

INDEPENDENT STUDY

The college has established a plan of independent study for outstanding upper division and graduate students in order to provide opportunity for a greater degree of originality than is possible in regular courses, and to encourage students to develop their special abilities and interests. Independent study should deal either with a special interest not covered in a regular course or with the exploration in much greater depth of a subject presented in a regular course. Each department has an independent study upper division 190 course, and some departments have a graduate level 290 course. Students may take this work in their majors or closely related fields, but in general, independent study courses may not be substituted for regular required courses. In some departments a 190 course may be desirable preparation for the thesis or other advanced study.

To be eligible for independent study, a student should have an over-all grade-point average of 3.0 or higher. However, a student with less than an over-all grade-point average of 3.0 may, with the consent of the department chairman in his major field of study, be permitted to register for independent study. Maximum credit of six units is allowed toward the bachelor's degree in 190 courses, and maximum credit of six units is allowed in 190 and 290 courses toward the master's degree. In either case, credit in 190 and 290 courses is limited to a maximum of three units per semester. Under extraordinary circumstances more than three units of credit per semester may be allowed on petition to the Independent Study Committee.

An eligible student desiring to register for a 190 or a 290 course must first obtain the consent of an instructor who will guide the project and the approval of the chairman of the department in which the course is given. A student registers for a 190 or a 290 course the same as for any other course at the time of registration. Enrollment for independent study during the Summer Session is generally discouraged because of the short time available for completion of the project.

An independent study course normally includes an oral examination by a committee from the department in which the course is taken, a formal report which is filed in the department office, and an abstract of the study which is filed with the Independent Study Committee. Approval forms and copies of the current regulations may be obtained at department or division offices.