

Independent/Directed Study Request

Independent/directed study courses are available in select academic programs. This course format is intended to provide students with an opportunity to work directly with a faculty member on a meaningful project designed to support individual professional goals. Independent/directed study proposals must be developed in concert with a supervising faculty member. Proposals need to be specific in intent and substantive in nature. Course units must meet the Academic Credit policy outlined in the “Academic Policies” section of the GSEP Academic Catalog. Students who elect to take an independent/directed study course after completing degree requirements must do so as a nondegree-seeking student and must follow application procedures outlined in the “Admission Information” section of the GSEP Academic Catalog.

An independent/directed study course may be used in place of select degree-required courses in order to meet graduation requirements. This course will be equivalent to the degree-required course in terms of, but not limited to, course objectives and outcomes. Students in programs requiring additional approval by the state for clinical licensure or teaching credential should contact their respective state department for acceptance of the independent/directed study course prior to enrollment. Pepperdine is not responsible for independent/directed study course denials issued by the state.

Independent/directed student courses may not be eligible for financial aid. Consult the Financial Aid Office for information. If your independent/directed study request is approved, your expected graduation date and financial aid may be adjusted.

Student Information

Name: _____ CWID#: _____

Academic Program: _____ Requested Term: _____

Supervising Faculty: _____ Expected Graduation Term: _____

Degree-required Course Substitution *(Complete if the course will replace a degree-required course.)*

Degree-required course to substitute (include title/course number/course units):

Briefly explain the need for substituting a degree-required course with an independent/directed study:



Thesis/Personal Project *(Complete if the course is intended for personal growth and is in addition to degree requirements.)*

Proposed title of study:

Proposed course units:

Thoroughly describe the purpose of the study and how it supports your professional goals. Include specific objectives, desired outcomes, method of study, activities, approximate timeline and manner in which the study will be shared/presented.

The information provided above is meant to establish a clear understanding of course expectations, conditions and assignments. Completion of this form represents an agreement between student and instructor regarding conclusion of the study. Additional information may be required. Return the completed form to your advisor. By signing below, I acknowledge that I understand agree to all statements provided on this form.

☐ I am in a program that requires additional approval by the state, and I have contacted my respective state department to confirm this independent/directed study course will be approved for licensure/credential.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Faculty Comments:

Supervising Faculty Signature: _____ Date: _____

Independent/Directed Study Course Number to be Used: _____

Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Request: ☐ APPROVED ☐ DENIED

Associate Dean Signature: _____ Date: _____