

Eastern Michigan University
School of Health Promotion and Human Performance
Graduate Student Independent Study Contract
Guidelines

1. What is an Independent Study Contract? (ISC)

An Independent Study Contract (ISC) allows a student to study a topic or subject of personal interest, which is not otherwise available as a formal unit, and to obtain credit for this towards his or her degree. It differs from formal units in that it relies on independent study rather than formal classes, and on the initiative of the student to choose and define the topic. In conjunction with the academic supervisor, the student is required to structure the content to be studied and the method of assessment. It also differs from Special Topics, which are initiated by members of staff.

Graduate students can only take up to 12 credits of independent work; this includes independent studies, thesis, project, and internship units. Additionally, there is a limit of two independent studies.

Note: An ISC cannot duplicate an Eastern Michigan unit.

2. What are the objectives of an independent study?

Eastern Michigan University has several pedagogical reasons for allowing students to gain credit points towards a degree by the ISC method. These include:

- to help you to develop the skills for self-initiated, self-directed study;
- to enable you to study a particular topic in depth, and
- to provide the opportunity for the study of topics not covered by formal units.

3. Responsibilities

As a graduate student enrolled in an independent study, it is your responsibility to meet the objectives of the independent study. It is not the responsibility of the supervising faculty member to remind you of your due dates and assessment procedures.

(Student keeps this cover sheet)

Graduate Student Independent Study Contract

Semester/Year: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Number: E _____

Email: _____

Program Advisor: _____

Graduate Program: _____

Credits: _____ CRN: _____

Course: _____

Faculty supervisor for independent study: _____

If a faculty member from another department is the supervisor for this independent study, you should also have one HPHP faculty member as a contact.

If this faculty member is not in HPHP, please write the position and program below:

Position: _____

Program: _____

If this independent study is conducted outside of the university, please list the name, position, and phone number of the outside supervisor:

Title: _____

Name: _____

Position _____

Institution/phone number _____

Contract title (be specific)

List at least three specific learning objectives

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Independent Study Outline: Be specific! (use an additional sheet if necessary)

Expected activities (please be as specific as possible)

Provisional reading list

Author Title Publication date

Independent Study Supervisor

1. Are any facilities or resources required for the contract that are **not** available at EMU?
Yes No

If yes, how will the student gain access to the required facilities/resources?

2. If the IS requires research with human or animal subjects, when will the student submit the appropriate paperwork for the IS to be approved?

3. Nature and frequency of expected contact and **types of assessment** with the student. The assessment should be detailed. This is a contract – please be specific about how the student will be graded.

I am willing to supervise this ISC.

Supervisor's signature

Date

This application should be forwarded to the Chair of the Graduate Programs (HPPH)

CHAIR, HPHP GRADUATE PROGRAM

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Does this contract comply with University policy? | Yes | No |
| 2. It is based primarily on independent, individualized study. | Yes | No |
| 3. The student is eligible for this IS. | Yes | No |
| 4. The student has at least B average. | Yes | No |
| 5. The application has been completed fully, and clarified any omissions or ambiguities. | Yes | No |

Approved

Not approved

Signature _____ Date _____
Chair HPHP Graduate program