Undergraduate Independent Study in Computer Science:

Description

The purpose of the independent study is to provide an opportunity for a student to study an academic topic not otherwise available through the regular course offerings by the department. Independent studies should not be undertaken solely because of difficulty fitting other classes into your schedule, nor because a course you wish to enroll in is full. It is the responsibility of the student to structure, design and implement a course of study in conjunction with a faculty supervisor who is willing to undertake such a project. A student should initiate this process with a written proposal in accordance with the guidelines indicated below.

Undergraduate program committee approval is necessary prior to enrollment.

- An independent study is intended to provide the student with an opportunity to explore a subject that is not expanded upon in the CS course offerings. It may also be a chance for students to further conduct research on a subject that was introduced in a CS course.
- It is an agreement between the student and the CS program that the student will do in-depth study that goes well beyond normal course work.
- Students should approach the independent study with the understanding that time and effort involved in the study should at least approximate that of a CS undergraduate level course offered for the same number of credits.

Application Procedure

1. The student and faculty supervisor should agree upon a general topic. Prior to receiving final approval, the student should conduct a preliminary investigation of the subject to ensure that resources to support the study as initially contemplated are available and accessible.

2. After conducting the preliminary investigation of the subject, the student should prepare a written independent study proposal. You and the faculty supervisor should agree on course details, including the material to be covered, course format, sources to be used and method of evaluation. The faculty supervisor is responsible for certifying completion of the study by signing the bottom of the original independent study proposal.

3. The student should complete a proposal form and return it to the Advising Office (PKI 176D). Forms will then be submitted to the undergraduate program committee for approval. Anticipated processing time for the approval of a proposal by the committee is about 2 to 3 weeks.

4. Once the independent study is approved, the student will receive an e-mail with instructions for registering.
Name: ___________________________________________________________  
(Last)                                      (First)                                      (Middle)

Student ID #: ______________________

Email: _______________________________________

CSCI  4990  _______  _______  _______
Department Prefix  Course #  Semester  Year  Credit Hours

Title of Independent Study

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

PLEASE ACQUIRE APPROPRIATE SIGNATURES BELOW.

Student:

________________________________________     ___________________________
SIGNATURE  DATE

Faculty Supervisor: By signing this form, you agree to supervise the progress on a weekly basis of the above student's work and to provide a final grade of it.

________________________________________     ___________________________
SIGNATURE  DATE

Chair, Department Undergraduate Committee: I have received the above proposal and find it acceptable as an independent study project.

________________________________________     ___________________________
SIGNATURE  DATE
To be completed by the student and faculty supervisor: *Use a separate sheet if necessary.*

1. **DESCRIPTION:** Describe the content and overall objective of your study.

2. **RATIONALE:** Why do you think this study needs to be carried out as an independent study? **Be certain to specify why these interests cannot be pursued in the context of courses offered in the CS undergraduate curriculum.**

3. **PREPARATION:** Describe your background and training which qualify you to undertake this study (relevant courses, reading, work experience, etc.).
4. **ANTICIPATED WORK TO BE COMPLETED:** List the type and quantity of research, reading, writing, lab work, meeting schedule, timetable, etc. to be done in this independent study.

5. **METHOD OF EVALUATION:** *(to be completed by the faculty supervisor)* List all types of evaluation and the basis for determining the student’s grade (e.g., written examination, final report, oral report, etc.)