a topic that he or she has already begun to explore during a SLIS course, and to offer the opportunity to study an idea at a deeper level.

The requirements for an independent study must be as academically rigorous and demanding as those for any other course in the curriculum. Careful planning in arranging independent study is necessary since faculty time to oversee such projects may be limited.

Procedure

A. Prepare a formal proposal that includes the following:

1. Statement of purpose, goals, and objectives.
2. Bibliography extensive enough to indicate prior investigation of the proposed topic or area of study.
3. Schedule of topics, activities, and meeting times with instructor.
4. Description of outcome or product (e.g., paper of rigorous quality, handbook or manual, multimedia production, substantive web project, programming project).

B. Registration

Submit proof to SLIS program administrator that the instructor has agreed to oversee the independent study prior to registering for the class.

C. Credit Requirements

1. For one semester hour of credit, the effort should represent 45-50 hours of work during the term.
2. For two semester hours of credit, the effort should represent 90-100 hours of work during the term.

3. For three semester hours of credit, the effort should represent 135-150 hours of work during the term.

