Eligibility

Independent Study (399) for Honors is open to seniors who have met the minimum requirements for participating in the department’s Honors Program and who have been invited by the department to consider doing an Honors project. An Independent Study for Honors is a full credit course that must be taken for two consecutive quarters during the senior year, either in Fall and Winter or in Winter and Spring. Students participating in the Honors Program will receive a provisional grade of K for the 399 taken during the first quarter and a letter grade for both quarters when the project is completed at the end of the second quarter. An Independent Study for Honors must focus on a clearly defined subject of intellectual and academic substance. Approval will be granted only if the project has academic merit and the faculty member consulted is willing and qualified to direct the research.

Petitions for Independent Study (399) for Honors must be approved by the Department Chair in consultation with the Honors Coordinator and the Director of Undergraduate Studies during the quarter preceding the one in which the Independent Study for Honors is to begin.

Procedures for petitions

The student must consult initially with an appropriate faculty member, having first prepared an outline of the subject matter and research goals. If the faculty member determines that the subject and scope of the project are appropriate for an Independent Study for Honors and agrees to direct the research, the student should then prepare to submit the formal petition and supporting materials.

Petitions require the signatures of the student and the faculty member, and must be accompanied by the following: 1) a one- to two-page report description; 2) a bibliography; 3) a tentative schedule of meetings; 4) a current academic transcript.

Petitions with all supporting materials must be submitted by the student to the Honors Coordinator one week prior to pre-registration for the quarter in which the Honors project is to begin. The Department Chair will inform the student about the status of an Independent Study for Honors petition no later than the beginning of advanced registration.

Project deadline

For students undertaking Independent Study for Honors in the Fall and Winter, the deadline for submitting the Honors Thesis is the first day of Winter quarter Reading Week. For students undertaking Independent Study for Honors in the Winter and Spring, the deadline for submitting the Honors Thesis is April 30.