



The Science Academy of South Texas

900 Med High Dr. - Mercedes, TX 78570 • (956) 565-4620 • <http://scitech.stisd.net>

Independent Study Guidelines (Updated 5/22/19)

Proposals for an Independent Study course **must** be submitted by the student and approved by the supervising teacher, counselor and principal the semester prior to the course being taken.

Independent Studies courses can be taken in:

Math, English, Social Studies, and Technology Education/Application

The Proposal must include the following:

- A clear description explaining the purpose of the Independent Study that is above and beyond any course offered at the Science Academy.
- A timeline of events and a description of activities to be produced as part of the Independent Study must be included.
- The proposal will include a listing of all books, resources and materials to be used as part of the Independent Study.
- A description of the criteria used for evaluation and grade of the student's work reflective of college level work must be developed and agreed upon by both teacher and student.

Independent Study Guidelines

An Independent Study course will not be in addition to the current course sequence, it is only to be placed in a time slot where a student has completed all available courses in a particular subject area. In essence, a student cannot take an Independent Study course as a ninth class.

Final product/paper and presentation will constitute the major part of the Independent Study grade.

Independent Study calls for individual work and individual learning. Group work is not allowed.

The principal, teacher and counselor will review the proposal and notify the student if the content has been approved. This committee will also make recommendation to the student about the modifications to be made in the proposal in order to meet Independent Study guidelines.

If the teacher of the Independent Study, at the final presentation, evaluates that the work done does not merit college level/AP level, then the course will revert to level two (1.05 weight) for ranking purposes. If the presentation is deemed to be college level/AP level (1.10 weight) the grade will then merit a level three for ranking purposes.

South Texas Independent School District

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