

PALISADES HIGH SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT STUDY GUIDELINES

The opportunity for independent study is offered to students who have achieved a GPA of 3.0 or higher in the curricular area proposed for independent study and who possess the ability to work independently. Independent Study will not replace a course required for graduation and cannot be used to take an offered course independently.

Students selecting this avenue of extensive research must submit a proposal to the department head to determine whether an independent study project is feasible. A final culminating project and presentation to a teacher panel is required.

Independent Study will only be available to students whose schedules are compatible with a teacher-advisor and if meeting space is available.

Independent Study credit is graded Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory and does not receive weighted course credit.

Applications for first semester Independent Study application must be submitted by October 1 and by February 22 for second semester.

A written mid-course progress report is required.

5. Documentation: Maintain a log sheet detailing dates of independent research and learning activities.
6. Mid-course Progress Report Due on or near December 1 for first semester and April 1 for second semester
 - A. Provide a brief summary of your progress to date along with your Independent Study Log.
 - B. What challenges have you had to overcome?
 - C. What is your timeline for completion of this project? When do you anticipate making a final presentation

Independent Study Rubric

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Topic Proposal (Learning Goal)	The purpose of the project or the question to be answered during the project is clearly identified and stated.	The purpose of the project or the question to be answered during the project is identified, but is stated in a somewhat unclear manner.	The purpose of the project or the question to be answered during the project is partially identified, and is stated in a somewhat unclear manner.	The purpose of the project or the question to be answered during the project is erroneous or not appropriate.
Quality of Information (Strategies)	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.	Information somewhat relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.	Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Background Sources and Data (Strategies)	Several reputable background sources were used and cited correctly. Material is translated into student's own words.	A few reputable background sources are used and cited correctly. Material is translated into student's own words.	A few background sources are used and cited correctly, but some are not reputable sources. Material is translated into student's own words.	Material is directly copied rather than put into student's own words and/or background sources are cited incorrectly.
Time-management (Strategies)	Routinely uses time well throughout the project to ensure things get done on time.	Usually uses time well throughout the project, but may have procrastinated on one thing.	Tends to procrastinate, but always gets things done by the deadlines.	Rarely gets things done by the deadlines.
Logs (Documentation)	Clear, accurate, dated notes are taken regularly. Notes are recorded and organized in an extremely neat and orderly fashion.	Dated, clear, accurate notes are taken occasionally. Notes are recorded legibly and are somewhat organized.	Dated, notes are taken occasionally, but accuracy of notes might be questionable. Notes are recorded.	Notes rarely taken or of little use. Notes are recorded only with peer/teacher assistance and reminders.
Evidence is Attached (Documentation)	All produced materials and evidence is attached to the back of each project.	Most produced materials and evidence is attached to the back of each project.	Some produced materials and evidence is attached to the back of each project.	NO produced materials and evidence are attached to the back of each project or they are just thrown in the folder randomly.
Final Product	Final project provides evidence that student met all stated objectives and/or learning goals.	Final project provides evidence that student met some stated objectives and/or learning goals	Final project provides evidence that student met few stated objectives and/or learning goals	Final project provides no evidence that student met stated goals and/or learning objectives

APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

SCHOOL YEAR: _____ .5 credit or 1 credit

Name _____ Start Date: _____ Sem. 1 (Submit by 10/1)
_____ Sem. 2 (Submit by 2/22)

Curricular Area: _____ Current Grade: _____

1. LEARNING GOAL: What is your objective? Describe in a written paragraph what you intend to learn through your independent study. Be specific.

2. STRATEGIES: Describe what you will do to reach your goals.

3. EVALUATION: Describe how you will demonstrate and show others that you have achieved your learning goals in your final project.

4. Signatures:

*Student: _____

*Independent Study Advisor: _____

*Department Head: _____

Principal: _____

Counselor: _____

Return this form to Guidance Office when all signatures (*) have been obtained..