

Independent Study in the Biomedical Sciences: Letter of Agreement

Course Eligibility: Matriculated students in the MBS program who have completed 9 or more course credits and are in good academic standing are eligible to register for Independent Study. Only one Independent Study course may count toward the Certificate in the Biomedical Sciences or the Master of Biomedical Sciences degree.

Course Expectations: Students will be introduced to biomedical research by preparing a review of published scholarly literature on a topic of their own interest. With the guidance of a faculty advisor, students will identify a suitable topic and develop the skills of literature research, writing, revision, and oral presentation. Students will prepare an essay of at least 4000 words that presents the current understanding of the topic aimed at a Master's level audience. The student will also prepare an oral presentation which will be delivered at the end of the semester. Specifically, the following criteria are required for this 2 credit Independent Study course:

A. Paper Requirements

- Cover sheet including the title, the student and mentor names, student ID number, the semester, and date.
- Well-written and appropriate essay that is a minimum of 4000 words in length.
- Format: 1.5 spaced, 11 pt Arial, 0.5" margins.
- Figures, if any, and references located after the 4000 words of text
- Minimum of 10 peer-reviewed articles from the scholarly literature. EndNote is highly suggested; it is available free from the library.

B. Oral presentation, typically 10 minutes, at the completion of the paper

It is student's responsibility to provide an electronic copy of the final original Independent Study paper to the mentor and the GSBS office by the end of the semester in order for the student to receive his/her grade.

Semester _____

Student's name (printed) _____

Faculty member's name (printed) _____

Please provide the general topic and brief description.

This Letter of Agreement **MUST** be handed in with a [Registration Adjustment Form](#) (ADD Form) by the end of the Paper Drop/Add period to the GSBS Office (Rowan Medicine Building, Suite 2200) at the time of registration for this course. See the [Academic Calendar](#) for specific dates of the Paper Drop/Add period for each semester. Please sign below.

Student _____
(signature)

Date _____

Faculty member _____
(signature)

Date _____

Senior Associate Dean _____
(signature)

Date _____