
**MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAM
INDEPENDENT STUDY CONTRACT (UNIV 7796)**

Student's Name: _____

Student I.D: _____ **Date:** _____

Semester to Be Taken: _____

Student: _____
Signature

APPROVED

Instructor for UNIV 7796 _____
Signature Date

Major Advisor: _____
Signature Date

M.A.L.S. Office: _____
Signature Date

Instructions for Completing the Independent Study Contract

The Independent Study option is designed to give you the opportunity to study a particular topic in a particular way when that topic cannot be studied in an existing graduate course. As with each course in your Coordinated Study, the topic of the Independent Study must be coherent both with your program theme and with the other courses in your Coordinated Study. Therefore, the contract should explain clearly and thoroughly what you propose to do and how the study relates to the theme of your program and to the other courses in your Coordinated Study. The contract will not be approved by the MALS office unless it indicates that careful thought and careful planning have gone into its preparation.

Answer the Following

Use your computer to respond to each of the following. Type each item, and then type your response under it.

1. Identify the topic of your Independent Study, explain the purpose of the study and explain the reasoning process by which you selected the topic.
2. Thoroughly describe what you and your instructor have agreed that you will do during the study, explaining how your work qualifies for graduate credit.
3. Explain how you and your instructor will work together during the course of the study, including plans for scheduled meetings and what will occur at those meetings. If you will be submitting drafts of a paper, indicate the dates on which those will be submitted.
4. Explain the evaluation criteria you and your instructor have agreed to and give the rationale for the criteria selected.
5. Explain what you expect to learn from the Independent Study.
6. Explain how the new knowledge (a) develops the theme of your program and (2) relates to the other courses in your Coordinate Study.
7. Provide a sample bibliography that is indicative of the resources you will use in your Independent Study.

Submitting the Contract

1. Complete the title page of the contract.
2. Have your instructor for the Independent Study sign it; have your Major Advisor sign it (if one has been appointed).
3. Attach your responses to the items above to the title page.
4. Submit the completed contract to the MALS office at least one week prior to the time you plan to register for the course.

Class Registration

If the MALS office approves the contract, a special section of UNIV 7796 will be created in the registration system in the name of your instructor. You will be issued a permit to register for the course. It is your responsibility to call the MALS office about the availability of the registration permit.