



HINSDALE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 86

INDEPENDENT STUDY INFORMATION

Overview: As defined in the Program of Studies, Independent Study options may be provided for motivated and mature students who have exhausted the course options of a particular course or field of study. In District 86, Independent Study is defined as taking a course beyond the highest course level offered within a department. Independent study courses may be available in any subject.

Independent Study courses are:

- Initiated on a case-by-case basis by the student.
- Subject to the approval of the appropriate department chairperson, the student's counselor, and the Assistant Principal for Instruction.
- Department chairs will determine if an independent study experience merits honors credit and weighting on a transcript.
- Upon the approval of all of the aforementioned, final approval is contingent upon the workload of the teacher involved, as independent study will not increase the FTE of an educator.
- Considered a course and should contain the equivalent of one semester's worth of work (approximately 90 class periods).

Student Responsibilities: If students seek to complete an independent study, they must follow the following steps and obtain final approval by February 1st for the upcoming academic year. To Gain Approval, Students must complete the following form, including;

- Develop a proposal that includes clearly stated goals, the learning activities designed to achieve these goals, and a schedule detailing the timeline of the project.
- Obtain parent/guardian, teacher/advisor, Department Chair, counselor, and Director of Counseling/Assistant Principal for Instruction's approval of the project.

General & Grading Information:

- Students are NOT guaranteed an independent study as it is dependent upon many factors, including teacher and department chair approval.
- Independent study is considered a course; students must enroll in the course in Infinite Campus, and it will appear on their schedule. Students will be scheduled into a full-period course with the teacher/advisor. Independent study can only be taken during periods 1-8. Independent study cannot be taken during period 0 (Early Bird) or 11 (after school/activity period).
- Students must attend the independent study course every day.
- Existing courses in the D86 Program of Studies cannot be taken as independent study credit.
- An Independent Study may not be used to satisfy graduation requirements.

- Earn .5 each semester upon completion of the course.
- Upon completion, students will earn a grade (A-F) based on their mastery of the material.
- The course title and final grade will appear on the transcript.
- If students are seeking honors credit, they must describe how the project is an extension of the standard curriculum and gain approval for honors credit from the Department Chair prior to enrolling in the course.



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INDEPENDENT STUDY FORM

Print and complete the following form by February 1st of the preceding school year.

Name: _____ ID Number _____

School Year: _____ - _____ Counselor Name: _____ Semester: 1 2 Full Year

Department: _____ Teacher/Advisor: _____

Course Information

Topic/Title of Proposed Study: _____

Explain why you are seeking this independent study. How have you exhausted all the curriculum within this course of study?

Goals/Objectives of the Independent Study:

Procedures for the Study (When will the student and teacher meet? How often?):

List Major Materials/Resources Used in the Project (Textbook, books, curriculum programs, etc.):

Grading Information (To be completed by the student & teacher/advisor)

Term Grade	Course Grade
Formatives _____%	Term _____%
Summative _____%	Final Exam _____%
Learning Readiness 0%	

How will the student be graded/evaluated? List the major assessments/assignments and grading.

Credit Type: Standard Honors

If the student is earning honors credit, explain what the student will do above the standard curriculum to earn honors credit.

Agreement & Approval		
Position	Signature	Date
Student Signature		
Parent/Guardian Signature		
Teacher Signature		
Department Chair Signature		

Office Use Only		
Director of Counseling or AP for Instruction Approval	Approved or Denied Signature:	Date:
Input into Infinite Campus	Course Name & Course Code Number:	Date: