Variable Credit/Independent Study Request Form

Independent study courses provide qualified students the opportunity to develop and conduct largely self-designed research projects in collaboration with campus faculty. Independent study does not exist as an alternative to the curriculum, but rather serves as a privileged supplement to the curriculum, and is intended to offer qualified students the opportunity for creative self-directed research under the follow courses:

- BES 398 Directed Study in Environmental Science (1-5 credits)
- BES 498 Independent Research in Environmental Science (1-5 credits)
- BIS 398 Directed Study/Research (1-5 credits)
- BIS 498 Undergraduate Research (1-5 credits)

Students may complete up to 15 credits total under these course numbers (and BIS 492 Senior Thesis) combined.

Independent study courses require the consent of the instructor and must comply with the following standards:

- The student must demonstrate adequate preparation, as evidenced by grades and/or previous course work in the area of proposed research.
- Prior to registration, faculty must approve a student initiated 3 page, typed, double-spaced proposal. The proposal should include: a title, tentative thesis statement, detailed outline of what the student is going to do, theory and methods to be used (where appropriate), plus a one page bibliography of appropriate sources. The proposal may be in the form of an outline.
- For a typical research paper, it is expected that a student will write 5 typed, double-spaced pages per credit hour. Obviously, this standard does not apply to all subject matters, e.g., art or video that is non-textual in nature. See the instructor for such cases.

Students should expect to complete 3 hours of research per credit per week. This means that a 5 credit hour course will involve 15 hours (3x5hrs.) of outside research per week, in addition to scheduled meetings with the instructor.

**Summer Eligibility:** Students can pursue Directed Study or Undergraduate Research in Summer Quarter with Full-Time (FT) IAS Faculty only. Please use the online IAS Faculty webpage (http://www.uwb.edu/ias/faculty-and-staff) to search for appropriate FT faculty.

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<th>Student name:</th>
<th>Quarter/year:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Number:</td>
<td>Number of credits:</td>
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**Brief Description of work to be accomplished:**

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**Professor’s Name:**

**Professor’s Signature:**

Note: Students must return this completed form to the School of IAS office in UW1-390 to obtain an entry code to register for this course. **Do not leave the form with the instructor.**