

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

The Independent Study (Psyc 498 – 1 to 3 credit hours) course affords students the opportunity to obtain empirical skills and research experience in a supportive academic environment. Although each student’s experience is unique to their chosen area of study, we do anticipate that most students who enroll in a 3-hour independent study experience will have the opportunity to: read primary literature in the field, learn about skills and techniques used by researchers in the field, and learn about how the data collected in a study are analyzed and disseminated. Students who enroll in a fewer number of hours (i.e., 1 or 2 hours of credit), would be expected to complete at least a subset of these activities. Along with the time students spend in the laboratory, they are also expected to meet regularly with their research supervisor. The amount of time spent on these activities should be commensurate with the number of hours enrolled in the course.

To ensure that the requirements of the Independent Study are clearly identified, students, in collaboration with their faculty research supervisor, should address the following points:

1. Please provide a general description of the study.
2. What research skills or techniques will the student be expected to learn?
3. What will the student’s laboratory responsibilities be?
4. Please list a sampling of the readings that the students will be asked to review (a list of 3 to 5 readings is sufficient).
5. What written work will the student be responsible for completing (e.g., written summaries of the readings, a theoretical review paper, an APA empirical paper)? Note: For a 3-hour independent study a written paper is required.
6. Expected Work Schedule (List the anticipated work/meeting schedule for the student).

Please attach your summary of these points to this form and sign at the bottom. Additionally, please complete the registration form on the following page. After completing these forms, please submit this information to the Psychology Department office (57 Coming St.). Enrollment in this class is contingent upon the completion of these forms and departmental approval.

_____	_____
Student	Date
_____	_____
Professor/Research Supervisor	Date
_____	_____
Chair of Department or Associate Chair	Date