

## VARIABLE CREDIT COURSES

### -REQUEST FOR ENTRY CODE-

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 (complete descriptions are available through the UW Bothell catalog):

#### **For students in the BS in Environmental Science**

BES 398 Directed Study (1-5 credits)

BES 498 Independent Research (1-5 credits)

#### **For students in IAS undergraduate BA degrees**

BIS 398 Directed Study/Research (1-5 credits, not available in Summer Quarter)

BIS 498 Undergraduate Research (1-5 credits, not available in Summer Quarter)

Students may complete up to 15 credits total under these course numbers (and BIS 492 Senior Thesis) combined. For example, a student may take BIS 398 for 5 credits + BIS 498 for 10 credits = 15 credits (maximum allowed in the program). Note that variable credit courses are not available in summer quarter (except for students pursuing the BS in Environmental Science).

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.

**Student name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of credits:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quarter/year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description of work to be accomplished:**

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**Professor's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Students must return this completed for to the IAS program office to obtain an entry code to register for this course. **Do not leave the form with the instructor.**