The following information should be noted relative to Independent Study registration:

1. Registration in an Independent Study course can only be completed by department staff. Restrictions prevent students from registering themselves.
2. Study projects are to be **completed within one semester**. Grades of I (Incomplete) are awarded only in cases of emergency where conditions beyond the control of the student prevent completion of the work on time.
3. Regular conferences, beginning with the first week of a term, are expected to be held between the student and his/her faculty sponsor.
4. Approved study projects may not be changed without written approval of the independent study faculty sponsor and the chairperson.
5. The materials by which the study project will be evaluated must be submitted to the faculty sponsor prior to the beginning of the final examination period.
6. At the option of the faculty sponsor, a written final exam may be requested in addition to the evaluation material covering the study project.
7. Three credit hours in Independent Study is the maximum allowed in any semester.
8. An overall total of six credit hours in independent study may be counted toward the COMM major.

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STUDENT NAME (**Print** clearly): __________________________ STUDENT ID #: __________________

Circle appropriate course number: COMM366 COMM466

Semester taken: ___________ Number of credits (1–3): ______________

Major/s: __________________________ Classification: ____________ (JR, SR)

EMAIL (**Print** clearly): __________________________ Phone: __________________

Student Signature: __________________________ Date: ___________

Faculty Sponsor Signature: __________________________ Date: ___________

**CREATE A PROPOSAL:**

1. Follow a double spaced TYPEWRITTEN format
2. Include a working Title of Proposed Study
3. Include a statement of your plan of study. Statements should be between two and three pages and must provide the reader with the specifics of your proposal, including the materials and methods by which the project will be evaluated by the sponsoring Communication professor.
4. Include the requirements of the faculty sponsor. You must meet with your faculty sponsor and outline the specific requirements of the course. The requirements are to be summarized within one page and be included as part of your proposal.
5. **Attach the proposal to this completed contract** and deliver to the front office of the Department of Communication (250 Pearson Hall) for review and approval by the Department Chairperson.
6. Students will be registered in an independent study course by department staff if their proposal is approved.

**APPROVAL (Department Chair):** __________________________ Date: ___________

Registered by: __________________________ Date Registered: __________

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Updated: Sept 2016
Independent study experiences allow students to work one-on-one with a Communication professor on an in-depth and/or specialized project. The catalog numbers for undergraduate independent study courses in Communication are COMM366 and COMM466.

Communication JR and SR majors with an overall GPA of 2.75 and a COMM major GPA of 3.0 are eligible to take an independent study in COMM. Undergraduate students who are non-majors, but whose project is Communication related, may be reviewed for an independent study, and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Students who wish to pursue an independent study project in Communication will need to have a Communication professor to sponsor them. Students may contact Communication professors whose teaching or research is related to the project they would like to pursue, or Communication professors may recruit students for specific projects.

Together with the faculty sponsor, students should prepare a written proposal for the independent study that includes: the purpose, expected results, sources, and value of the project. The specific criteria the faculty will use to evaluate the project MUST be included. The faculty and student should attach this proposal to a completed independent study contract.

Completed contracts and proposals should be delivered to the Department of Communication's main office at 250 Pearson Hall for review by the Chairperson. Students will be registered in an independent study course by department staff if their proposal is approved.