



INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS)

An independent study is an opportunity for a student to work with a faculty member on a public health topic which is ***not currently covered in an existing course.*** The student conducts the work in its entirety within the semester, using the start and end dates set by the university.

HOW DO I DEVELOP AN INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS)?

The student initiates discussion about an independent study with their academic advisor. The two discuss the student's course of study; the ID topic; and faculty member who may serve as their course director for the ID; and their current transcript.

If the advisor approves, the student signs the Independent Study form and the student brings their topic and form to the potential course director for discussion. If the faculty member agrees to serve as course director, the faculty member and the student develop some structure to the course: course title, focus of study, learning objectives, reading materials/bibliography and required graded assignments. Based on the course expectations, the course director designates the amount of course credit (ranging from 1 to 3 credit hours). It is also advised that the course director and student agree upon and document the frequency of meetings throughout the semester and due dates for assignments.

The student completes the fillable pdf form after details have been agreed upon and both the course director and student sign the form. The program director of that concentration must also approve and sign the form. The student then submits the form to the Office of Academic Affairs and receives a course ID number for the student to use to register for the course.

NOTE:

Students may take no more than 6 credit hours of independent study during their degree program.

