No. 6210
SECTION: INSTRUCTION
TITLE: INDEPENDENT STUDY

ADOPTED: 6/19/12
READOPTED: 1/29/14;11/15/16;10/15/19;
2/21/23
REVISED:

OXFORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Courses of independent study for properly qualified students, as recommended by the Superintendent, shall be offered. Such students shall demonstrate achievement of student learning objectives as a result of participation in independent study and may:

1. Extend the learning experience
2. Develop judgment and self-reliance in the conduct of their own learning experience
3. Relate the school world to the world of work and learning around and beyond the school
4. Draw upon community resources as well as school resources for their educational program
5. Include a greater variety of learning experiences within their educational program.
6. Identify and explore an area of particular interest
7. Set personal learning goals and work, with appropriate staff guidance, toward achieving them
8. Learn to use various research tools
9. Learn to draw sound conclusions from research findings

An independent study course is an extension of a course that is presently offered or a course that is not offered in the high school program. An independent study course must be under the tutelage of an Oxford Area School District faculty advisor. The faculty advisor must be approved by the high school principal. The content and rigor of the course must be approved by the Superintendent/designee. An independent study course considered for approval must document in writing the compelling reason for its need and cannot be accessed through the normal or regular course selection process. The number of credits earned and the potential weighting is at the discretion of the Superintendent and will be in line with comparable course credits and weighting in the Oxford Area School District program. Class ranking criteria will apply. The Board reserves the right to assign no credit for such an approved course. Each course of study must meet the requirements set down in applicable codes and regulations.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the implementation of independent study which:

1. Advise students who apply for independent study
2. Develop specified, measurable, instructional objectives for each individually planned course of independent study
3. Assure that each student conducts his/her study under appropriate staff guidance and supervision
4. Monitor the progress of each student
5. Certify the completion of each course of independent study based upon the original specified objectives

6. Prepare recommendations for Board approval of courses of independent study

Qualifications

The Board directs that only those students shall be admitted to courses of independent study who have demonstrated:

1. Academic proficiency
2. Maturity of judgment
3. A strong motivation to learn
4. Self-reliance

Courses of independent study need not be limited to participation by a single student but may involve more than one or a group of students subject to Board approval.